

River Table Meeting

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

God's purpose for River of Hope

We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Guiding Principles

God is God and we are not.

We are called to grow together as disciples: to forgive, to teach, to love

Disciples are inspired by the Holy Spirit to take risks.

Disciples work for God's justice.

Disciples serve with no strings attached.

Disciples invite and welcome through loving acceptance.

We meet you where you are.

1. Opening Prayer

2. Continuing Business

- Approval of minutes from last month's River Table Meeting
- Financial Report
- Pastor's Report
- Other table minutes

3. New Business

- Interviews with RoH members for Reconciling with Christ

4. Closing: Lord's Prayer

5. Next meeting: June 13, 2023

River Table Meeting

April 11, 2023

The River Table of River of Hope Lutheran Church (RoH) met, via Zoom, on April 11, 2023. Present was Pastor Hans, Katie Weisenberger, president, Sandy Tracy, vice-president, Arlyn DeBruyckere, treasurer, Nancy Redetzke, Nina Appleby, Andy Shorter, and Jeanette Krommenhoek. Gerry Connell, the secretary, was not present.

Pastor Hans opened the meeting with prayer and a discussion on the familiar phrase, "Peace Be With You." The group spoke about this phrase, what it means to us and when do we use it in our everyday lives.

The minutes from the March 2023 meeting were approved via a motion by Jeanette, second by Nina followed by a unanimous vote.

The financial report was presented by Arlyn. Currently there is a small deficit driven by the purchase of Kwik Trip Cards. Upon the sale of the cards the deficit should be eliminated. Arlyn has no concerns about the budget.

Discussion was held regarding the reimbursement of travel expenses for Sara Thomsen. There was a motion by Sandy, second by Katie followed by a unanimous vote to approve this expense. River table members agreed that there should be a protocol for payment of this type of expense. Pastor Hans will review past practices.

Pastor Hans presented the pastor's report. One of his goals is to try and build a sense of community for all who participate at RoH.

- Pastor is encouraged by the number of youth who will be attending various camps throughout the summer – as well as the adults who will be accompanying the campers.
- Katie's leadership of Headwaters has been invaluable. Hans sees this growing in experiences and number of participants.
- Pastor challenges everyone to reach out to one or two or more to attend the upcoming concert by Sara Thomsen.

The We Go Out table will have a meeting later this month to discuss future activities. In the meantime, the Hopeful Quilters, Hopeful People, Back Pack program, and Watering Can projects continue to reach out to the community.

Vision Table report was reviewed. This table continues to discern if RoH wants to be a Reconciling in Christ congregation; do we appear to others as we want; signage; visuals in printed materials, social media, etc.

The River Table will meet on May 9, at 6:00 p.m. via ZOOM.

Vision Table Minutes 4/25/23

4:45pm at Event Center

Members present: Jim Nelson, Katie Weisenberger, Pastor Hans, guests Sandy Tracy & Kay Halstrom

Members absent: Dale Brandsoy, Ron Johnson, Elaine Quale

Reconciling with Christ

- One-on-one interviews will be conducted by Sandy Tracy, Kay Halstrom, Andy Evenson, and Hans Peterson. These will be fairly informal, asking questions like, "What keeps you at River of Hope?" Those can begin anytime.
- Kay is going to check with someone from her former church that has educational materials on homosexuality and the church. It might be something we look at.

History of RoH

- Katie shared an updated version of RoH's history. The group revised it some more, and the document will be brought to the River Table for approval. We'd like to put it on our website and Facebook page.

Welcome Statement

- We have a small statement at the top of our weekly bulletins: *"No matter your status in society, (divorced, gay, straight, old, young, cranky, liberal, conservative, questioning, recovering, carnivore, herbivore) you are fully welcome here. We mean it."* This statement does not include anything about race/ethnicity, so we'd like to add that piece. This could be a small change that makes a big difference.
- We'd also like to create a new welcome statement that would be on our website and Facebook page to be more inclusive. **We are each encouraged to create our own or revise our old statement and be ready to share our ideas at the next meeting.** Examples of other churches' welcome statements were handed out at the meeting. Hans emailed those out as well.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 31 @5:00pm in the Event Center.

We Go Out Notes April 2023

Members Present: Sara Nelson, Sandy Tracy, Kay Halstrom and Sara Pollman

As I look at all we discussed at yesterday's meeting, and the things I committed to, I must hand just a few things off.

I am asking Sandy to talk to Hans about the \$700 that Common Cup is asking for. Sandy is well versed in what HOMES does and has relevant questions as to where \$700 can be used most efficiently.

Nan-The River Table is hoping RoH does the National Night Out Event (Aug. 1) at the Motel again. We know you have the notes from last year. I'm not sure who will lead a team to organize this, but be sure to get your notes to them.

Will someone volunteer to ask Malena to join the WGO table?

I will plan to talk with Linda R. about the Seeds of Hope talk tomorrow night. Kay--I found seeds at Ace Hardware today on sale 4 for \$1. If you haven't already purchased them online, maybe you can pick them up there.

I will be sure everything is purchased and printed (thanks Kay and Sandy for your work today) for tomorrow's letter writing event, so no worries there.

I appreciate all the work you have each done at the table and in God's community. When we listen to the Holy Spirit, we can be moved into places we never thought we would ever go. I will take what I have learned at this table and use it as I continue to go out into the world and transform people's lives in little and big ways.

I am formally resigning from the lead of the We Go Out Table.

Most sincerely,
Sara Pollmann

Faith Formation Minutes 4/18/23

Members Present: Pastor Hans, Ron Johnson, Krista Picha, Nina Appleby, Kris Dobratz (Kris Hartmann was absent)

Headwaters/Confirmation Discussion

- Twice a week seems to be the correct frequency for Headwaters, except it maybe stretches the food people.
- Katie Weisenberger agreed to coordinate it again in the fall.
- Pastor Hans was going to ask Rachel about writing another grant.
- We thought it would be best going forward to have confirmation be for 6th-8th graders and then have kids get confirmed the fall of their 9th grade year. Headwaters would then go through 5th grade, which aligns better with the various school buildings.
- This transition will likely start in the fall.
- Hans is meeting with Katie Weisenberger next week to follow up on Headwaters and will discuss this with her also.
- It seems to be working well to have confirmation guides be assigned to more than one student.

Bilingual Camp/Vacation Bible School

- The bilingual camp was canceled this summer. Pastor Hans talked with Pastor Janine in Dassel and they've invited us to join them for their vacation bible school the first week in August as an alternative.
- It will take place August 7th - 11th.
- Pastor Hans was going to talk with Katie Weisenberger and coordinate talking to a few families to see if there was enough interest in pursuing this opportunity.

Summer Fellowship

- July 26th from 6:30pm - 8:00 pm at the river. Smores, fire, games, craft.
- Krista will check with Katie to see what we reserved last year and then take care of reserving the necessary facilities.
- We can plan this at our next meeting.

Friday Night Fun

- Several families have signed up.
- There will be several middle/high schoolers signed up.
- Hans will give Krista the card to buy snacks.
- Jim will meet someone to open the place and set up the projector.

Next Meeting

- Tuesday, June 20th at 6:30 pm via zoom.

River of Hope - ELCA									
Giving and Spending Plan with a Purpose for 2023									
We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.									
	2022 Actual	Annual Budget	Monthly Bud	Actual YTD	January	February	March	April	
INCOME with purpose									
River of Hope Givers									
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 245,590	\$ 259,114	\$ 21,593	\$ 91,453	\$ 18,474	\$ 26,522	\$ 24,143	\$ 22,315	
SPENDING with purpose									
(Equipping Others To Be Sent: We Go Out...)									
TOTAL STAFF SPENDING	\$ 142,793	\$ 161,977	\$ 13,498	\$ 53,452	\$ 14,711	\$ 13,142	\$ 12,819	\$ 12,780	
WORSHIP (Discipleship Practice)									
TOTAL WORSHIP and Office SPENDING	\$ 32,457	\$ 39,381	\$ 3,282	\$ 15,840	\$ 3,595	\$ 4,443	\$ 4,470	\$ 3,332	
REACHING OUT (Invite)									
TOTAL REACHING OUT SPENDING	\$ 2,461	\$ 3,777	\$ 315	\$ 787	\$ 121	\$ 249	\$ 67	\$ 350	
HOSPITALITY (Connect)									
TOTAL HOSPITALITY SPENDING	\$ 111	\$ 365	\$ 30	\$ 104	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 104	
DISCIPLESHIP (Grow)									
TOTAL DISCIPLESHIP SPENDING	\$ 1,482	\$ 8,700	\$ 725	\$ 12,350	\$ 2,546	\$ 286	\$ 9,355	\$ 162	
GIVING MONEY AWAY (We go out.....)									
TOTAL DONATION SPENDING	\$ 23,166	\$ 33,330	\$ 2,777	\$ 12,822	\$ 3,724	\$ 3,120	\$ 3,636	\$ 2,342	
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 245,590	\$ 259,114	\$ 21,593	\$ 91,453	\$ 18,474	\$ 26,522	\$ 24,143	\$ 22,315	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 213,089	\$ 247,529	\$ 20,627	\$ 95,354	\$ 24,697	\$ 21,240	\$ 30,347	\$ 19,070	
NET CASH FLOW	\$ 32,502	\$ 11,585	\$ 965	\$ (3,901)	\$ (6,224)	\$ 5,282	\$ (6,203)	\$ 3,244	
Four Month Check									
Total Income		4 month Budget	Actual	Difference					
Total Expenses		\$ 86,371.31	\$ 91,453.37	\$ (5,082.06)					
		\$ 82,509.72	\$ 95,354.28	\$ (12,844.56)					