

Pastor's Report January 2025

Bold is to remind me to share

Worship

- Note W&M Minutes January 2025 for special service times for Ash Wednesday and Holy Week 2025
- I've been recording myself for the online service and uploading it to YouTube. It's a one-take shot each time. I'll do Communion on the last Sunday of every month.
 - o Darryl H. is getting quotes for upgrading our sanctuary for livestreaming capabilities

Annual Report is done and was distributed two weeks in advance of our congregational meeting. There was no Synod Report that I could find to add. One addendum will be sent out with this week's eNews (Financial Secretary's Report.)

Facility Usage

- HLPS staff are having a party in Fellowship Hall February 21 from 4-6pm to celebrate their Level 4 rating from Colorado Shines. They're responsible for tearing down.
- With Gayle and Lori: Fellowship Hall tables and chairs will be taken down before Tuesday at 3:30 pm for Kickstart. On Saturdays, Kickstart will set up tables and chairs for church coffee hour
 - o **Please encourage people to at least put away their chairs (up against the wall) when they are done with coffee hour**
- Candace, the piano teacher, will use the Sanctuary on 2/22 from approximately 11:30 am-1 pm for piano recital. She will have her students and their families sign a hold harmless, releasing HLLC of any liability. I will receive a copy of the draft and I will run it by our building insurance broker

Tech Contingency Steps

- I was unable to access our website until 1/16/24 due to verification issues
- I've realized that the congregation's business information (website login, account information, etc.) are currently only known by me. I've shared the website login with the HLPS Director and Office Admin (Steph and Teri).
 - o Also changed (where I can) that all 2 step verifications get routed to the church phone, not a personal cell phone.
- I will share the church's Google account information with Steph so she can access additional information if the need arises

Bible Studies

- Until we have someone taking over the eNews and website, I've taken a step back from leading Bible studies
 - o AM Group is being volunteer led for 3 sessions
 - o PM Group isn't meeting

Personnel Committee

Looking to hire or contract for 2 new positions (If we hire a contract employee, we do not need to pay for FICA/FAMLI)

- 1) Bookkeeper: Maintain the QuickBooks for the church, including for its Preschool Ministry; run payroll (both HLPS and church); submit tax information to proper authorities.
 - a. History: HLPS finances were done by a volunteer, Donita H. She has asked to step back from that responsibility. We were unsuccessful in trying to find another volunteer replacement, and additionally learned that the tasks the HLPS Board had designated for the position are more appropriate for a paid, trained person.

- i. Three different community members who currently work in corporate finance were approached to take on the responsibilities Donita has done. All have declined, saying that it really is best practice for the position to be paid.
 - b. The bookkeeper would not be on any bank account of the church's or the preschool's. Nor can the bookkeeper sign checks. That will still be the responsibility of a congregational volunteer treasurer (for the church) or board member (for the preschool)
- 2) Online communications & Records: Responsible for the eNews, website, Facebook, and maintaining accurate community contact and attendance information in Servant Keeper (or its replacement). Personnel is meeting soon to figure out a job description.

Nominating Committee

- Both Kristy Miller and Lynna Staggs-Sampsell have agreed to run for Council

HPLS

- Earned a 4 on their Colorado Shines rating! Unlike the rating three years ago, this one assessed the entire program. We went up an entire level and were close to earning the highest, a 5!

Finance

- Notice... we ended the year in the black!!!!!! From a budgeted deficit of \$29k to a surplus of nearly \$16k!!!!

Outreach

- Still collecting (toddler and kid) socks for Wholly Kicks and shelf stable items for All Saints Food Boxes in coordination with the HLPS PTO

Continuing Ed: Rocky Mountain Metro East Conference: January 22, 2025 in Salida.

Time Off:

- Out of town 2/10/25-2/16/25: Pastor Chelsea covering, Pastor Rebecca Aardahl preaching and presiding 2/16