

2023-2024

## **Living Grace Church**

# Annual General Meeting Report

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### **Mission:**

To make disciples who bring people to Christ, build them to Christ-like maturity, and send them for ministry.

### **CORE Values:**

Christlike Character  
Opportunities to Serve  
Relational Thinking  
Equipped to reproduce

### **Vision:**

G - Go to God in daily prayer  
R - Read God's Word daily  
O - Obey God moment by moment  
W - Witness for Christ  
T - Trust & thankfulness  
H - Holy Spirit - be filled and empowered

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## 2024 AGM PROPOSED AGENDA:

### Living Grace International Baptist Church o/a Living Grace Church

#### Mar 24, 2023 – Concordia Lutheran Church

1. Call to Order
2. Prayer & Devotional Comments
3. Quorum Report
4. Adoption of the Agenda
5. Report of Membership List & Introduction of new members
  - a. Presentation of new official members
    - i. Josiah Solpico
    - ii. Dhesiree Solpico
    - iii. Meiyu Vang-Pablo
6. Election of Tellers
  - a. Joshua Lee
  - b. Josephine Candelaria
7. Adoption of 2023 Congregational Meeting Minutes
8. Ministry reports
  - a. From the Senior Pastor – Rev. Ma. Johnston Pablo
  - b. From the Board of Elders Chairman – Elijah Principio
  - c. From the Ministry Coordinators
    - i. Children’s Ministry
    - ii. GYDE - Youth Ministry
    - iii. YAEE
    - iv. Worship/Music & A/V Ministry
    - v. Connecting Ministry
    - vi. Admin Ministry
    - vii. Women’s Ministry
    - viii. Men’s Ministry
    - ix. Senior’s Ministry
    - x. Basketball Ministry
    - xi. Lifegroups Ministry
9. Updated bylaws voting - secret ballot
10. Motion to destroy all ballots
11. Nominating Committee
  - a. Presenting new Board member nomination and vote
    - i. Jonathan Arca
12. Re-affirmation of continuing Board Members
  - a. Re-affirmation of current board members
    - i. Elijah Principio
    - ii. Jeff Tao
    - iii. Josephine Monce
    - iv. Jo-vi Cang
13. 2023 Financial Statement Report
14. Presentation of the 2024 Budget
15. Motion to affirm all Board’s decisions
16. Adjourn
17. Closing Prayer

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## 2023 CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES:

### Living Grace International Church o/a The Gathering Church

#### June 25, 2023, Sunday – Ellerslie Road Baptist Church

1. Call to order @4:32pm
  - a. Prayer & Devotional - Rev. Ma. Johnston Pablo (Joshua 1)
2. Quorum report (52 signed out of 90 members - 57%)
3. The agenda - (modifications, additions - motion to adopt) (Motioned by Justin and Eljen)

**MSC 23-CM01 : Motion to adopt the Agenda**
4. Adoption of previous meeting minutes - Annual General Meeting (Motioned by Justin and Sandra)

**MSC 23-CM02 : Motion to adopt the previous meeting minutes**
5. Affirmation of April Camat and Jane Joh as official members
6. Updated bylaws voting (by hand) - *Postponed for further amendments*
7. Announcement of new venue - Concordia Lutheran Church (no vote needed)
8. Opening of building fund (vote needed) - *Postponed for further discussions*
9. Use of Living Grace Church as our operating name (no vote needed)
10. Adjournment @ 5:48pm (Motioned by Jeff and Josh)

**MSC 23-CM03 : Motion to adjourn the meeting**
11. Prayer

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## LEAD PASTOR'S REPORT

Dear beloved brothers and sisters of Living Grace Church:

Sandra and I greet you all in the faithful and mighty Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Another year has passed where the Lord has surprised us with abundant blessings in various ways. All I can say in a nutshell is that our God has been a good, good Father!

It's been a year of experiencing the power of serving together. I give thanks for partnership and faithful services of our Board of Leaders, the Pastoral Team, the Ministry Coordinators and Life Group Leaders, and all volunteers who, in one way or the other, have stepped up to help serve our congregation. Though the year was filled with challenges, transitions, and changes, I couldn't help but be awed by God's faithfulness to raise up laborers and to sustain the various ministries of our beloved congregation. Today is also historic moment for us as a church as we ratify the amendments to our By-Laws and the Board Policies. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the members of the By-Laws Committee for their patience in this long and arduous task of researching, revising, reviewing, and finalizing these important documents that we now have at hand to ratify.

During our last AGM, we were in desperate prayer and last-ditch effort to find a new venue for our worship and ministry. I'm amazed by how the Lord provided our new place for us in His perfect time. I thank God for the Worship Venue Committee for working tirelessly in their search and for experiencing His guidance in their decision making. We thank God for Concordia Lutheran Church for their hospitality.

In keeping with the Lord's Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20), we continue with our vision to WIN people to Christ, BUILD them in their faith, TRAIN them to share and serve, and SEND them to multiply. Since after our last AGM, we had witnessed the baptism of six young people who have confessed their faith in Jesus Christ. We also had nine people who had become members of this church, three of whom are going to be affirmed in this AGM. I am also deeply encouraged to have heard from some of our members that they have shared their faith to others and have seen those they have witnessed confess their faith in Jesus Christ. We thank God for those who faithfully invite their friends to come to our church services and other ministries, like what Andrew did to his brother Simon Peter in the Gospels.

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This year, we want to focus on three areas of ministry namely, WORD, PRAYER, AND DISCIPLESHIP. We have just finished our sermon series on 2 Corinthians and we will be embarking on the Book of Ecclesiastes for the next 3 months. Hopefully soon, we will provide a training for our congregation to learn the basic handles of studying and applying the Word of God. In the ministry of Prayer, we thank God for faithful people who continue to pray for our church through PrayerWorks and the Prayer Chain. This year, we have continued our efforts to gather our people to pray every first Friday of each month. Our Life Groups continue to meet, study the Word of God and pray. We also have some members who follow-up friends who have come to faith in Christ. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Finally, I thank God for you all who read and hear this report. You are a very much part of the puzzle in God's Kingdom. I continue to pray for you all that you will experience the wonder of God's goodness in your life in all kinds of circumstances that you experience.

I would like to end this report with a challenge for you to consider to come to our first FAMILY CAMP since the onset of Covid. Our theme for this camp is "The Work of HeArt" with our BGCA District Coordinator, Pastor Dennis Gulley, as our guest speaker. Let's take hold of this opportunity where we can strengthen our bond together as a church family. Feel free to bring your friends along.

On behalf of the Board of Leaders, I would like to express our deep thanks to everyone for your patience in waiting, trusting, praying, participating, and staying with us through the thick and thin, the highs and lows in our journey together as a Body of Christ.

Finally, I echo what the Apostle Paul said in Philippians 1:3-6: "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Indeed, the best is yet to come!

Blessings,  
Pastor Johnston (PJ)

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## BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

My beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Having been called by God is truly an honor, a great privilege and a humbling experience. The joy and fulfillment is far greater than the sacrifice, challenges and hardships that come along in serving through this ministry. And having to serve together with you all is such a blessing. In my weakness, God's grace is sufficient for His power is made perfect in weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Year 2023 was a testament of God's unwavering faithfulness and mighty provision in our church. Last June, God led us to the community of Millwoods and used the Concordia Lutheran Church to be our new home. It may have been very difficult in searching for a new place of worship but God's ways and provision is always the best and amazing to experience. What a blessing to be able to worship our living God in this beautiful sanctuary! Also, last year was one of the highest if not the highest giving we received in the last decade. For the past several years, giving has been a huge challenge and a struggle in our church. But last year, God showed us how faithful He is and how He can do such an awesome turnaround! Thank you for the faithfulness of each and every giver. This reminded me in the Book of Acts 4:32-35 where "all the believers were one in heart and mind.. They shared everything they had.. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in their lives".

I am truly blessed to serve the Living Grace alongside every Board member and Pastoral staff. I must say, if all of us are doing our part in God's kingdom and serving with a genuine heart not expecting anything in return, God's mission is being accomplished and God's name is being glorified in the highest. Similar to last year, we were able to find our new worship venue with the collaborative efforts of the search committee. We were able to put together our new church bylaws that's yet to be updated since Living Grace started. We were also able to establish the Board Policy that will be a guide and a tool to help the existing and future Board members.

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May we clothe ourselves with prayer and humility as we continue to fulfill the mission of God entrusted in our church. May we be compassionate, full of grace and mercy, and abounding in love as we serve one another and most especially the community around us.

For His glory alone,

Elijah Principio



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## TGC KIDS MINISTRY REPORT

### **Praise Items:**

- Kids Worship
- Volunteers workshops, meetings and fellowship
- Summer devotion and picnic at the park
- Christmas Outreach - WINGS

### **Challenges:**

- Volunteers unavailability and shortage

### **Prayer Requests:**

- Easter service plans & events
- Summer Outing Activity
- Outreach opportunities
- VBS planning (sometime in July)
- Volunteer Training and meetings and fellowship quarterly

**Objective:** To nurture the kids in Biblical knowledge & Spiritual growth, so that they can one day come to salvation in Jesus Christ.

### Sub-objectives:

- Biblical foundation/teaching materials
- Focus on prayer
- Praise & worship sessions
- Weekly memory verses
- Unity within volunteers & coordinators
- Allow the kids to have fun
- Help teach kids responsibility (tidy up after class, follow Sunday School Rules)

**Coordinators: Myra Almonte & Sheila Principio**

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## **GYDE (YOUTH) MINISTRY REPORT**

### **Prayer Items:**

- Prayer for the youth's faith to grow deeper and stronger
- Grow more in reading God's Word and strengthening prayer life
- Opportunity to do outreach programs and activities especially this summer
- Praying to increase the number of youth
- Youths' involvement in church ministry (Worship Ministry, Sunday school etc.)
- Pray that they would be able to learn accountability and trust within the group
- That they would be able to experience the deeper encounter with the Lord (through doing activities like youth retreats/ revival night)
- God's wisdom in the preparation and selecting the right topics/lessons
- God's leading in preparing the youth to become coordinators and leaders/facilitators
- Praying for the Lord's guidance and wisdom to us (Ian & Gladice) in leading the youth and to be a living testimony of God's love and grace to them
- Praying for our hearts to love the youth deeper and to be more intentional in reaching them out and sharing the Gospel
- Give us (leaders) the creativity, active minds and body, and humble and teachable hearts.

**Coordinator: Ian & Gladice Almonte**

## **YAEE (Young Adults) Ministry Report**

Over the past year, YAEE has gone through a few series on hot-topic church issues such as; sex, LGBTQ+, marriage and singleness, abortion, identity, and mental health. The topics have allowed for discussions that would normally not happen in church, how to view each issue through the lens of Scripture and how to discuss topics that are normally disagreed upon properly. Throughout the summer we had the privilege of doing joint bible study nights with other small groups of the church and hope to do more in the future. We finished off the year by going through a series on mental health issues and the response of the church, which I hope the rest of the church can go through as well. Going into this year we are changing things up with YAEE and now people are joining small groups. We are also starting to meet as YAEE men biweekly to encourage one another and pray for one another.

**Coordinator: Colton Walang**

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## **WORSHIP & MUSIC | A/V TECH MINISTRY REPORT**

### **Praise Items:**

- Sermon podcasts on Spotify; people listening on Spotify
- Growth and continuing development of team members musically & spiritually
- Worship in song being led by Hannah, Joshua, Pam, and now Tim
- Tim continues to grow accustomed to worship services and help with leading
- Volunteers always willing to lead the church in corporate worship time
- New and old team members stepping up and willing to serve God through music and tech (Marybeth Gonzales, Tim Pablo)
- New volunteers and youth interested in learning how to play instruments and wanting to serve
- Choir Ministry growing and commitment by the members to practice and learn (Christmas and upcoming Easter Choir)

### **Prayer Requests:**

- Growth of servant hearts for those serving on the worship and tech team
- More volunteers (More male singers & guitarists specifically)
- Willingness to learn and grow musically
- Pray that we can use social media/online platforms to effectively share the Gospel (Instagram, Spotify, etc.)
- Kids Worship Service starting up again
- For God to strengthen our faith in the Lord amongst the whole church congregation; we all become true worshippers of Jesus
- Volunteers for photography and social media management
- Hannah Candelaria as she continues to coordinate our a/v team

**Coordinator: Justin Candelaria | Hannah Candelaria**

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## **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP REPORT**

In the past few years, we did not have many activities due to Covid and during our transition as we were looking for a place of worship and church as a whole. Praise God! The core group was able to meet on February 25, 2024. We were able to make plans from May 2024 and up to early next year 2025. We will meet again by the end of April to finalize the dates that were planned.

### **Prayer Requests:**

- Please pray that the other women will engage with the group to be encouraged in various ways.
- Pray that will have venues for our activities.
- Pray that the hearts of people will be touched as we give out tracts to the surrounding community of our church.
- We commit our plans to the Lord. Pray that he will bless it and his name will be glorified.

**Coordinator: Celia Tabernilla**

## **CONNECTIONS & WELCOMING MINISTRY REPORT**

**Coordinator: Janet Almonte & Suedelle Baudais**

## **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP REPORT**

**Coordinator: Mandrick Almonte & Pastor Johnston Pablo**

## **SENIOR'S MINISTRY REPORT**

**Coordinator: Josephine Monce & Pablito Aquino**

## **GATHERING FRIENDLY BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION REPORT**

**Coordinators: Elijah Principio & Mike Rolle**

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**LIFEGROUP MINISTRY REPORT**

**YOUNG FAMILIES LIFEGROUP**

**Leader: Joshua Lee**

**YOUNG FAMILIES LIFEGROUP**

**Leaders: Elijah Principio**

**FAMILY (SOUTHWEST) LIFEGROUP**

**Leaders: Mandrick & Janet Almonte**

**MEADOWS LIFEGROUP**

**Leaders: Agnes Vandermeer**

**SEE (SOUTHEAST EDMONTON) LIFEGROUP**

**Leaders: Jovi Cang**

**YOUNG ADULTS LIFEGROUP**

**Leaders: Justin Candelaria**

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## FINANCIAL REPORT & PROPOSED BUDGET

### 2023 INCOME EXPENSE REPORT

#### INCOME

<b>GIVING GENERAL FUND INCOME</b>	
Tithes and offerings regular	101,246.19
Tithes Giving - CanadaHelps	69,792.12
<b>TOTAL GIVING GENERAL FUND INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 171,038.31</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 171,038.31</b>
<b>GROSS INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 171,038.31</b>

#### EXPENSES

<b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>	
Retirement Benefits	3,791.71
<b>Total EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</b>	<b>\$ 3,791.71</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE WAGES</b>	
Health Insurance	5,275.26
<b>Total Company Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 5,275.26</b>
<b>Taxes</b>	<b>7,100.31</b>
<b>Wages</b>	<b>104,265.03</b>
<b>Total EMPLOYEE WAGES</b>	<b>\$ 116,640.60</b>

#### EVANGELISM & VISITATION EVENTS

Other Church Events	698.45
<b>Total EVANGELISM &amp; VISITATION EVENTS</b>	<b>\$ 698.45</b>

#### EVANGELISM & VISITATION MINISTRY

Honorarium Expense	500.00
Visitation - Pastor's Mileage	1,720.45
<b>Total EVANGELISM &amp; VISITATION MINISTRY</b>	<b>\$ 2,220.45</b>

#### GROUPS MINISTRIES EXPENSES

Bible Study Groups Ministry Exp	113.36
Kids Ministry Exp	298.59
College & Career Ministry Exp	45.53
Youth Ministry Exp	323.12
<b>Total GROUPS MINISTRIES EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 780.60</b>

#### MISSIONS

Missions BGC Alberta	3,000.00
Missions BGC Canada	3,000.00
Missions support chosen family	1,200.00
<b>Total MISSIONS</b>	<b>\$ 7,200.00</b>

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**OPERATION EXPENSES**

## ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

Bank Charges Expenses	7.46
Insurance Expense	1,346.00
Office & Operational	5,161.84
Telephone & Cell Expense	400.15

**Total ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES** \$ 6,915.45

**FACILITY EXPENSES**

Church Rent	21,000.00
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**Total FACILITY EXPENSES** \$ 21,000.00

**TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES** \$ 27,915.45

**TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES**

Pastoral Transition & Training	1,784.76
T & D Resources Expense	628.92
Volunteer Training Workshops	114.25

**TOTAL TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES** \$ 2,527.93

**WORSHIP MINISTRY EXPENSES**

Church Fellowship Expense	214.90
Technical and Logistics Expense	730.13

**TOTAL WORSHIP MINISTRY EXPENSES** \$ 945.03

**TOTAL EXPENSES:** \$ 162,720.22

**PROFIT:** \$ 8,318.09

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**PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET (JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2024)**

**INCOME**

**GIVING GENERAL FUND INCOME**

Tithes and offerings regular 80,800.00  
Tithes Giving - CanadaHelps 80,000.00

**TOTAL GIVING GENERAL FUND INCOME** \$ 160,800.00

**MINISTRIES EVENTS INCOME**

Family Camp Ministry Donations 5,300.00

**Total MINISTRIES EVENTS INCOME** \$ 5,300.00

**MINISTRIES FUNDS INCOME**

Ministry Kids' Program 300.00

**Total MINISTRIES FUNDS INCOME** \$ 300.00

Uncategorized Income 0.00

**TOTAL INCOME** \$ 166,400.00

**GROSS PROFIT** \$ 166,400.00

**EXPENSES**

Employee Benefits  
Retirement Benefits 4,000.00

**Total EMPLOYEE BENEFITS** \$ 4,000.00

**EVANGELISM & VISITATION EVENTS**

Family Camp Event Expenses 5,300.00  
Other Church Events 1,550.00

**Total EVANGELISM & VISITATION EVENTS** \$ 6,850.00

**EVANGELISM & VISITATION MINISTRY**

Honorarium Expense 1,775.00  
Visitation - Pastor's Mileage 3,500.00

**Total EVANGELISM & VISITATION MINISTRY** \$ 5,275.00

**GROUPS MINISTRIES EXPENSES**

Bible Study Groups Ministry Exp 100.00  
Kids Ministry Exp 940.00  
College & Career Ministry Exp 350.00  
Youth Ministry Exp 1,000.00  
Men's & Women's Ministry Exp 1,200.00

**Total GROUPS MINISTRIES EXPENSES** \$ 3,590.00

**MISSIONS**

Missions BGC Alberta 4,800.00  
Missions BGC Canada 4,800.00  
Missions support chosen family 1,200.00

**Total MISSIONS** \$ 10,800.00





**Living Grace International Baptist Church**

	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>	<b>2024 BUDGET</b>
<b>Income</b>			
GIVING GENERAL FUND INCOME			
Tithes and Offerings Regular	101246.19	40000.00	
Tithes Giving - Canada Helps	69792.12	100000.00	
Total GIVING GENERAL FUND INCOME	171038.31	140000.00	160000.00
Sale of old drum set		2000.00	800.00
<b>Total GENERAL FUND INCOME</b>	<b>171038.31</b>	<b>142000.00</b>	<b>160800.00</b>
income for vacation bible school - FEES			300.00
Income for family camp - FEES			5300.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME INCLUDING FEES</b>			<b>166400.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS			
Retirement Benefits	3791.71	3791.71	4000.00
OTHER CHURCH EVENTS			
Youth Event Expense		2000.00	
Family camp			5300.00
<b>Total EVENTS</b>	<b>698.45</b>	<b>3250.00</b>	<b>6850.00</b>
Honorarium Expense	500.00	625.00	1775.00
Visitation - Pastor's Mileage	1720.45	3500.00	3500.00
<b>Total EVANGELISM &amp; VISITATION MINISTRY</b>	<b>2220.45</b>	<b>4125.00</b>	<b>5275.00</b>
Bible Study Groups Ministry Exp	113.36	100.00	100.00
Children's Ministry Expense	298.59	1400.00	940.00
College & Career Ministry Exp.	45.53	350.00	350.00
Men's & Women's & Seniors ministry		200.00	1200.00
Youth Ministry Expense	323.12	500.00	1000.00
<b>Total GROUPS MINISTRIES EXPENSES</b>	<b>780.60</b>	<b>2550.00</b>	<b>3590.00</b>
Missions BGC Alberta	3000.00	3000.00	4800.00
Missions BGC Canada	3000.00	3000.00	4800.00
Missions support chosen familyQ	1200.00	1200.00	1200.00
<b>Total MISSIONS</b>	<b>7200.00</b>	<b>7200.00</b>	<b>10800.00</b>
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Bank Charges Expenses	7.46	100.00	400.00
Insurance Expense	1346.00	1339.00	1340.00
Office & operational	5161.84	7700.00	8800.00
Telephone / Cell Expense	400.15	600.00	960.00
<b>Total ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES</b>	<b>6915.45</b>	<b>9739.00</b>	
Church Rent	21000.00	24000.00	18000.00
<b>Total OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>27915.45</b>	<b>33739.00</b>	<b>29500.00</b>
PAYROLL EXPENSES			
<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>116640.61</b>	<b>112660.00</b>	<b>124000.00</b>
Pastoral Transition & Training	1784.76	2400.00	2100.00
T & D Resources Expense	628.92	700.00	950.00
T & D Workshops and Seminars		250.00	1000.00
Volunteer training workshops	114.25	250.00	1550.00
<b>Total TRAINING &amp; DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES</b>	<b>2527.93</b>	<b>3600.00</b>	<b>5600.00</b>
Church Fellowship Expense	214.90	400.00	970.00
Technical and Logistics Expense	730.13	1550.00	4000.00
<b>Total WORSHIP MINISTRY EXPENSES</b>	<b>945.03</b>	<b>1950.00</b>	<b>4970.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>162720.22</b>	<b>172865.71</b>	<b>194585.00</b>
Net Operating Income	8318.09	-30865.71	28,185.00
Net Income	8318.09	-30865.71	28,185.00
		INCOME \$	166,400.00
		EXPENSE -\$	194,585.00
<b>BOTTOM LINE BUDGET DEFICIT BUDGET</b>			<b>-\$ 28,185.00</b>