

**River Table Minutes**  
**River of Hope Lutheran Church ELCA Hutchinson, Minnesota**  
**Tuesday, April 29, 2025 5 p.m. Hutchinson Event Center**

Present: Mary Royer, President; Arlyn DeBruyckere, Treasurer; Pastor Hans Peterson; Dave Fischer, Patricia Paulsen, Geoff Davis, Kay Halstrom

Absent: Jim Schaefer

Opening Devotion: Pastor Hans, from the book of John

Review Principles and Norms.

Approved River Table Minutes of March 25, 2025 m/s/p

### **Reports**

Vision Table: We have been approached to become one of several churches providing meals for the community at New Journey UCC, sponsored through Common Cup. We Go Out Table will get more information.

We Go Out: This will be Ruth Hamlow's last year coordinating the sale of root beer floats at the Pottery Festival. We're looking for someone to take over this project. The proceeds from this event are for the McLeod Alliance, whose mission is to support and promote the elimination of relationship violence.

Faith Formation: Kwik Trip cards are a great fundraiser for youth camps.

Pastor's Report (verbal): The Synod Youth Band recently performed at a WELCA event. Youth Bible Study has met a few times and is youth-led. Pastor is enjoying the opportunity to participate in a Preaching Cohort and the Compelling Sermons project. River of Hope joined with some other local churches for ecumenical services during the Lent and Easter season. Pastor Hans told us River of Hope has a small number of attendees at joint ecumenical services.

Finance: There is activity beyond the approved budget with the Global Refuge fund due to the loss of Lutheran Social Services as the agent. River of Hope will be handling financial contributions from our Willmar Global Refuge partner congregation. Finance Report was approved as presented. m/s/p

February Income:	\$21,461.34	March Income:	\$38,959.20
February Expenditures:	\$35,187.35	March Expenditures:	\$31,520.32

### **New Business**

Computer: Jim Nelson's computer needs replacing and a few of our tech people are working on selecting the computer and accessories.

IDS (Identify/Discuss/Solve): We learned a bit about a business model that could be helpful in identifying action items and completing tasks.

Congregation's Input:

What about River of Hope (RoH) excites you the most? If a new neighbor moved to town, what reason(s) would you give them to visit/join RoH?

What else could we do for our members?

What else could we do for the community beyond RoH?

What does a thriving, future RoH look like?

If we were able to add a part time position, what area do you feel could benefit most?

Brainstorming sessions have been scheduled for Sunday, May 4 at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, May 7, at 5 p.m. These questions will also be sent to members in survey form.

New Member: James Rathbun was received into membership on Sunday, April 27, 2025. Welcome, James!

**Closing:** *The Lord's Prayer*

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, May 27, 5 p.m. Hutchinson Event Center

Submitted by Patricia Paulsen