

**Clerk's Corner:**

The following information was reported at the November 27, 2023, Session meeting:

**Correspondence:** none

**Deaths:** Don Morris died on November 12, 2023. His service was held on November 24, 2023, at Grimes Funeral Home with the Rev. Larry Smith of Alamo Hospice officiating.

Phil Latham, husband of member Diane Latham, died on November 21, 2023. A celebration of his life will be held at the Museum of Western Art on December 16, 2023.

**Communion:** November extended communion was served to Charles Clark and Lee Locke by Nancy Wallace and Tricia Matthews; Beth Gunter, Gene Hutzler, and Ted McCullough by Linda Phillips and Alice Lerp; Elaine Scogin by Susan Junkin & Laura Batchelder; Rose Burton, Jeanine Merkel, and Don and Janell Steele by Amy Havis and Kristie Schlechte; Evelyn Humphrey and Cora Belle Nunn by Shannon Tuschak.

**Financial Report:** Total operating income for October was \$93,099. Total operating expense for October was \$101,102. Expenses exceeded income in October by \$8,003.

**Deacon's Report:** Serving their flocks is the highest priority.

**Budget & Finance:** All committees that have not submitted budgets for 2024 need to do so by the end of November.

**Children's Corner Preschool:** 2023 has been a difficult year financially for CCP, just as it has been for most preschool/childcare entities in the United States. CCP participated in the Child Care Relief Program, and in 2023, it received almost \$253,000 under the program. CCP has significant reserves accumulated from its operations before 2020 and through its participation in the Paycheck Protection Program and the Child Care Relief Program and will be able to cover operating losses for an extended period, probably 18 to 24 months. Consequently, it is unlikely CCP will need financial assistance from the church during this period. However, the CCP Committee felt it was important for the session to be aware of the financial difficulty faced by CCP as it continues this important ministry to our community.

**Planning & Training:**

- All Officer Retreat is scheduled for January 13, 2024, at Schreiner University. Each officer and each Committee are requested to provide their input/comments for the retreat content to Pastor Jasiel and Sam.
- We have more session committees than allows to have 1 or 2 Elders on each. P&T is thinking a practical approach might be asking experienced 'in-active' elders to serve as committee leaders (chairs) on a case- by-case basis as needed in any given year.

**Stewardship:** We have only received \$600,000 in pledges for a \$900,000 budget. Concern was expressed, and all were encouraged to encourage others to support the ministries of the church.

**Pastor's Report:** Rev. Hernandez Garcia advised that as we envision future structuring of the church. leadership, we need to keep it simple and do what honors God and is best for the church.

Rev. Garcia announced the following staff changes:

- Alfred Valero, Facilities Manager, has resigned. Personnel is actively seeking his replacement. We have had 15 good applicants, so the position should be filled soon.
- Audrey Mitchell has resigned as Director of Children's Ministry for health reasons.
- Emily McAllister, Director of Youth and Young Adults, will assume the responsibility for children's ministry and drop the responsibility for young adult ministry in the interim time.
- Mary Stone will become a part-time employee with responsibility only for finances.

The following items were acted upon and approved:

- **Budget & Finance** recommended Warren Schlechte to serve as Treasurer to replace Frank Dunlap and David Williams as Assistant Treasurer for 2024.
- **Planning & Training** recommended changes in the Standards of Procedures (SOP) for Appendix G and G-1.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Ferguson, Clerk of Session