



Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 10/10/2023	Time: 7:00 P.M.	Location: Fellowship Hall and Zoom
Attendees In-Person: Paul S, Mark, Mike, Pastor Dan, Kelly, Kate, Phil, Connie, Jolene T Attendees Online: Lisa, Jenny, Kristi, Jolene H		
Absent: Jennifer, Julie, Pastor Paul, Winnie, Emily and Angie		
Call To Order: 7:050 PM.		
Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Connie made a motion to approve the minutes for September 2023. Mike seconded the motion and all approved.		

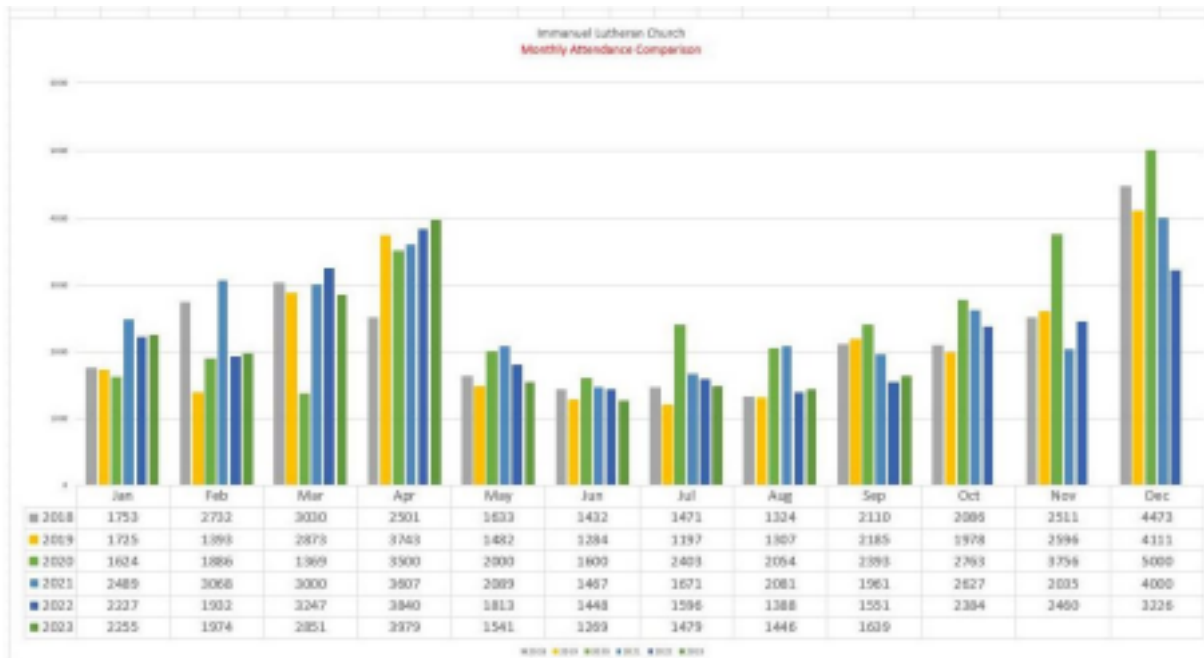
Action Item	Who	Status	Expected Completion date
Columbarium – 2 nd unit	Pastor Paul	In process – Pr Paul will get updated estimate and get costs on landscaping work not included in columbarium bid	November 2023

Devotions

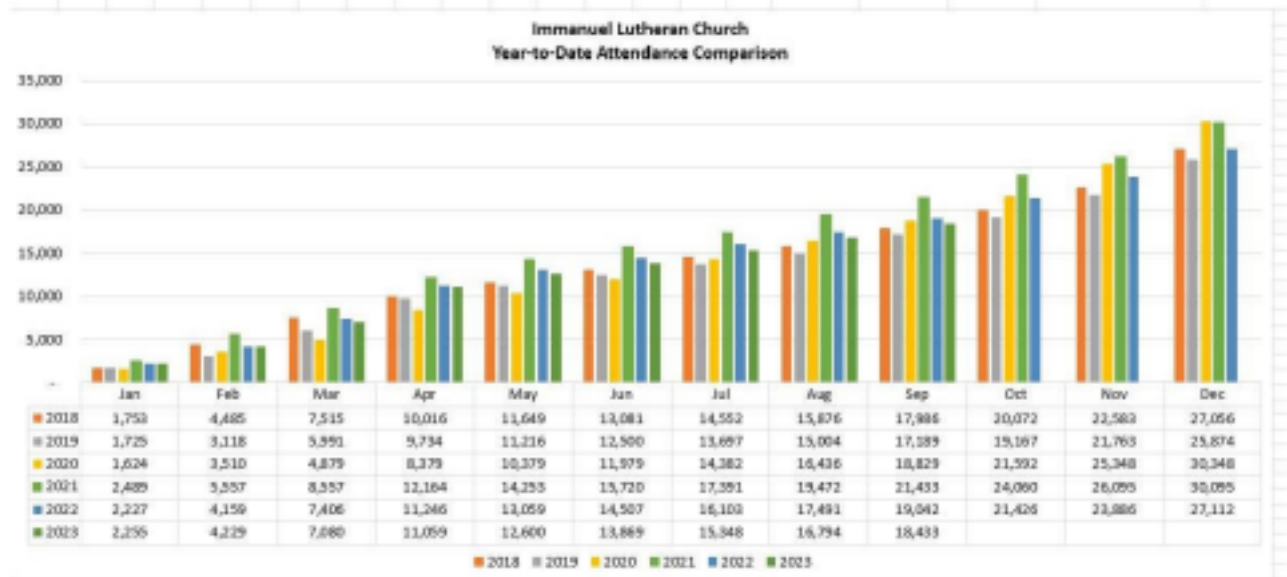
Devotions were led by Kelly Meyers using the D365 app, focusing on the Faith 5 Practices highlighted in worship this fall.

Financial Matters

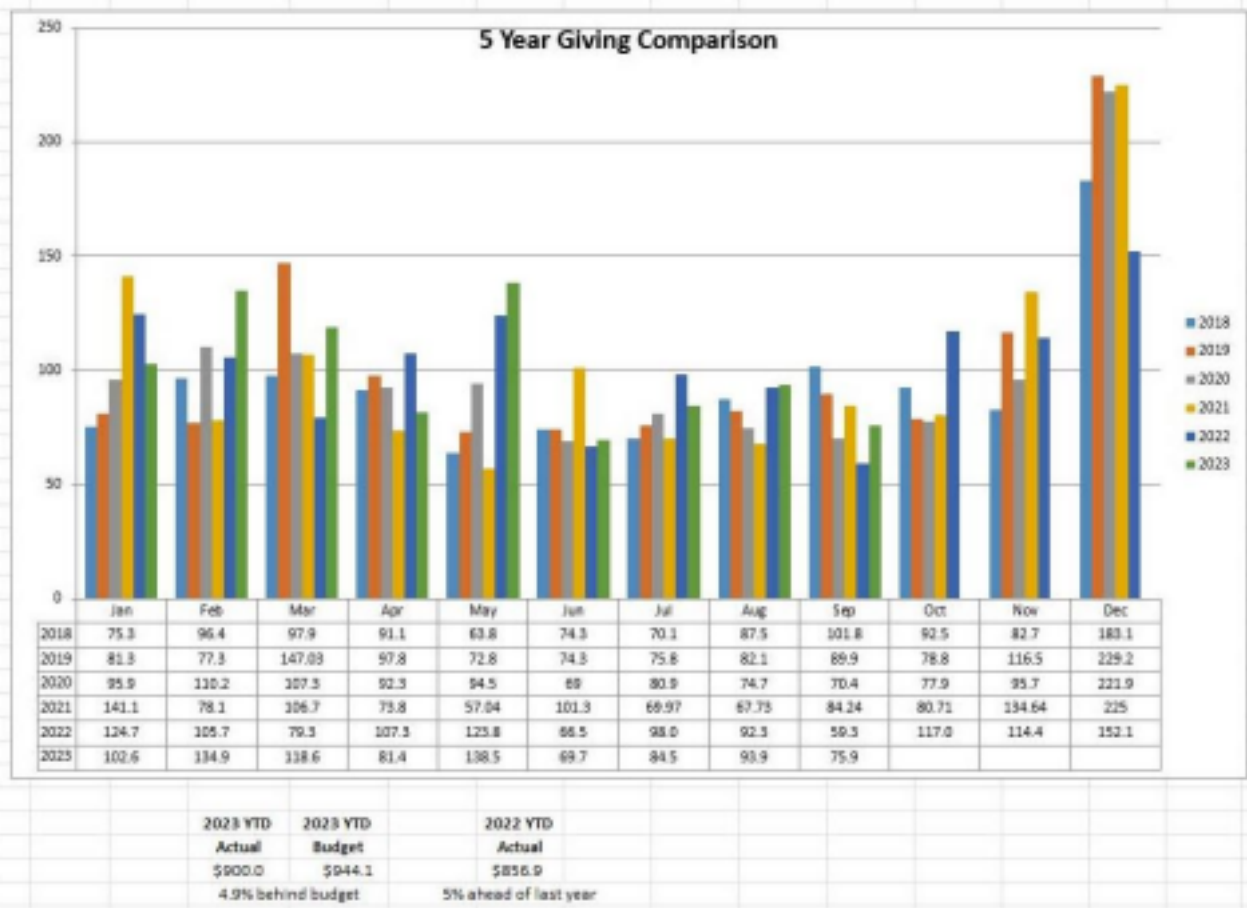
Connie presented the financial, attendance and giving information.



In Person Worship Trend	Notes:
January 2023 - 56% In Person	
February - 60% In Person	
March - 64% In Person	
April - 66% In Person	Easter Services
May - 67% In Person	
June - 63% In Person	
July - 70% In Person	
August - 68% In Person	
September - 63% In Person	Tent Meeting



- Attendance stronger than 2022 for Sept and going up. Sept. 16 internet down, no livestreams
- YTD attendance down slightly



- 76K income for month (up from 2022). Counting on Oct-Dec strong giving.

**Immanuel Lutheran Church
September 2023
Financial Summary**

	Current Month					Year to Date					Progress to Budget		
	Prior Year	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Var	Prior Year	Budget	Actual	Variance	% Var	YTD Giving / Expense	Annual Budget	% Budget YTD
Giving	\$ 58,483	\$ 60,917	\$ 74,751	\$ (25,169)		\$ 704,964	\$ 899,250	\$ 834,312	\$ (64,938)		\$ 834,312	\$ 1,193,000	
Misc. Income	\$ 820	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,665	\$ (3,015)		\$ 81,853	\$ 45,000	\$ 69,598	\$ 21,598		\$ 66,988	\$ 60,000	
Total Recurring Income	\$ 59,303	\$ 65,917	\$ 76,416	\$ (28,169)	-20.9%	\$ 886,817	\$ 944,250	\$ 903,910	\$ (43,340)	-4.6%	\$ 901,300	\$ 1,253,000	71.9%
Benevolence - ELCA (8%)	\$ 3,283	\$ 8,992	\$ 8,728	\$ (2,209)		\$ 71,549	\$ 80,933	\$ 75,086	\$ (5,844)		\$ 75,086	\$ 107,910	
Benevolence - Other (8%)	\$ 4,679	\$ 7,993	\$ 5,960	\$ (2,013)		\$ 83,599	\$ 71,940	\$ 68,745	\$ (5,195)		\$ 68,745	\$ 95,820	
Church Expenses	\$ 88,679	\$ 85,105	\$ 85,358	\$ 293	0.3%	\$ 689,491	\$ 705,950	\$ 718,418	\$ (47,532)	-6.7%	\$ 718,418	\$ 1,021,266	70.3%
Program Expenses	\$ 18,458	\$ 8,993	\$ 5,549	\$ (3,444)	-38.3%	\$ 49,391	\$ 45,406	\$ 38,774	\$ (6,635)	-14.6%	\$ 38,774	\$ 54,824	70.7%
Total Recurring Expenses	\$ 115,059	\$ 111,084	\$ 103,615	\$ (7,469)	-6.7%	\$ 875,704	\$ 964,231	\$ 898,025	\$ (65,206)	-6.8%	\$ 898,025	\$ 1,279,820	70.2%
Recurring:													
Giving less Expenses	\$ (55,756)	\$ (6,167)	\$ (26,878)	\$ (26,711)		\$ (18,767)	\$ (19,961)	\$ 1,885	\$ 21,886		\$ 1,885	\$ (20,820)	

General Fund Balance Prior Month This Month Inc./ (Dec)
 \$ 723,302 \$ 735,314 \$ 12,012 % of Year Elapsed 76%

Highlights

- * Giving for September was down vs. budget, but ahead vs. LY - Reminder our expense budget is about \$20K greater than 2022 Giving
- * Personnel Exp were \$1K over our straightlined budget for the month of Sept. (only one part time open headcount in music)
- * Office supplies are \$4K unfavorable YTD - Kelly working on live stream cost saving initiative

Key Call Outs:

2023 budget was not balanced - aligned as a congregation to use \$20K from reserves to fund budget.
 \$7.7K in income results from accounting rule changes in Jan 2023 to discontinue children's and youth ministry dedicated accounts and in include in general budget

- 5% behind budget for 2023
- Personnel expense – only \$1,000 over budget for September
- Looking like we may not need to use any reserves.
- Focus all the things to rejoice about for 2023

Church Administrator update - Kelly

- Funds were approved by Executive Committee for Paul E and Grace to attend the 2024 Youth Extravaganza in Jan 2024, New Orleans. Purpose is to prepare for the July 2024 National Youth Gathering. • Kelly reported estimates of \$47,400 for a 2nd columbarium which does not include the foundation work or work to /around the area. 30-40 weeks for completion. \$49,500 in the account which has been accumulated from people purchasing a niche. There are currently 10 left, but we are behind on engraving so there may be less funds available. Potential to pull from reserves and then we can replenish.

Ministry update

- Pastor Paul is in Italy and will report on Pastoral acts at November meeting.

Committee Updates

Youth Ministry (Middle School & High School) –Lisa

- game night on 9/29 was cancelled and will be rescheduled for a later time (January or February). • Confirmation Retreat at Camp Onomia Nov. 10-12. There are 27 people signed up with anticipation of 50 in attendance.
- Youth Rejoice February 25, 2024 and Garage Sale May 4, 2024. We will be doing additional fundraising events for those attending the National Youth Gathering. Hopeful to take the \$1500 cost and have enough funds so that families only have to pay \$700.
- Care packages for college students – Kate and Phil will be shopping for goods to go in packages. • Phil and Jolene positions are up for elections. Phil is finishing his second term and can't move forward with another

term. Jolene is open to moving forward with a second term.

- Mental Health Awareness night for students is November 15.

Children's Ministry – Jenny

- 10:30 Sunday School has about 8-12 kids which has been going well. Need additional volunteers. • Talked about annual donations to Camp Wapo and where that money would come from – may shift from Children's Ministry budget to Benevolence in 2024.
- Sign up for trunk or treat Oct. 28 – last year about 200 people.
- Grace is planning child advent packages.
- Advent starts a week earlier (Nov. 26 so the 4th week of Advent isn't on Christmas Eve). • Sunday after Thanksgiving after the 9 service will focus on decorating for Advent season, with treats and caroling

Fellowship - Mike K.

- Wednesday Café is doing well and they have been coming in or under budget every week. • Smorgasbord planning is well underway. Potential request to serve alcohol. Potential to have drivers for the individuals who do not like to drive at night.

Social Concerns – Kristi

- Benevolence – audit committee was requesting who we were donating to and why. Social Concerns committee along with Deacon Savannah will provide more details on requested benevolence for 2024. Need to understand why there is a wide range in benevolence amounts.
- Plan to start adding the ages ranges for volunteer opportunities.
- Almost an okay to re-start the blood drive and looking at December dates.
- Circle of Welcome - most of the finances are mostly going to interpreters. Original individuals are moving to be closer to secured employment, working on English and getting their driver's license.
- Coat drive for loaves and fishes collecting through the month of October – requesting all Minnesota layers. • Humanity Alliance food prep on October 23 and November 17 to deliver food.
- Habitat for Humanity in Prior Lake on Saturday, November 11th.
- Anna's Craft Sale is Sat. & Sun., Nov. 4th & 5th.
- November 19 **Savannah** will be having a community fair in conjunction with Stewardship Sunday.

Evangelism - Jolene H

- food trucks for Bingo benefit will be secured earlier next year and then followed up with several **weeks** in advance.
- Tables of 8 kickoff was September 24th. 9 groups participating.
- Planning New Member gathering at Pastor Paul's house on Nov. 2nd.
- January 19 will be the beach party.

Properties – Mark A

- new pollinator garden is put in by Clark Heilman for his Eagle Scout project. He also donated mulch and compost for disciple garden.
- October 28 for yard clean up.
- We need to replace window in **Savannah's** office and are gathering additional bids.
- Holding pond may not require 3rd maintenance.
- October/ November for roof replacement of 2 most critical sections.
- Replacement of LED bulbs in Luther Hall keeps getting delayed.

Worship Music and Arts – no report

Adult Faith Formation – no report

Mark made motion to adjourn the meeting. Kate seconded and all approved.

The meeting was adjourned with the Council singing A Mighty Fortress.