



Hope Lutheran Church

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April 15, 2023

Treasurer's Report to the Congregation of Hope Lutheran Nanaimo

Dear fellow members of Hope Lutheran.

I am writing to you to bring you all up to date with how we are doing so far this year.

So much has happened in the past few years and we have been responding as a faith community in ways that are so very encouraging. As the challenges of COVID impacted us all we came together in our faith in ways we had not previously imagined and we supported each other and strengthened our ties with each other and with our shared faith.

As a community we have much to do. We have active groups who take on many tasks and who worship and have fellowship together and we open our church building to many groups who need a safe and available meeting space.

We have also developed teams of members who work together to take care of our property and building, our grounds and gardens, and who assemble and operate the equipment that enables us to join zoom attendees at their homes with in-person worshipers in our sanctuary each Sunday.

All of this has involved significant expenditures for both our building and equipment, and most importantly, this has involved employment of our secretary, Janice, our janitor Howard and our pastor Terry Richardson.

Over the past 3 years all of these expenditures have increased, AND our reach as a faith community has broadened so that we now welcome regular attendees from other parts of Canada and from other countries. This is so very encouraging to see and to experience the level of energy and commitment to our faith journey together.

At our AGM this February we made a deliberate congregational decision to increase our level of offerings to our general church operations so that the budget now calls for average monthly offerings for the church itself at a level that is about 11% more that we have experienced to date this year.

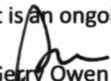
Without going into details of numbers which would not translate meaningfully into your own household budgets I wanted to let you know that we are in need of this level of increase in our giving if we are to meet our budget that we voted for in February.

We have all been struggling with inflation and with increased expenses as we navigate through this time of disruption at home and abroad. As a faith community we are strong and we will navigate this time with our shared faith and with our commitment to one another.

If, in your faith journey with us, you are able to increase your level of offering to help us to meet our budget your assistance and participation would be so greatly appreciated.

AND whatever your circumstances know that we are all in this together and with God's help and guidance we are looking forward to all the challenges and opportunities that await us together.

It is an ongoing privilege to serve our faith community. Take care, you are all very precious to us


Gerry Owen

Treasurer