

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church

2024 Budget

Acct. No.	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
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Expense	Providing for the Future ¹²			
5.600.100	Provision for Outreach	-	-	-
5.600.150	Provision for Barnabas Ministry	-	-	-
5.600.200	Provision for Equipment	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
5.600.210	Provision for Roof Repairs	9,380.00	9,380.04	6,900.00
5.600.220	Provision for Parking Lot	6,760.00	6,759.96	7,800.00
5.600.230	Provison for Lawn/Landscape	4,000.00	3,999.96	4,000.00
5.600.250	Provision for Building Maint.	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
5.600.260	Provision for Carpeting Crossroads	-	-	-
5.600.270	Provision for Carpeting M/P Room	3,860.00	3,860.04	1,600.00
6.600.310	Provision for Bells Maint.	-	-	-
5.600.350	Provision for Sabbatical	-	-	-
5.600.360	Provision for Outside Financial Audit			2,000.00
Total Providing for the Future		\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 28,300.00

Total Expenses	\$ 972,358.00	\$ 960,438.39	\$ 966,000.00
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ -	\$ 2,195.15	\$ -

Footnotes:

1. CY2024 Member Contributions are budgeted to be flat over CY2023 Actual Member Contributions.
2. CY2024 Fees and Registration Income has been included to better track church event fees and registrations.
3. Interest income for CY2024 is derived from Fidelity Brokerage Laddered Certificate of Deposit and Money Market Investments.
4. CY2024 total income is budgeted at 0.35% over CY2023 actual total income.
5. SOTP's contribution to the ELCA Northern Illinois Synod is budgeted at 10% of expected Member Contribution and will be paid at 10% of Actual Member Contributions received during CY2024.
6. SOTP's contribution to Local Mission is budgeted at 1% of expected Member Contributions and will be paid at 1% of Actual Member Contributions received during CY2024.
7. CY2024 Choral, Bell, Licensing and Other Music expenses supported from General Fund for Traditional & Contemporary worship. An additional \$34,300 of restricted Adult Music Ministry Fund (3.330.000) & Children's Music Fund (3.345.000) to support Professional Musicians, Band Expenses, Piano/Organ Tuning, Cantata, Children Music programs for Traditional & Contemporary worship.
8. CY2024 Audio Visual Ministry Advancement funding (5.350.102) to be supported by AV Ministry Restricted Fund (3.220.000).
9. CY2024 Spiritual Ministry Group Staffing Includes Senior Pastor, Pastor, Director of Connection Ministry, Director Children & Family, Traditional Music & Worship Director, Contemporary Music Director.
10. CY2024 Support Ministry Group Staffing includes Operations Manager, Operations & Communications Assistant, Accounting Administrator, Audio Visual Coordinator.
11. CY2024 Staffing expenses supports funding a proposed 3% budgeted compensation increase.
12. CY2024 reserve contributions to align with useful life cost of parking lot, roof, carpeting, and landscaping.



**SHEPHERD
OF THE PRAIRIE
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Annual Report

January 28, 2024

“A Growing Church for Growing People”

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church

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Huntley, IL 60142

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**Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church
2024 Budget**

Acct. No.	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
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Expense	Staffing Ministry			
5.500.XXX	Spiritual Ministry Group Staffing ⁹	440,540.00	441,101.81	442,934.00
5.500.XXX	Support Ministry Group Staffing ¹⁰	152,407.00	155,628.25	150,441.00
5.500.550	Staff Training/Continuing Ed.	500.00	1,031.13	1,200.00
5.500.600	Staff Social Security	25,130.00	24,231.14	24,231.00
5.500.625	SOTP Paid Employee Benefits	-	-	-
5.500.700	Employer Relations	3,451.00	1,060.61	1,214.00
5.500.701	Staffing	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
5.500.725	Staffing for Growth	-	-	-
	Total Staffing Ministry ¹¹	\$ 623,028.00	\$ 623,052.94	\$ 621,020.00

Expense	Other Church Expenses			
5.550.110	Kitchen Supplies	500.00	898.09	3,000.00
5.550.115	Coffee Service	800.00	-	-
5.550.125	Church Events Expense	900.00	4,142.63	2,500.00
5.550.150	Committee Expenses	700.00	437.12	-
5.550.175	Synod Assembly Expense	1,200.00	1,614.56	1,600.00
5.550.200	Church Insurance	16,000.00	17,591.93	19,000.00
5.550.250	Automobile Expense	8,000.00	6,397.63	7,000.00
5.550.300	Human Resources	2,000.00	591.00	2,000.00
5.550.340	Credit Card Fees	2,400.00	4,605.20	5,000.00
5.550.350	Bank Fees	700.00	634.50	600.00
5.530.351	Legal Expenses	300.00	895.00	1,000.00
5.550.351	Stock Sales Costs	-	-	-
5.550.400	Misc. Expenses	-	-	500.00
5.550.155	Offering Envelopes	900.00	877.10	700.00
	Total Other Expenses	\$ 34,400.00	\$ 38,684.76	\$ 42,900.00

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church Annual Meeting January 28, 2024

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church 2024 Budget

Acct. No.	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
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Expense	Audio Visual Ministry			
5.350.100	Audio Visual Ministry Software	2,520.00	636.85	4,100.00
5.350.101	Audio Visual Ministry Hardware	3,000.00	4,528.09	4,000.00
5.350.102	Audio Visual Ministry Advancements ⁸	-	-	-
5.350.103	Backup Outsourced A/V Coordinator	-	-	700.00
Total Audio Visual Ministry		5,520.00	5,164.94	8,800.00

Expense	Facilities			
5.400.100	Cleaning Services	17,870.00	16,380.00	16,800.00
5.400.150	Utilities	32,770.00	25,095.73	29,000.00
5.400.200	Waste Removal	2,160.00	2,134.83	2,100.00
5.400.250	Grounds Maintenance	18,080.00	19,043.50	12,100.00
5.400.255	Snow Removal	14,440.00	14,275.00	15,200.00
5.400.300	Maint./Cleaning Supplies	1,320.00	1,059.80	1,100.00
5.400.350	Contract Services	15,710.00	15,115.26	16,000.00
5.400.400	Misc. Facilities Expense	3,000.00	4,808.69	4,500.00
Total Facilities		\$ 105,350.00	\$ 97,912.81	\$ 96,800.00

Expense	Office Expenses			
5.450.100	Office Supplies	3,000.00	2,782.74	3,500.00
5.450.150	Office Equipment	1,000.00	432.98	1,000.00
5.450.200	Web/Software Expense	10,000.00	11,291.67	7,100.00
5.450.225	High Speed Internet	1,800.00	2,213.21	2,300.00
5.450.250	Telephone	2,300.00	2,088.05	2,100.00
5.450.275	Wireless Phone	1,200.00	1,746.40	1,900.00
5.450.300	Postage	3,000.00	2,442.21	3,000.00
5.450.350	Dues & Subscriptions	240.00	250.00	100.00
5.450.400	Equipment Rental	9,100.00	10,776.10	11,000.00
5.450.450	Misc. Office Expense	-	-	-
5.450.500	IT Support Service	3,400.00	1,779.00	2,000.00
Total Office Expense		\$ 35,040.00	\$ 35,802.36	\$ 34,000.00

Call to Order

Quorum Call

Opening Prayer

Celebrating our Partnership in Ministry (The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

Greeting from Bishop Stacie Fidler, Northern IL Synod (ELCA) video

Looking Back

Approval of Minutes from January 29, 2023

Approval of Committee and Ministry Reports

Approval of 2023 Financial Reports

2023 Ministry Celebration Video

Looking Ahead

Purpose, Vision Statement and Strategic Directions

Staffing Introductions

Elections

Election of Synod Assembly Voting Members

Nominees: Marcia Ball

Tim Bueschel

Julia Leonardi

Josh Symbal

Andrew Behm

Election of Council Members

Nominees: George Attaway

Jim Puls

Bob Mollis (second three-year term)

Approval of 2024 Budget

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

**Shepherd of the Prairie Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 29, 2023**

Church council president, Mike Luecht, called the meeting to order at noon.

The membership quorum of at least 81 required members was confirmed by Mark Frendreis.

Pastor Mark Boster opened the meeting in prayer.

Minutes of the Jan. 30, 2022, annual congregational meeting was presented. Bill Ball moved to accept the minutes, and Sandy Hupert seconded. The motion passed.

Ministry and committee reports were presented. Donna Sorensen moved to accept the reports, and Chris Brittain seconded. The motion passed.

Bob Mollis, church treasurer presented the 2022 financial reports. He thanked the congregation for their faithful and generous giving. He expressed appreciation to Linda Dungey as contributions secretary, Sue Wehnes for memorials, Dave Shotick as accounting administrator, and the finance committee comprised of Devin Berg, Bill Ball, Cliff Dungey, Sue Wehnes, and Dave Shotick. He also thanked the counters for their diligence. Bob noted two projects that were completed by the finance team this year: 1). Final draft of compliance policy handbook with recommendations from the audit team, led by George Attaway, along with Don Schneider and Joe Debolt; 2). Creation of an interest-bearing funds ladder with Fidelity. Brian Buesing moved to accept the 2022 financial report. It was seconded by Carol Waxenberg. The motion passed.

A video greeting from Presiding Bishop of the others IL Synod of the ELCA, Stacie Findlay was shared. The new resource, Vocary, was introduced and is available for Lenten services or small groups.

Pastor Mark led a discussion of the purpose, vision, and strategic directions of SOTP – A growing church for growing people. He noted how 800-1200 people from the community use the SOTP building on a weekly basis which allows the church to make Christ known to them. Pastor acknowledged each of the staff members and Dennis Houghton.

Mike Luecht recognized the 20+ ministries and teams that provide service to the church. He thanked them for their tremendous volunteer work to grow SOTP in the Huntley community.

Nominees for Synod Assembly voting members were presented as:

Lisa Wondriska

Amy Brittain

Brian Buesing

Donna Kelly moved to elect the slate of voting members for Synod Assembly. Bill Waxenberg seconded. The motion passed.

Sarah Wolf, church council vice president presented the nominees for 2023 church council. They were Mike Luecht (second term of three years)
Ellen Nissan (second term of three years)

**Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church
2024 Budget**

Acct. No.	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
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Expense	Youth Education Ministry			
5.250.100	HS Youth Resources	1,000.00	928.30	1,000.00
5.250.150	HS Youth Curriculum	-	-	-
5.250.200	Mission Trip Expenses	2,000.00	-	2,000.00
5.250.250	HS Youth Events	1,500.00	1,016.23	1,500.00
5.250.275	Software/ Subscriptions	-	-	-
5.250.280	Confirmation Expenses	2,500.00	2,397.62	2,800.00
5.250.300	Other Youth Expenses	-	-	-
5.250.325	Leadership Lab Expenses	-	-	1,300.00
Total Youth Education Ministry		\$ 7,000.00	\$ 4,342.15	\$ 8,600.00

Expense	Children & Family Ministry			
5.250.285	Sunday School Expenses	1,800.00	2,012.54	2,100.00
5.250.290	VBS Expenses	2,250.00	1,112.68	2,300.00
5.250.350	Children & Family Services	2,750.00	2,002.01	2,500.00
5.250.360	Adventure Club Expenses	250.00	247.62	500.00
Total Children & Family Ministry		7,050.00	5,374.85	7,400.00

Expense	Music Ministry			
5.300.100	Choral Expenses	1,000.00	929.09	1,000.00
5.300.161	Organ/Piano Supply	-	-	-
5.300.175	Bells Expenses	300.00	381.08	300.00
5.300.350	Band Expenses	-	-	-
5.300.400	Piano/Organ Maintenance	-	-	-
5.300.500	Licensing Fees	720.00	-	600.00
5.300.550	Music Resources Expense	1,700.00	795.34	-
Total Music Ministry ⁷		\$ 3,720.00	\$ 2,105.51	\$ 1,900.00

Expense	Worship Ministry			
5.350.150	Flowers	2,000.00	2,279.38	2,000.00
5.350.151	Sanctuary Arts	500.00	226.44	500.00
5.350.200	Altar Guild	700.00	607.69	700.00
5.350.250	Pastoral Assistance	750.00	700.00	750.00
5.350.300	Worship Supplies	850.00	858.30	850.00
5.350.350	Misc. Worship Expense	1,500.00	1,871.12	1,500.00
Total Worship Ministry		\$ 6,300.00	\$ 6,542.93	\$ 6,300.00

(Continued on page 3)

**Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church
2024 Budget**

Acct. No.	Account Name	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2024 Budget
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Income				
4.100.000	Member Contributions ¹	920,000.00	905,557.65	900,000.00
4.150.000	Loose Plate & Growth	31,000.00	34,778.77	35,500.00
4.200.000	Fees and Registrations ²	-	-	1,500.00
4.250.000	Flower Income	1,358.00	1,314.15	1,400.00
4.300.000	Interest Income	-	184.32	100.00
4.310.000	Interest Income Fidelity ³	20,000.00	20,798.65	27,500.00
	Total Income ⁴	\$ 972,358.00	\$ 962,633.54	\$ 966,000.00

Expense Mission Ministry				
5.100.110	ELCA N. Illinois Synod ⁵	92,000.00	90,014.47	90,000.00
5.100.112	Local Mission ⁶	9,200.00	8,871.25	9,000.00
5.100.113	Mission Ministry - Other	-	-	-
	Total Misson Ministry	\$ 101,200.00	\$ 98,885.72	\$ 99,000.00

Expense Outreach Ministry				
5.150.100	Outreach/Evangelism	5,500.00	5,786.18	2,300.00
5.150.150	Advertising/Community Communications	6,500.00	5,494.00	6,500.00
5.150.250	Miscellaneous Outreach	-	-	-
	Total Outreach Ministry	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 11,280.18	\$ 8,800.00

Expense Connections Ministry				
5.150.300	Connections Ministry	500.00	425.27	250.00
5.150.301	Life Groups	750.00	-	250.00
5.150.302	Barnabas Caregiving	-	-	-
	Total Connections Ministry	1,250.00	425.27	500.00

Expense Adult Education Ministry				
5.200.300	Adult Ed Curriculum	300.00	627.57	1,480.00
5.200.350	Retreat Expense	-	-	-
5.200.400	Other Adult Education	-	-	-
5.200.450	Home Devotional Guides	200.00	236.40	200.00
	Total Adult Education	\$ 500.00	\$ 863.97	\$ 1,680.00

(Continued from page 2)

Christa Serpe (second term of three years)
Bill Ball moved to elect the three nominees for another three-year term. Jill Gillming seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Bob Mollis, treasurer, presented the 2023 church budget. He explained the footnotes within the report. A question was asked concerning the lower expenses for worship. The rationale was due to reduced software expenses.

Another question regarding the increase in staffing expenses was asked. The response was due to a full year with a second pastor and a pay raise for staff.

The third question asked was how the giving pledges aligned with the revenue line. The explanation was due to expected new members.

Rick Miller moved to accept the 2023 budget as presented. Ed Cuttle seconded. The motion passed.

Pastor Ryan Mackey closed the meeting in prayer.

Chris Brittain moved to adjourn the annual meeting. Bob Mollis seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 1:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Shotick



FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES

NEXT STEP

The Next Step group is a fellowship group for seniors (60+) who are single. We met for the first time on June 10, 2023. Eighteen people attended a light lunch meeting to introduce themselves and discuss possible activities for the coming year. The group decided to meet once a month on the fourth Saturday at 10:00 am in the Coffee Area outside of the church sanctuary for activities. Additional possible events and trips were discussed for other times.

The group met again on July 29 for a presentation and demonstration by Mary Kay cosmetics and then went out to lunch. A few from the group went to a special outing to the Night Out activity in downtown Huntley and dinner afterwards. The next meeting was on August 26 for games and cards and went out to lunch. On September 30 the group met for a painting lesson with Donna Kelly. On October the group participated in Trunk and Treat as a service project. Twelve to fifteen people are the average for attendance for meetings.

Plans for the future include the following:

- a meeting on November 18 for games and cards and
- a potluck Christmas luncheon at the church on December 16

Goals for the rest of 2023 until May of 2024 are as follows:

- to continue to meet monthly for a variety of activities still under discussion.--Efforts have been discussed about possible additional ways to promote the group including updating the videos prior to church services regarding current activities and reaching out to more seniors in the church;
- discuss meeting over the summer months of 2024
- look for additional activities and/or special events to attend or possibly invite guest speakers to the group.

Phyllis Thomson



MEN'S * WOMEN'S COFFEE FELLOWSHIPS

The men's and women's coffee fellowships continue to meet at the McDonalds in front of the Huntley Walmart. The men meet on Tuesday mornings at 8 am and the women on Fridays at 10am. Please join us for a great time of fellowship.

Pastor Mark's Report to the Congregation (cont.)

(Continued from page 4)

church together in fellowship activities. I've often said that a congregation that "plays together, stays together." Community building has been a key element of our staff emphasis this year. Your staff works extraordinarily hard to invite all of us to participate in the life of our church community. I am also pleased with ongoing efforts of using Church Center as an effective tool of communication as well as connecting people in ministry. If you do not have the Church Center app on your phone I encourage you to put it on and try it out.

The Congregation Council

Thanks to our elected leaders!!! Through prayer and the work of the Spirit your Congregation Council continues to serve our worshipping community so very well. Most members of the church have no idea of the amount of time and effort these faithful ones give. Suffice it to say, each one who serves would want it this way. Your Congregation Council is a group of humble, Christ loving, passionate, mission minded, servants of Jesus. We gather each month to be in council with Christ to seek how best we can make Christ known here at Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church. Council members serve three-year terms and two members will be stepping aside this year to go on to new adventures in ministry. My thanks to Cheryl Adams and Joyce Shotick for their service.

All Siblings in Christ!

Finally, to everyone who calls Shepherd of the Prairie home. I am thankful and blessed to be your pastor. To think about where we were together on August 8, 2004. All of our worship supplies carried out from the basement of a bank and loaded into cars and mini-vans and transported out to Chesek School. Setting up for worship in a small all-purpose room. With 20-30 members giving praise and glory to God at each of our two services at 9 and 10:30 am (we had to start earlier because we needed to out of the school by 12 noon) we were always so excited when someone would visit for the first time. Often visitors would say "we saw the blue signs on the street."

Yes, the place for worship has changed but the passion continues to make Christ known!

We are blessed in so many ways but the greatest of all blessings is the ongoing privilege of continue to make the news of God incarnate Word known in this community in which we are privileged to serve. Thank you for time, talent and treasure given in support of ministry.

I look forward to new and exciting adventures in faith, being part of the grace of God manifested in this place we call home... Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church.

Thankfully yours,
Pastor Mark



Pastor Ryan's Report to the Congregation

2023 was a great year for children, youth, and family ministry at SOTP. As you may know, this ministry has been in transition for some time. Jill was hired as our Director of Children and Family Ministry shortly before my arrival in 2022. Together, we spent the fall and winter of 2022-23 visioning and planning for the future.

Jill has done some fantastic work with our Kids Connect program and Adventure Club. Adventure club is, I feel, one of the true gems of our children's ministry. It is designed for 4th and 5th graders with the goal of offering something that is more advanced than Kids Connect, but not quite as advanced as Confirmation. My 5th grade son loves it, looks forward to it every week, and is sad when the program is on a break. The group meets Wednesday nights from 5-6pm throughout the school year. If you have a 4th or 5th grader and haven't introduced them to it yet, I encourage you to consider giving it a try before the school year is over.

My main focus throughout 2023 was for the renewal of our Confirmation program. I enlisted the help of our amazing confirmation leadership team, and throughout the summer, we met regularly to brainstorm and craft a new plan for the 2023-24 confirmation year.

We started with the idea that this year needed to have an emphasis on community. In order to fulfill that goal, we set aside nearly 30 minutes each week for the youth to spend playing ping pong, pool, or foosball, or enjoying snacks and conversation. From there, we shifted into a search for a new (to us) curriculum. The curriculum we chose met all our needs and wants. It has more than enough material and pre-planned activities to keep our leaders busy without requiring too much pre-planning. It also helped us to build-in regular fellowship nights and service projects. So much gratitude and credit goes to our team of leaders for making this year awesome. They keep everything running smoothly and allow me to focus on other areas of ministry.

That brings me to our high school youth group. While 2023 was spent reshaping our Confirmation program, my plan for 2024 is to put the same amount of effort into reshaping our high school youth ministry. I am encouraged by the number of 9th graders who joined our program this year and hope to continue that trend with our current 8th graders. Moving youth group from Thursday nights to Wednesdays has had numerous benefits. We now have more opportunities to build connections between high school and middle school youth, and I hope this will help to encourage more youth to join the high school youth group after Confirmation.

I will be looking to recruit some volunteers to help lead youth group from time to time. Occasionally, I have a schedule conflict on Wednesday nights and would much prefer to have someone lead it in my place rather than cancel that night.

I am very excited about the direction our children, youth, and family ministries have gone in 2023, and expect great things in 2024. As always, none of this could happen without the support of parents who bring their children to SOTP events and encourage them to be part of our ministries, and it certainly couldn't happen without everyone who so graciously volunteers or supports our ministries.

Thank you to all of you! You have made my time at SOTP so very special. Here's to a blessed and fruitful 2024!

In Christ,
Pastor Ryan



Congregation Support Ministries

STEWARDSHIP TEAM

We continued our theme of Building a Culture of Generosity in 2023, but added a new wrinkle to it, and that was Taking a Step of Faith. We really wanted to emphasize people to look at their faith and see if they would be willing to take that additional step in their stewardship, whether it be financially, volunteering or joining a committee or group.

Our Financial Stewardship drive began on Oct. 22nd with Mike McCann introducing the 2024 stewardship campaign and followed with multiple weeks of videos based around our 2024 objectives provided by our church council. The 2024 objectives included:

Youth and Young Adult Ministry – Continuing our focus on these ministries was of high importance to continue the momentum carried forward from 2023.

Health and Wellness – Essentially the wellbeing of all of our members and staff. The importance we put on taking care of each other, whether it be physical or mentally.

Our Community – Continue to focus on the well being of our community. We highlighted a lot of the groups using SOTP to host some of their community programs in our videos. However, we want to ensure we continue to focus on serving our local communities even if not in our building.

I would like to thank the A/V team for all the hard work and time they spent assisting the Stewardship Team in the making of all these videos.

Our Stewardship Campaign concluded on Nov. 19th weekend with a Lunch of Gratitude to thank all our members for everything they have done. The Bishop was also in attendance and made the event really special.

Here are the results of our financial drive:

General Fund	\$729,032	102.9% of 2023 Results
Mortgage Fund	\$217,677	107.4% of 2023 Results
Total	\$946,709	103.9% of 2023 Results

Thank you to all who submitted an EOG card for 2024! Your willingness to submit an EOG card allows SOTP to plan accordingly which is a huge benefit throughout the year!

Mike McCann
Stewardship Leader



Administrative Support Ministries

SPECIAL GIFTS & MEMORIALS

The purpose of this committee is to record and acknowledge all gifts received from members and friends of SOTP. Unless otherwise specified all monies received are allocated to the Memorial Fund. Family wishes for other purposes will be considered. Gifts may be made to SOTP in memory of loved ones; in celebration of a special occasion; or to honor individuals.

Year 2023 memorials were also designed for the Memory Garden & Artist Series
In 2023 the church received memorials totaling over \$6000.00 for the following members/friends of Shepherd of the Prairie.

Elaine Brody	Gordon Gehrke	Evelyn & Ken Gniot
Bill Ingle	Sue Kamphausen	Betty Knawa**Building/Mortgage Services
Kim Koerner	Payton Kelly	Joanne Klinger Elaine
Neukirch	Kevin McMullen	Terry Meyer
Evelyn Olbrich	Jules Pelka	Ken Pohlmann
Charles Zunker		
Susan Wehnes		



Operations Manager

2023 has seen a lot of positive growth and streamlining over the course of the year in regard to behind-the-scenes operations. Working collaboratively with SOTP staff and council, we have been able to update and enhance a lot of our current processes in facilities and communications.

I am pleased to report that during 2023, the following goals were accomplished:

- HR/Finance
 - § Successful transition and merge of our Children and Family Director with our Little Lambs Preschool Director
 - § Ongoing adjustment and improvement to policies and procedures
 - § Successful onboarding of many impactful positions
 - § Completion of the revised Finance Handbook
- Little Lambs Pre-School
 - § Running at max capacity 4 days a week
 - § New storage added by Property Team to accommodate all storage needs
 - § New donated flooring to go in Winter 2023/24
- Facility
 - § Actively used by ministry groups within our church as well as in our community
 - § Upgraded technology for ministry and community use in the Fellowship Hall
 - § Upgraded technology in Sanctuary to enhance the quality of experience both in person and online from a visual and audio perspective.
- Branding / Website / Socials
 - § Our website continues to remain up to date and current with the integration in Planning Center
 - § We now stream our services right to YouTube (a platform that is more accessible and quality on more devices)
 - § Implementation of a SOTP Apparel store is now available for all things SOTP
- Planning Center Church Management
 - § SOTP has been integrating its communications and collaborative efforts into a system that is specifically designed for church management, called Planning Center
 - § Through this system and its functionality, staff and volunteers are able to be more efficient with their efforts within the church. There is also a mobile app called Church Center that allows everyone to stay involved on the go.
 - § The amount of collaboration through this application has allowed SOTP to collaborate more than ever as well as start to collect data that will help us provide the best experiences we can here at the church.
 - § During January and February of 2023, a review of 2022 employee performance was conducted as well as goal setting for the 2023. The same process will be utilized during 2024 and is currently being scheduled.
 - § During 2023, Operations, the Children, Youth and Family Ministry team, and the Finance team collaborated to review and create the SOTP Children and Youth Ministry Protection Policy to assure a safe and nurturing environment for all children and youth participating in SOTP programs. These policies and procedures were approved by the Church Council in September of 2023 and will continue to be reviewed and updated.
 - § The SOTP 2024 Payroll and Holiday Calendar was created and distributed to all employees.

Operations Manager (cont.)

2023 has been a year full of tremendous growth as far as operations are concerned. Behind the scenes, the process has really helped all staff and volunteers collaborate together to ensure a great experience for all that come to SOTP. So much has been streamlined that staff are able to communally help each other out with different tasks that might come up, creating a stronger sense of team and ultimately allowing everyone to be more familiar with each other's work and ministry. I look forward to continuing to improve how we all work together at SOTP and cannot wait for 2024!

Matt Morrison
Operations Manager



HELPING HANDS/FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

Helping Hands provides lunch following the funeral or memorial service. This is our way of providing comfort and care for those who are going through the loss of a loved one. This year we were able to provide this service for seven families of Shepherd of the prairie. Thanks to everyone who donated food and/or helped to set up, serve and clean up. This would not be possible without your **help**.

Marilyn Wilhelm

PROPERTY MINISTRY

2023 was a busy and productive year for the property team. We completed some long term projects, did some updating and remodeling and are currently in the planning stage of some projects for 2024. All this was done while taking care of the usual maintenance and repairs that come our way on a daily or weekly basis. With an always busy building like ours, there's always something that's in need of repair or replacement. Thanks to our group, with such a wide range of skills, we have most every need covered by someone with the right knowledge on the subject.

I'm thankful to work with a group of volunteers that are so eager to take on whatever task is in front of us. If you are interested in joining our team please contact me at 847-902-4741 or vettefixer67@sbcglobal.net

Mark Frendreis
Leader, Property Team

MEMORY GARDEN

In the Spring additional mulch was added to improve the appearance of the landscaping. The trees and flowers are looking good. Additional solar lights were also added to enhance the landscaping.

As of December 7th, we have 47 of the 72 niches reserved. During 2023 we interred 7 Cremains in the Columbarium.

During 2023, 11 additional memory bricks were added to the Memory Garden walkway bringing the total to 72.

For Christmas, small evergreen
Memory Garden.

Respectively Submitted,
Ralph Wehnes



trees adorn the

Barnabas Caregiving Ministry

The Barnabas Caregiving Ministry involves several service roles:

Barnabas Ministers; these are people who are trained in ways to listen and encourage those who are homebound or live in care facilities. The Barnabas Ministers strive to visit their care-receivers monthly and bring communion. They spend time listening and being a friend to their care receiver. Some of our ministers provide care through phone calls and by sending cards monthly. Each care receiver on our list receives a card each month. We also have a Resource Person who can refer people to agencies where they can receive help in different situations. We currently have 50 people on our list who are either shut-ins or semi-shut-in. We held a training session in March of 2023 and we now have 36 Barnabas Ministers.

We also continued the joy of hosting worship services in three of our local care facilities. On the first Sunday of the month, one of our ministers goes to Clarendale of Algonquin to worship with the residents there via our live-stream 9AM service and we bring communion to them at the service. Then, on the first Thursday of the month we bring a full service including communion to the residents at Clarendale and on the first Friday to Alden Rehab facility. In these facilities we also provide a short service of songs and communion for the memory care units. A service is also provided by our ministers at Huntley Springs.

Under the Barnabas Caregiving umbrella falls Grief Ministry, Caring Callers, Caring Cards, the Prayer Chain and Helping Hands. Our email prayer chain has 89 members. Helping Hands provides Funeral Luncheons for those who request it. Our Grief Journey Ministry provides books on grieving to families of our members and friends who have lost a loved one, our Grief Journey Group meets on Tuesday mornings at 10 and we held a Blue Christmas service on December 12th.

Donna Kelly
Donna Sorensen



Caring Callers

My group of four women including myself continue to make calls to those in need of a caring caller! I contact Michelle each Friday for list of names of those who may need a caring call! My group of women are devoted to making these calls each week and we pray with them if requested or just listen to what they may be going through! I work with amazing ladies who are so dedicated to this calling. Thank you, ladies, for your continued help

—Carolyn Cuttle —Sara Solem
—Bonnie Vanaria —Lynn Broederdorf

CARING CARDS

The Caring Card team responds quickly with "Thinking of You" "Get Well Wishes" "Sympathy" "Happy Birthday" to our Shepherd of Prairie membership. This ministry responds quickly to families, friends, who might need comfort during trying times from this ministry. The team of women, include Linda Murphy, Mary Tabatt and Carol Spiller. Peace and faith in every one in our community.

—Carol Spiller

Congregational Council Report

The Council has general oversight of the life and activities of the congregation and its worship life. This includes leading the congregation in stating its mission, to do long-range planning, to set goals and priorities, and to evaluate its activities in light of its mission and goals. The Council seeks to involve all members of the congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support. The Council oversees and provides for the constitutional administration of the congregation to enable it to fulfill its function and perform its mission. The Council is responsible for maintaining and protecting its property and managing the congregation's business and fiscal affairs.

At SOTP, the Council in 2023 consisted of ten members of the congregation. This included both Pastor Mark, Pastor Ryan, four members at large: Cheryl Adams, Mike Luecht, Ellen Nissen, Sarah Wolf, and four officers: Christa Serpe – Secretary, Kathy McGuine – Treasurer, Joyce Shotick – Vice President and Bob Mollis – President. Each council member has been dedicated to providing guidance and contributing to the overall leadership efforts of SOTP. At the conclusion of this year's annual congregational meeting: Cheryl, Joyce and Bob's three-year term will conclude. I would like to thank both Cheryl and Joyce for their service as they will be retiring from the Council. Please reach out to each of them and thank them for their leadership.

During 2023, SOTP undertook our first full year with two full time pastors. As the surrounding community experiences housing and young family growth, SOTP needed to invest in our Children, Youth, and Family ministry programs. We have been blessed with the addition of Pastor Ryan and the rebuilding of our Wednesday night family ministry, First Communion, Confirmation studies, and youth programs. Early in the year, the council reviewed and updated SOTPs Vision and Strategy document to better align with the current staffing levels. This has led to reviewing and enhancing various ministry program investments, including the Kids and Music Academies, Wellness ministry, rechartering of the Boy Scouts in America, and how new members are exposed to SOTP's ministries through SEE week. The Council has created a new Children and Youth Protection Policy, continued review of our insurance coverage, continued review of our fiscal investment strategies, expanded our use of "Church Center" for registration and fee collection, and reviewed/updated the staff credit card policy.

It has been a busy 2023 and the year has gone by so quickly. I am personally thankful for this congregation, your generosity, and for the resolute leaders and staff of SOTP. God has provided us with talented and caring members, staff members, leaders, and doers. It is too numerous to name all the individuals, I just ask that you join me and give praise and thanks for all of our ministry teams; Mission, Community Outreach, Connections, Adult Education, Children Youth and Family, Little Lambs, Music, Worship, Audio Visual, Property, Memory Garden, Stewardship, Finance, Council, and the dedicated Spiritual and Support staff at SOTP. God has provided us with an abundance of blessings, grace, hope and individual contributors to make up the total body of Christ here in Huntley. That is what makes SOTP an incredibly special place and a bit of heaven here on earth.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Mollis
Congregational Council President

Finance Team

The Finance Team is responsible for overseeing the daily, monthly, and year-end financial activities of the Church. Our 2023 Team members were Devin Burg, Cliff Dungey, Bill Nesta, Dave Shotick (Accounting Administrator), Sue Wehnes, Kathy Wilkerson-McGuine (Congregation Treasurer) and Bill Ball (Chair).

We meet and report monthly to the Church Council with our analysis of the Church's financial position as well as any financial recommendations we think appropriate. The Team also prepares the annual budget and monitors SOTP's actual financial activities against that budget. Financial policy and procedure recommendations are submitted to the Church Council for approval to improve cost control and financial processes.

We are also responsible for managing the Church's Mortgage Service fund, maintaining adequate reserves for the maintenance of our building, periodically reviewing the insurance coverage and policies, reviewing contracts for services, being alert to compliance issues, and assisting with audits of the Church's accounting records.

In 2023, General Fund (GF) Member Contributions increased by \$22,500 compared to 2022. The total GF contributions were \$905,558 compared to a budget projection of \$920,000. This income increase helped to sustain the expansion of Spiritual Staffing that occurred in 2022. The 2023 GF expenses were \$960,438 against a proposed 2023 GF budget of \$972,358. This left a small positive year-to-date increase of \$2,195 in the 2023 GF balance to carry forward to 2024. The Mortgage Service Fund (MSF) receipts were less than our 2023 monthly payments by \$23,382 resulting in a corresponding reduction in our MSF reserve. Estimates of giving for 2024 suggest we should meet our GF budget but that we may again need to draw upon the MSF reserve although to a lesser extent than in 2023.

You will find our 2023 financial reports and 2024 budget enclosed elsewhere in this annual report.

Other specific financial team activities during 2023 included: Implementation of an updated Staff/Corporate Credit card policy. Working with the Property Team to move forward on resurfacing in 2024 a portion of the parking lot and installation of flooring better suited to the needs of the Little Lambs program. Continuing the implementation of an interest-bearing investment strategy using a Fidelity Brokerage account and maintaining a one-year Certificate of Deposit ladder with all current investment assets being FDIC insured. Working with Council to implement a strategy to invest short term cash reserves in a Fidelity managed Government Money Market Account (which is considered to have lower risk than a fund that invests in non-government securities). Continuing to work on incorporating the Audit team's recommended increases to certain insurance coverage limits (Child and Youth Protection). Initiating a review of the long-term proforma for the Memory Garden. Initiating a review of the SOTP Endowment Fund. Initiating a search process to identify and select an outside audit firm for the church.

Please join the Finance team in thanking Linda Dungey for her dedication, service, and knowledge in her role as the Financial Contribution Secretary. Linda volunteers her time to record all members' estimate of giving records and donations. She also generates the members quarterly giving statements and annual giving reports. Please reach out to Linda and thank her for her dedication and service.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Ball

Music Ministries (cont.)

So many churches are lucky to have one person, oh how we are blessed!! These musicians have gone above and beyond to help me organize and schedule all this for our church!!

We also have added Michael Fetzer to our organ/piano team, Michael will play once a month in 2023.

GENEROSITY OF TIME AND TREASURES

Because of the amazing generosity of Ed and Pam Richard, we have been able to supplement and enhance our worship services! Ed and Pam also are great ongoing supporters of our Artist Series! This has enabled us to bring in many musicians adding great joy and blessing to the power of Word and Music combined!!

Carolyn Cuttle has again stepped up to the plate and continues to handle all correspondence for the choirs!! We so appreciate all her emails and help keeping us all organized and informed! Also I would like to add that Carolyn has stepped up this year with worship team and handled so many things for me in a very difficult year for me personally! THANK YOU CAROLYN!!!! (and Ed Cuttle too!!)

MUSIC LIBRARIANS

Heartfelt thanks to Jeni McCann, Lynn Broederdorf, Kathy Miller, Sara Solem and Cliff Dungey who continue to help when asked to organize and file music !! This help is appreciated beyond words!!! THANK YOU ALL!!

Special Thanks to Mike Luecht and Dave Shottick who have gone above and beyond with their generous help and great guidance all year long. Thank You!!!

LASTLY:

As many of you know on March 27, 2022, my son Kevin died at age 35. Thank you for all your prayers and generosity of time and heart!

I continue to journey through this but know for sure, I would be lost without my faith and all of you, my beloved church family!!

Respectfully Submitted

—Jane McMullen

Director of Traditional Music and Worship



CONTEMPORARY SERVICE MUSIC

In 2023 we continued to build upon an excellent team of volunteers to expand participation and growth in the Contemporary Service. The year saw us add a new electronic drum set which replaced an aging set that had been generously donated. We are excited about 2024 and we look forward to building and expanding the team as we seek to create deep and meaningful worship experiences at SOTP.

—Jeff Moore

Contemporary Music Director

Music Ministries

MUSIC MINISTRY 2023

ADULT CHOIR

Adult Choir has steadfastly continued to beautifully lead our 9am Traditional worship! And many special services.

Heartfelt thanks for their commitment and desiccation to our worship!

ARTIST SERIES

The SOTP Artist series completed another amazing year of very special concerts and events.

The team: Jane McMullen, Chris Brittain, Lynn Broederdorf, Jeni McCann, Janet Fry, Orv McElfresh, Solem, Chris Solem, Curt Gerald, Wendy Werner and Brian Buesing.



Sara

THANKS TO ED AND PAM RICHARD FOR THEIR ONGOING GENEROUS SUPPORT!

Heartfelt Thanks to all our donors, without your support, there wouldn't be an artist series!!

continued and generous



2023 Season

February
TED OLIVER DUALING PIANOS

March
PADDY HOMAN (Irish Tenor) and the NOBLE CALL

June
The UNIVERSITY of ILLINOIS (Champaign/Urbana) ALUMNI CONCERT CHOIR
Dr Chester Alwes, Director

July
"WHAT'S MORE AMERICAN THAN BROADWAY"
FEATURING Paul Marinaro and Alyssa Allgood, vocalists
With Mark Olen and his Stars and Stripes Orchestra

October
"Cat's Pajamas"

December
A Starry Night of Christmas Classics
Featuring Langford/Lelm vocal duo with the Mark Olen Orchestra



ORGANISTS

We are so blessed to have Judy Meyer Hays and Kathleen Gentes as our organists. Michael Waal continues to serve as organist for Saturday Night and Funeral Services.

2023 Year End Treasurer's Report

It has been my privilege to serve you this past year as your Church Treasurer and Council Member. The Church Treasurer is the financial officer, responsible for general oversight of all SOTP finances including contributions, expenditures, signing checks, fulfilling all Federal and State Tax obligations, and reporting to Church Council on the overall financial condition of the church. Our congregation was again faithful and generous in providing resources in 2023 for our ministry's programs.

I would like to thank Linda Dungy for her service as Contribution Secretary; she devotes many hours to ensure that donations are correctly accounted for. I would like to thank our Accounting Administrator, Dave Shotick for keeping our financial records accurate during the year. And finally, I would like to thank Bill Ball for his leadership as the Finance Team Chair. They have all made my job as Treasurer very easy and straight forward.

As of the end of the year our Fund Balances are as follows:

Fund Name	2023	2022	Change
General Fund	\$370,953	\$368,758	\$2,195
Restricted Reserves	\$142,019	\$116,021	\$25,998
Temporary Restricted	\$242,352	\$208,995	\$33,357
Endowment	\$12,842	\$12,218	\$624
Mortgage Services	\$43,129	\$66,511	(\$23,382)

The MIF mortgage principle decreased by \$102,431 in 2023.

The Finance Team has prepared a very thorough 2024 operating budget which the Council has approved and is submitting for your review and approval.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy McGuine



Con-

2023 Financial Reports

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church - Huntley IL
Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2023

Sunday, January 7, 2024

Page 1 of 2

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Period Activity	Previous Period Balance
Assets				
Current Assets				
1.100.000	Heartland Bank Checking	118,150.62	(42,961.63)	161,112.25
1.100.100	Petty Cash	500.00	0.00	500.00
1.200.000	Mission Plus Building Fund Checking	43,128.74	(4,313.91)	47,442.65
1.200.100	Mission Investment Fixed Term	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
1.210.000	Fidelity Investments	635,798.65	56,292.42	579,506.23
1.250.000	HBT/LPL Investment Account	424.12	0.36	423.76
1.500.000	Donations Holding Account	6,334.82	6,034.92	299.90
1.600.000	FNBO Checking Boy Scout Troop 200	12,658.37	(2,225.49)	14,883.86
	Total Current Assets	\$826,995.32	\$12,826.67	\$814,168.65
Fixed Assets				
1.300.000	Building & Grounds	7,203,136.61	0.00	7,203,136.61
1.300.100	Garage Building	41,717.68	0.00	41,717.68
1.300.200	Memory Garden	89,052.93	0.00	89,052.93
	Total Fixed Assets	\$7,333,907.22	\$0.00	\$7,333,907.22
	Total Assets	\$8,160,902.54	\$12,826.67	\$8,148,075.87
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
2.100.000	Prepaid General Fund Pledges	13,825.00	0.00	13,825.00
2.110.000	Prepaid Mortgage Service Pledges	1,875.00	0.00	1,875.00
	Total Current Liabilities	\$15,700.00	\$0.00	\$15,700.00
Long Term Liabilities				
2.200.200	MIF Commercial Loan Payable	3,124,466.59	(8,827.67)	3,133,294.26
	Total Long Term Liabilities	\$3,124,466.59	(\$8,827.67)	\$3,133,294.26
	Total Liabilities	\$3,140,166.59	(\$8,827.67)	\$3,148,994.26
Fund Balances & Equity				
Unrestricted Fund Balances				
3.100.000	General Fund Balance	370,953.52	3,942.68	367,010.84
	Total Unrestricted Fund Balances	\$370,953.52	\$3,942.68	\$367,010.84
Temporary Restricted Fund Balances				
3.170.000	Special Services Fund Balance	7,743.32	2,916.38	4,826.94
3.175.000	Memorial Fund Balance	25,800.48	155.00	25,645.48
3.180.000	Grafton Food Pantry Fund Balance	700.25	60.87	639.38
3.220.000	AV Ministry Fund Balance	3,851.17	(947.62)	4,798.79
3.250.000	Good Samaritan Fund Balance	7,969.00	102.75	7,866.25
3.260.000	Community Outreach Fund Balance	3,749.76	495.00	3,254.76
3.270.000	Holiday Flowers Balance	731.40	180.80	550.60
3.300.000	<i>Music Ministry Fund Balance</i>			
3.330.000	Adult Music Ministry Fund Balance	50,107.67	7,371.65	42,736.02
3.345.000	Childrens Music Ministry Fund Balance	1,325.00	0.00	1,325.00
	<i>Total Music Ministry Fund Balance</i>	<i>\$51,432.67</i>	<i>\$7,371.65</i>	<i>44,061.02</i>
3.340.000	Artist Series Balance	23,973.35	4,365.91	19,607.44
3.350.000	Prairie Crafters Fund Balance	2,562.50	0.00	2,562.50
3.380.000	Continuing Education Fund Balance	1,741.24	(64.35)	1,805.59
3.390.000	Children & Family Ministry Balance	989.64	(115.36)	1,105.00
3.400.000	<i>Youth Ministry Fund Balance</i>			
3.415.000	Youth Ministry Balance	279.14	0.00	279.14
3.417.000	Youth Mission Trips Balance	11,662.41	0.00	11,662.41
3.423.000	Confirmation Retreat Fund Balance	130.00	0.00	130.00

Worship Ministries (cont.)

BANNERS AND DECORATING

This group works to decorate the church for the liturgical seasons. Banners and displays change with each season. Flowers are also designed for each season as well. Advent and Christmas are a remarkable busy time of the year. We were blessed this year with 23 helpers to decorate the church for Advent and Christmas. Holy Week, Palm Sunday and Easter require additional help to decorate for this very special liturgical season.

—Barb Pagano and Carolyn Cuttle

GREETERS

2023 has been a very good transitional year for SOTP greeters. I am extremely grateful for the dedicated "greeters" we have here at SOTP that are scheduled for both the 9 am and 10:45 am Sunday morning services, but we could still use volunteers for the Saturday 5 pm service and even more for the Sunday morning services. The "Words of Welcome" before worship are so important. They not only welcome longtime and new members of the congregation; they set the feelings and tone of the church and service. New greeters are always welcome to our community of volunteers. Please contact me for any information.

Elaine Gillam



ALTAR FLOWERS

DONATED ALTAR FLOWERS FOR SANCTUARY 2023

Total 30 altar flower arrangements at were ordered in 2023 from Town and Country Gardens in Elgin. We raised the cost of Altar flowers to \$52 to defray the cost of those ordered by credit card.

January - 1 ordered	August - 3 ordered
April - 1 ordered	September - 3 ordered
May - 7 ordered	October - 3 ordered
June - 5 ordered	November - 3 ordered
July - 2 ordered by worship team	December - 2 ordered

EASTER 2023 ORDERED FROM COUNTRYSIDE NURSERY

38 Lilies @ \$15.00 each = \$570	6 Hyacinths @ 13.00 each = \$78.00
1 Double Lily @ \$27.00 each = \$27.00	6 Tulips @ 13.00 each = \$78.00
6 Daffodils @ 16.00 each = \$96.00	Delivery \$35

TOTAL \$849 plus delivery

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ORDERED FROM PLATT HILL NURSERY

51 Red Poinsettias (\$11.99 ea) from donations
 1 large White Poinsettia (\$54.99) that SOTP paid by Worship & Music
 \$40.00 Delivery (paid from donations)
 15 Red Poinsettias paid by Artist Series ordered from Platt Hill. (\$179.85)

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Mollis



Worship Ministries

Worship Committee members: Chris Solem, Orv McElfresh, Elaine Gilliam, Diane Molis, Judie Symbal, Barb Pagano, Carolyn Cuttle, Barb Hoppensteadt, Ed Cuttle, Jane McMullen

Special projects: Andrew Szekely (usher)



- The Worship committee at SOTP is responsible for
- Flowers in the sanctuary
 - Banners
 - Greeters
 - Ushers (services and funerals)
 - Altar Guild/Communion, Communion Stewards
 - Readers
 - Drama
 - Special events (Lent, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter, Reformation, All Saints Day, Advent Christmas)

SOTP provides three services per week including Saturday 5pm, Sunday 9am and Sunday 1045am. Sunday services are live streamed. Members of the group provide leadership for the major ministries needed for a service. Their reports follow.

This is a very active committee keeping three services per week “up and running.” There is always a need for volunteers to the different ministry groups and many ways to serve the church. We welcome offers to help!

USHER MINISTRY

Your Usher Ministry continues to support the needs of our SOTP members and visitors during all scheduled services held here at SOTP. Over this past year, your usher team has supported all three general services on the weekends, seven funeral services this past year (as requested) and continues to support all special church holiday services, and special events. We were blessed to welcome 6 new ushers this year to support this valuable ministry.

We continue to support members and visitors into service and are responsible at each service for collections, attendance counts, and directing members for communion. With a big Thank You to Pastor Ryan, we now have Acolytes to take over the task of lighting and extinguishing the altar candles at the 9:00am and 10:45am services.

This year we began to schedule our ushers using the Planning Center program used here at SOTP for services scheduling. We will continue to use this automated method of scheduling our ushers which, when they acknowledge the scheduling email, automatically updates the service schedule for each service time and provides the Ministry leaders confirmation on who will be serving at service.

The Usher Ministry members (part of the Worship Ministry Team) will continue to support other areas of worship as needed. We are truly blessed to have this dedicated group of Usher Team members here at SOTP!

Ed Cuttle, Usher Ministry Coordinator

COMMUNION / ALTAR CARE

Everything is going good this year, we got new robes and Sandy Meyer was kind to shorten them for use. We also got new wine for Communion. All the women and also husbands are doing well with set up and clean up, and thanks to all the bread makers also.

2023 Financial Reports (cont.)

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church - Huntley IL Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2023

Sunday, January 7, 2024				Page 2 of 2
Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Period Activity	Previous Period Balance
<i>Total Youth Ministry Fund Balance</i>		\$12,071.55	\$0.00	12,071.55
3.500.000	Little Lambs Fund Balance	9,814.96	133.03	9,681.93
3.600.000	Prayer Shawl Ministry Fund Balance	74.95	0.00	74.95
3.650.000	Quilters Ministry Fund Balance	1,449.43	(31.34)	1,480.77
3.675.000	Memory Garden Fund Balance	12,970.45	(299.58)	13,270.03
3.676.000	Memory Garden Bricks Fund Balance	3,431.57	0.00	3,431.57
3.677.000	Memory Garden Niche Fund Balance	57,606.65	0.00	57,606.65
3.680.000	Garage Fund Balance	(5,767.68)	0.00	(5,767.68)
3.690.000	SOTP Sportswear Fund Balance	(208.25)	0.00	(208.25)
3.720.000	Disaster Relief Fund Balance	250.00	0.00	250.00
3.725.000	Miscellaneous Outside Charities Fund Balance	60.00	(150.00)	210.00
3.730.000	ELCA World Hunger Fund Balance	225.50	50.25	175.25
3.735.000	LSSI Fund Balance	200.00	0.00	200.00
3.750.000	Seminary Scholarship Fund Balance	6,270.00	0.00	6,270.00
3.800.000	Boy Scout Troop 200 Fund Balance	12,658.37	(2,225.49)	14,883.86
	Total	\$242,352.28	\$11,997.90	\$230,354.38
3.140.000	Mortgage Service Fund Balance	43,128.74	(4,313.91)	47,442.65
	Total Temporary Restricted Fund Balances	\$285,481.02	\$7,683.99	\$277,797.03
Reserves				
3.950.000	Barnabas Reserves Balance	1,593.71	0.00	1,593.71
3.971.000	Roof Repairs/Replacement Balance	52,850.04	781.67	52,068.37
3.972.000	Playground Maintenance Reserves Balance	2,845.00	0.00	2,845.00
3.973.000	Parking Lot Seal/Repair Reserves Balance	13,056.28	563.33	12,492.95
3.974.000	Lawn & Landscaping Reserves Balance	7,385.43	333.33	7,052.10
3.975.000	Maintenance Reserves Balance	12,681.52	250.00	12,431.52
3.976.000	Carpeting Crossroads/Hallways Reserves Balance	3,302.00	0.00	3,302.00
3.977.000	Carpeting MP Room/Classrooms Balance	28,860.04	321.67	28,538.37
3.980.000	Equipment Reserves Balance	7,257.14	(1,050.00)	8,307.14
3.981.000	Bells Maintenance Reserves Balance	2,236.58	0.00	2,236.58
3.985.000	Sabbatical Reserves Balance	9,950.89	0.00	9,950.89
	Total Reserves	\$142,018.63	\$1,200.00	\$140,818.63
Permanently Restricted Funds				
3.940.000	Endowment Fund Balance	12,842.15	0.00	12,842.15
	Total Permanently Restricted Funds	\$12,842.15	\$0.00	\$12,842.15
3.130.000	Building & Grounds Equity	4,078,670.02	8,827.67	4,069,842.35
3.300.100	Garage Building Equity Balance	41,717.68	0.00	41,717.68
3.300.200	Memory Garden Equity Balance	89,052.93	0.00	89,052.93
	Total Equity	\$4,209,440.63	\$8,827.67	\$4,200,612.96
	Total Fund Balances & Equity	\$5,020,735.95	\$21,654.34	\$4,999,081.61
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances & Equity	\$8,160,902.54	\$12,826.67	\$8,148,075.87



Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD(+/-)	Annual Budget
Sunday, January 7, 2024							
Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church - Huntley IL							
Treasurer's Report as of December 2023 for General Fund							
Page 1 of 2							
Income							
4,100,000	Member Contributions	89,222.78	92,000.00	905,557.65	920,000.00	(14,442.35)	920,000.00
4,150,000	Loose Plate and Growth	7,446.70	2,587.00	34,778.77	31,000.00	3,778.77	31,000.00
4,250,000	Flower Income	100.58	115.00	1,314.15	1,358.00	(43.85)	1,358.00
4,300,000	Interest Income Heartland Bank	41.21		184.32			
4,310,000	Investment Income Fidelity	6,292.42	1,420.00	20,798.65	20,000.00	798.65	20,000.00
	Total Income	\$103,103.69	\$96,122.00	\$962,633.54	\$972,358.00	(\$9,908.78)	\$972,358.00
Expenses							
Connections Ministry							
	Connections Ministry	\$0.00	\$95.00	\$425.27	\$1,250.00	(\$824.73)	\$1,250.00
Mission Ministry							
	Mission Ministry	\$9,829.84	\$8,426.00	\$98,885.72	\$101,200.00	(\$2,314.28)	\$101,200.00
Outreach Ministry							
	Outreach Ministry	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$11,280.18	\$12,000.00	(\$719.82)	\$12,000.00
Adult Education Ministry							
	Adult Education Ministry	\$110.60	\$38.00	\$863.97	\$500.00	\$363.97	\$500.00
Youth and Education Ministry							
	Youth and Education Ministry	\$301.38	\$587.00	\$4,342.15	\$7,000.00	(\$2,657.85)	\$7,000.00
Children and Family Ministry							
	Children and Family Ministry	\$170.39	\$400.00	\$5,374.85	\$7,050.00	(\$1,675.15)	\$7,050.00
Music Ministry							
	Music Ministry	\$775.24	\$310.00	\$2,105.51	\$3,720.00	(\$1,614.49)	\$3,720.00
Worship Ministry							
	Worship Ministry	\$509.33	\$514.00	\$6,542.93	\$6,300.00	\$242.93	\$6,300.00
Audio Visual							
	Audio Visual	\$1,270.12	\$460.00	\$5,164.94	\$5,520.00	(\$355.06)	\$5,520.00
Facilities							
	Facilities	\$9,517.02	\$11,184.00	\$97,912.81	\$105,350.00	(\$7,437.19)	\$105,350.00
Office Expenses							
	Office Expenses	\$3,007.89	\$2,931.00	\$35,802.36	\$35,040.00	\$762.36	\$35,040.00
Staffing Ministry							
	Spiritual Ministry Staff	\$48,332.08	\$50,145.00	\$441,101.81	\$440,540.00	\$561.81	\$440,540.00
	Support Ministry Staff	\$16,677.91	\$16,545.00	\$155,628.25	\$152,407.00	\$3,221.25	\$152,407.00

PRAIRIE POINT QUILTERS

The ladies of Prairie Point Quilts have been hard at work. In August we were able to dedicate 101 quilts for Lutheran World Relief to be sent wherever needed in the world. We also took 11 quilts to Home of the Sparrow. Also, a huge thank you to the ladies who take the kits home and make the quilt tops. And thank you to all who donated money - without your help we wouldn't be able to get our fabrics and batting.

—Bev Kenny



PRAYER SHAWLS

The Prayer Shawl group provides shawls for the congregation to give to anyone in need of a little comfort. The shawls are available to everyone. We make them for you to take. We also donate to the local hospital. We now have 2 "Shawl Racks" for you to choose a shawl. A big "Thank You" to the building team for the second rack!

The group also provides the baptism blankets, Alice and her daughter Tammy also create blankets for the graduating seniors. Most of the work is done at home, but we do come together once a month to pray over the completed shawls. This is a very rewarding ministry and new knitters and/or crocheters are always welcome. Pastor Mark calls us the "Stitcheroos"! Please and check us out on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 9a.m. in the Library. come

Alice Hallet and Jeanne Henley



GIVING TREE

This year our Giving Tree involved all gifts being gift cards to local establishments. The cards were given to 70 families from Turning Point and 49 from and Grafton Food Pantry

—Alice Miller & Bev Pinelli

Mission Ministries

The Mission Team is to **Encourage, Enlightened and Equip** our congregation of mission opportunities beyond the doors of our church.

THANK YOU SOTP. THIS IS WHAT WE'VE DONE WITH OUR BODIES \$ 30,000.00 AND OVER THIS PAST YEAR

"In as much as you have done it unto the least of these you have done it unto me" (Math. 25:40)

LORD when were you in PRISON and SOTP visited you?
 LSSI Prison & Family Ministries Compassion Hygiene Kits
 CRE ReEntry (help for recently released local prisoners)

LORD when were you SICK and SOTP cared for you?
 Prayer Shawls
 Mc Henry County Pioneer group home
 Doctors Without Borders
 Mercy Ships
 Augusta Victoria Lutheran Church – Jerusalem/Gaza
 Aurusha Lutheran Medical School of Nursing (Africa)

LORD when were you HUNGRY and SOTP fed you?
 Feed My Starving Children
 PADS & homeless dinners
 ELCA World Hunger
 Northern Illinois Food Bank
 Grafton Food Pantry
 Hampshire Food Pantry

LORD when were you NAKED and SOTP clothed you?
 PADS – homeless clothing donations
 Giving Tree – (Grafton & Turning Point)

LORD when were you HOMELESS and SOTP gave you shelter?
 AARK Gardens (homeless employment & housing)
 Elgin Community Crisis Center
 Turning Point
 Home of the Sparrow
 Green Trees Housing, Landscaping
 Habitat for Humanity Re-Store
 Habitat New Hope Partnership – built a home in Elgin, IL
 EXODUS – Welcome Packs to families
 ELCA Disaster Relief Funds

LORD, we know it's important to grow disciples so in addition to the above, SOTP has helped support Missionaries in Tanzania Africa - Daudi & Kellen Msseemmaa.

Respectfully submitted, Mission Team Leader, Sandy Hupert
 PLEASE THINK ABOUT JOINING OUR TEAM, WE NEED YOU!

The Mission Team (Vik Bekeris, Mark Bidinger,, Leslie Enders, Carl Hupert, Marty Jacobson, Steve Legel, Annette Petersen, Marilyn Schnell, Rhonda Shoemaker and Becky Wright

THANK YOU SOTP, you have been very generous! Financially, with the Mission Team budget and the Holiday special offerings we were able to accomplish all of the above. GOD IS GOOD!

PLEASE THINK ABOUT JOINING OUR TEAM, WE NEED YOU!

Respectfully submitted,
 —Sandy Hupert



2022 Financial Reports (cont.)

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church - Huntley IL Treasurer's Report as of December 2023 for General Fund

Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Budget YTD	Over/Under YTD(+/-)	Page 2 of 2
							Annual Budget
	<i>Shared Staff Expense</i>						
	Shared Staff Expense	\$2,992.39	\$2,504.00	\$26,322.88	\$30,081.00	(\$3,758.12)	\$30,081.00
	Staffing Ministry	\$68,002.38	\$69,194.00	\$623,052.94	\$623,028.00	\$24.94	\$623,028.00
	<i>Other Church Expenses</i>						
	Other Church Expenses	\$3,166.82	\$2,788.00	\$38,684.76	\$34,400.00	\$4,284.76	\$34,400.00
	<i>Providing for the Future</i>						
	Providing for the Future	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00
	Total Expenses	\$99,161.01	\$100,427.00	\$960,438.39	\$972,358.00	(\$11,919.61)	\$972,358.00
	Difference	\$3,942.68	(\$4,305.00)	\$2,195.15	\$0.00		\$0.00





ANNUAL MINISTRY REPORTS



Children & Family Ministries

This has been a busy year for the Children and Family Ministries Program. We've had many events throughout the year and tons of fun!!!

We started out the year with a Kid's Pizza Party. The kids ate pizza and played games. We had over 30 kids that registered and we also partnered up with the Youth group that helped out throughout the night. Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success. We had over 100 children from the community come out and find 2300 eggs!!! Thank you to everyone that dropped off candy and also a big thank you to everyone that helped fill the eggs, especially the wonderful ladies that help out in the office, Peggy Lynn Loiselle and Mary Lou Chamberlain. We kicked off the summer with an Ice Cream/ Car Show and wow did we have a great turnout!!! We had music, games, face painting, cool cars, and delicious ice cream. In October, we had such fun hosting our annual Trunk or Treat. We had over 18 "trunks" decorated for kids to trick or treat at! The parking lot was packed and full of fun and fellowship! We had almost 200 people join us and not only from our congregation, but from all over. It was a great success! At the end of the night, the fun continued and we voted on the top two best trunks for prizes. Congratulations to our 1st place winners, Jim and Kim Stancl for their Baseball themed trunk and 2nd place went to the Mackey family for their Jurassic Park trunk!

This year for VBS we had over 90 kids, 40 volunteers, and 1 Big Yellow School Bus! Our theme was Ready, Set, Move: Following Jesus Here There and Everywhere! It was a 5-day adventure, from 9am-12pm each day. Kids had fun singing & dancing, playing games, making crafts, and gathering school supplies for families in our community.

The new Kids Connect program Orange 252 has been a great success. This program creates resources and experiences that promote the alignment of the church and the home. Two combined influences make a greater impact than just two influences. When the light of the church (yellow) combines with the heart of the home (red) you get a stronger, more vibrant impact in the life of a kid (orange). We started off our Kids Connect season on Rally Day, it was a great success with games, fun activities, and music. We have about 20-35 kids every week attending Sunday morning Kids Connect.

It has been an amazing year and we would not have been able to do all that we did without the Lord's faithfulness and the help of our volunteers! It is a great gift to serve this ministry program and to help in the growth of it in the coming years!

We are looking forward to a new and exciting year in 2024, we already have many activities planned for next year and we can't wait!!!

Jill Gillming



Small Groups

The **Heartbeat** of
Shepherd of the Prairie

MINISTRY GROUPS

- Community Outreach Team
- Children, Youth & Family Team
- Worship & Music Team
- Stewardship Team
- Church Council
- Wellness Team
- Property Team
- Mission Team
- Finance Team
- SOTP Staff

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

- Coffee Fellowship
- Fun For All Ages
- Men's Coffee
- Women's Coffee
- Next Step
- Book Club

CARE GROUPS

- Barnabas Caregiving
- Grief Support; Grief Journey Group
- Caring Callers; Caring Cards
- Communion From the Assembly
- Helping Hands
- Prayer Ministry
- AA
- Al-Anon

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

The **7s**

Holy Smokers

STUDY GROUPS

- Weekly Bible Study with Pastor Mark
- Sunday Study with Pastor Roy
- Friends Bible Study
- Suppers With Luther
- God's Girls
- Sunshine Boys

"A GROWING CHURCH FOR GROWING PEOPLE"

Community Outreach Ministry (cont.)

I would be remiss if I did not give a shout out to our publicist, Patricia M. Szpekowski, APR of PR Strategies & Communications, Inc. Pat has worked with SOTP for a few years now and she is able to help with promoting not only Community Outreach activities, but has also promoted articles for the Artist Series, various activities from the Mission Team, and our various special services to just name a few, within the Daily Harold, Facebook, and neighborhood Patch sites.

Lastly, the Community Outreach team also manages the Welcome Center (WC). In January we are rolling out a new way to sign up to man the WC desk and registration desk. It will be the same as if you were signing up to be a greeter or usher. We have also asked that our Ministry leads, and council members take part in helping at the WC as well. We started showing our new members' photos on the screen above the WC to give current members an opportunity to see and recognize who is new at SOTP. If you are interested in helping at the WC, watch for training dates during S.E.E week!

I would like to give a big Thank You to those that served on the 2023 Community Outreach team! It has been a great year and I look forward to what we can accomplish in 2024!

Tara Mackey

-Community Outreach Chair

Little Lambs Preschool

Little Lambs

Little Lambs- Our Little Lambs Preschool Program is celebrating its 15th year! This year we started out our new year with an Open House. We had all the students and families come the Thursday night before we started school. It was nice to be able to meet and talk with the parents of the students that work full time and don't get to see our classroom in action. Classes meet from 9:00 am – noon on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. During this time, we enjoy circle time, math/language lessons, letter recognition and letter sound recognition, Bible stories, crafts, music, snacks, free play and more! These activities help children develop Kindergarten readiness skills, a love for Bible stories and the knowledge that God loves us all! We will be starting early enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year in January. Children between the ages of 2 and 4 yrs. (by Sept. 1st) are accepted into our program. Students do not need to be potty trained and do not need to be members of SOTP. Enrollment is limited, so, if you are interested in signing up your child, or, if you know someone who is, please contact us at littlelambs@sotpmail.com. We see the smiling faces on our students and parents, every week, and feel the program has been a great success! With God's blessing, we'd like to see the program continue to grow!

—Jill Gillming, Kendra Coots



Connections Ministry

The Connections Ministry includes Barnabas Caregiving Ministry, Small Groups and 7s Discipleship Groups, New Member Gatherings and Visitor Awareness, and Ministry Teams, as well as Caring Cards, Caring Callers, Prayer Chain, and Helping Hands. This ministry seeks to connect people, members, and non-members, into ways of following in Jesus' footsteps as his disciples or apprentices.

BARNABAS CAREGIVING MINISTRY

The Barnabas Caregiving ministry provides care in the form of encouragement and Holy Communion for members who are residents of Care Facilities or living at home and unable to attend worship. We also help our pastors with making hospital visits. Not only do we care for our members, but we provide monthly communion on the third Sunday at Clarendale in Algonquin; and monthly services at Huntley Springs; and at Clarendale, and Alden Huntley not only for patients who can come to the services, but also to those living in the memory Care units. We currently have 35 trained Barnabas Ministers who serve 53 Care Receivers in various ways.

SMALL GROUPS, 7s DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Small Group ministry is "the lifeblood of SOTP". SOTP began as a small group, and we continue that tradition through our ministry, fellowship, study, care, and discipleship groups.

Our 7s Discipleship groups meet for a 7-week block of time, one in the fall, one during the winter and one right after Easter. The groups meet either at SOTP or in members' homes. They include, as they meet, the elements of study (Bible study and worship), fellowship time (fun and snacks), support, (listening to and praying for each other), service (finding a service project to participate in) and discipleship (apprenticing themselves to Jesus to learn how he lived and how they can too.) Each group chooses their own focus for study. We have one small study group that has been meeting for five years! These groups also do ministry in at least one service project (either here at SOTP or in the community at large) each year.

Our Ministry and Fellowship groups strive to include worship, prayer, caring and service in their groups as well throughout the year. Our Care groups meet to learn, worship, pray and serve during the year as well.

NEW MEMBER GATHERINGS AND VISITOR AWARENESS

Four New Member Gatherings were held during 2024; February, May, August and November and we welcomed 87 new members to Shepherd of the Prairie. Many of our new members have engaged in ministry here at SOTP through Ministry Teams and other small groups. Welcome to all of our new members!

We continue to welcome visitors through our Welcome Center and via our Visitor Contact link on our website. We have many visitors who worship with us regularly via our Live Stream and Facebook Live. We are working on new ways to connect with our visitors and to check in with our new members to continue to invite them into the life of SOTP.

SERVICE

This year, I was tasked with working through Panning Center and our Church Center app, to find a new and more efficient way for scheduling Worship Assistants for our Sunday morning services. I'm happy to say, that for the most part, the new procedure works very well, and we are working to implement this same process for our Welcome Center and Registration Kiosk helpers. A special thanks to Sue Sroka for taking on this ministry for Worship Assistants.



Connections Ministry (cont.)

We also put into action using the Church Center app to use for sign ups for all of our activities and ministries. It has really simplified the process for those of us who are in charge of activities or ministries as we now have only one place to sign up and one list of participants. We know that some are unable to use the Church Center app, or simply prefer to sign up in person. Thanks to Rich Paeth, we have two Registration Kiosks (designed just for these situations) complete with iPads and staffed by someone who can help people to sign up in a quick and easy way. If you have any problems please stop by the kiosk to sign up for any and all activities.

MINISTRY TEAMS

As you read through the ministry reports for this year you will see how our SOTP Ministry Teams have continued to serve God, all of you and our communities. We are called to: Love God, Love Neighbor, Love Self. Our Ministry Teams have been active in working to engage all of us in ways to do love in those ways. We seem to be busier than ever, with many of our Ministry Teams expanding the scope of their service to even more of God's people here at SOTP, our local community and around the world.

I would personally like to thank each person who helped care for God's people this year, whether it was through a ministry here at SOTP, or in your own families and neighborhoods. God has truly blessed us with opportunities to live the life Jesus calls us to. If you are looking for a way to become engaged with serving God's people, contact me and I will be happy to help you find the right fit.

It has been a great privilege to serve in partnership with God and this congregation as we work together to bring God's Kingdom "on earth as it is in heaven". Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Grace & Peace,
Donna Kelly



Friends Bible Study

The women in Friends Bible Study meet every Monday from 12:30-2:30 in the Willow Room at Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church. Their purpose is to gather together to study God's word by focusing on a chosen book of the Bible.

Throughout 2023, the group has studied Exodus, Ezekiel, and 1 Kings from the Old Testament. From the New Testament, the focus was on Romans and 1 & 11 Thessalonians.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Dungey

Community Outreach Ministry

It is hard to believe that a whole year has flown by, and I am now starting my second year as Community Outreach Ministry lead. Taking over after Mike Yndestad's 10-year run was a little daunting in the beginning, but with his guidance, a great team, and wonderful congregation full of volunteers – we were able to do some pretty amazing outreach this year!

Our first task as a team was to purchase all new SOTP canopies and tables cloths featuring the new logo. Armed with the correct logo we were ready to put it all to good use.

The "Fill the bag **February**" started us off with our first of 3 Grafton Pantry food drives. It snowed terribly the whole time, but we still had an impressive 63 cars and over \$1400 in donations that day! Our next drive was an **April** "Shower the pantry" – it also snowed/rained/sleeted terribly that day as well. We saw 44 cars come through with around \$1000 collected in donations. **September's** "Labor of Love" was our last food drive of the year and thankfully it did not snow! We had 45 cars and \$889 in donations. For next year, we are looking into involving the neighborhoods/business around us with the distribution of paper bags and option of porch pick up on the days our food drives. We have already decided on another February 2024 food drive. Stay tuned for more information and be ready with your snow boots!

March brought the Business Expo held at the Huntley Park District. We had a large booth where we were able to showcase our new logoed SOTP banner. With the help of the AV team, we also had an amazing video to show everyone that walked by a little bit more about SOTP. We played games, handed out our SOTP "swag", and had great conversations with the community members.

May was our second busiest month with two back-to-back events. On the 24th we honored the Huntley Public Works employees with pizza provided by Bob and Carolyn Malm, drinks, and desserts donated from the congregation. To say that these hard-working men and women were thrilled is a complete understatement. Later that month we participated in the American Legion Memorial Parade. Thanks to Doug Nagel and his truck for pulling our float, Jeff Moore and the SOTP Praise Band for singing/playing on the float, and to all the families that signed up to help decorate the float and then walk, sing, and hand out frisbees to the crowd. All our hard work paid off in the end because successfully defended our first-place title! Can we pull off a third time? Sign up and help us try!



September then became our busiest month. It started with a food drive as mentioned above. Our next event was the first of its kind. Community Outreach sponsored one of SOTP's own Dennis Houghton and his '**Captivated by Nature**' presentation. Held in the Fellowship Hall, we were able to work with the AV team again to fine tune Dennis' show up on the new big screen. His photographs of nature transported the audience to places and scenes that can easily be overlooked during the busy day-to-day grind, but when given the opportunity to slow down, can be found right in your own backyard. The last September event was **Fall Fest**. We set up a booth for both Saturday and Sunday and had a great location and beautiful weather. Our new canopy was by far the most professional and easily noticeable of all the booths. Most



of the SOTP swag was given out – which will lead to new and different items coming for next year. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped!