

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING | 4.26.2026

ETERNAL CHURCH



ELDER

SCOTT CARROLL

MEETING AGENDA

1. Gratitude for God's Faithfulness - Scott Carroll
2. Pastor Search - Candidate update - Scott Carroll
3. Finance Update - Guy Rockey
4. Staff changes for sustainability - Aaron Shier
5. Appreciation for Jacob - Aaron Shier
6. Small group prayer - Aaron Shier

Gratitude for God's upholding, faithfulness, and guidance as a church during the past several months.

- ▶ Powerful Christmas Services
- ▶ Life Changing Youth Winter Retreat (22 adult volunteers & 58 students)
- ▶ Kids Ministry: depth in study, especially recently with elementary age children spending time in independent prayer, journaling, and reading through scripture as part of "kids church" on Sunday mornings
- ▶ Encouraging Women's Retreat (53 attending)
- ▶ Provocative Easter Services, Good Friday, Sunrise and 10 AM Service
- ▶ Baptized 14 people
- ▶ Encouraging Deacon/Elder Nomination Process
- ▶ 12 New Covenant Members
- ▶ A full semester (150 range) of Wednesday night discipleship, community life, spiritual growth and encouragement...kids and adults

Gratitude for God's upholding, faithfulness, and guidance as a church during the past several months.

- ▶ God's faithfulness to attend his ear to our prayer ministry and the needs of our church family. Many answered prayers, some miraculously, all areas of need: financially, physically, relationally, emotionally, spiritually
- ▶ A great sign up and participation for our day of service as we blessed our community. 100 people deployed for Kingdom service
- ▶ Wonderful candidate for our Teaching Pastor position, Committee and Session unity, undeniably a work of the Holy Spirit so far
- ▶ Jacob and Angela's resilient trust in God, modeling how to trust God with the unexpected and unknowns in life. They have blessed our community for 10 years in so many ways!

YAY GOD!

Teaching Pastor Search Committee Update

- ▶ There were 10 of us on the Teaching Pastor Search Committee
 - ▶ 2 Elders
 - ▶ 2 Deacons
 - ▶ Pastor Chad
 - ▶ 7 at large members
- ▶ We praise God for the power of the Holy Spirit and His inspiration in this process.
- ▶ We are grateful for the clarity, consensus, and unity that was evident each step of the way.
- ▶ We began our meeting back in October, thinking this would be at least a year or longer process.

Teaching Pastor Search Committee Update

- ▶ We started our journey with over 100 candidates and with the help of Chemistry Staffing, that number was reduced to 40, then reduced to 12, then to 3, then to 1!
- ▶ Each candidate had a minimum of 3 interviews, some more.
- ▶ Background and reference checks were done on the top 3 candidates.
- ▶ We unanimously recommended one candidate to the Session.
- ▶ The Session has interviewed this candidate several times with more interviews scheduled soon.
- ▶ We are so grateful to God for the clear way He inspired, equipped, encouraged, and empowered the Committee and Session.

ELDER

GUY ROCKEY

Financial Update



ETERNAL
CHURCH

How We'll Walk Through This


What we've
experienced so far



The full-year outlook



What the numbers
are telling us

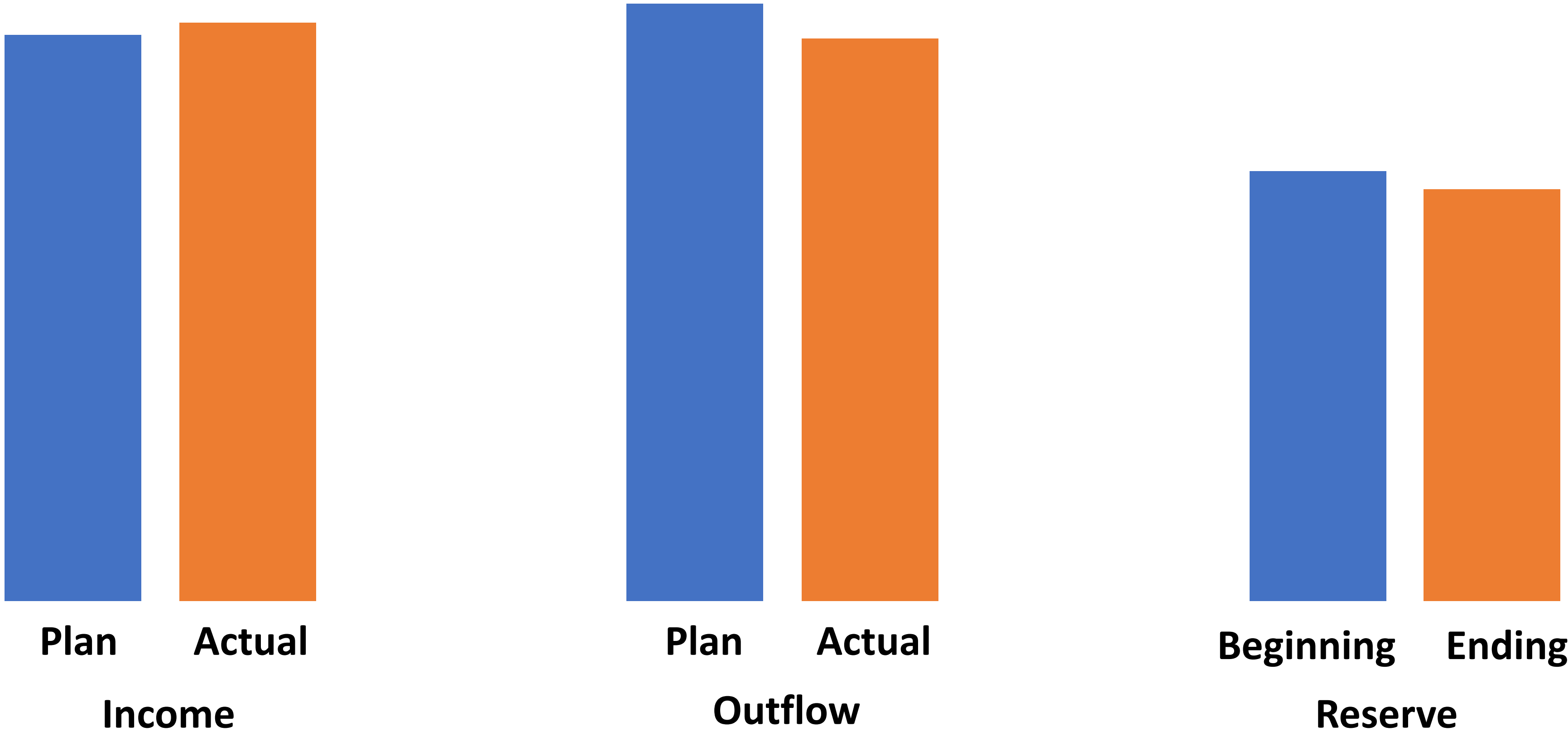


How we are
responding together

First Half Income and Outflow* Better than Plan

* Outlay includes expense and principal portion of mortgage

\$ Rounded Thousands

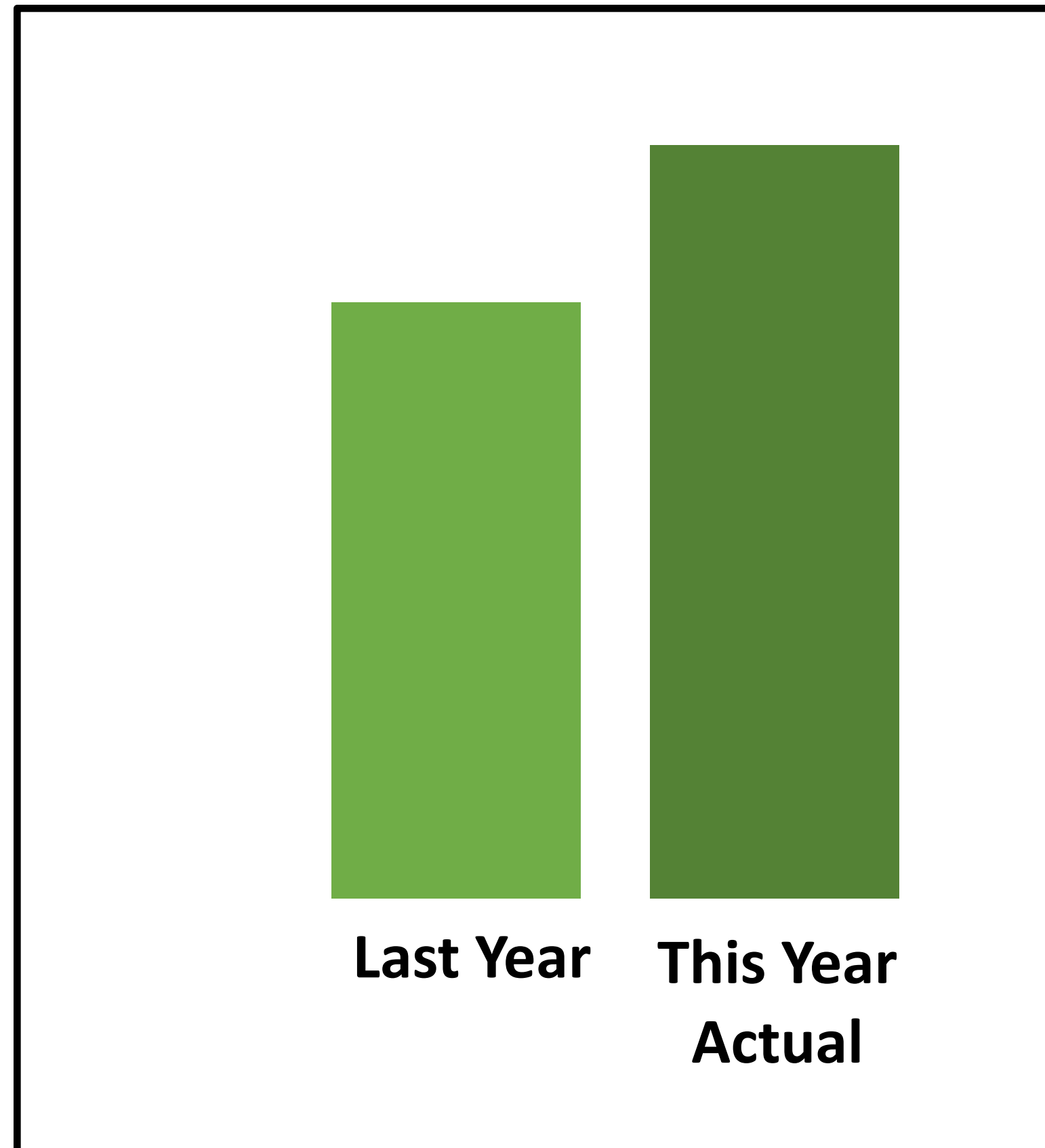


Easter Timing Shift Impacts First Half Giving

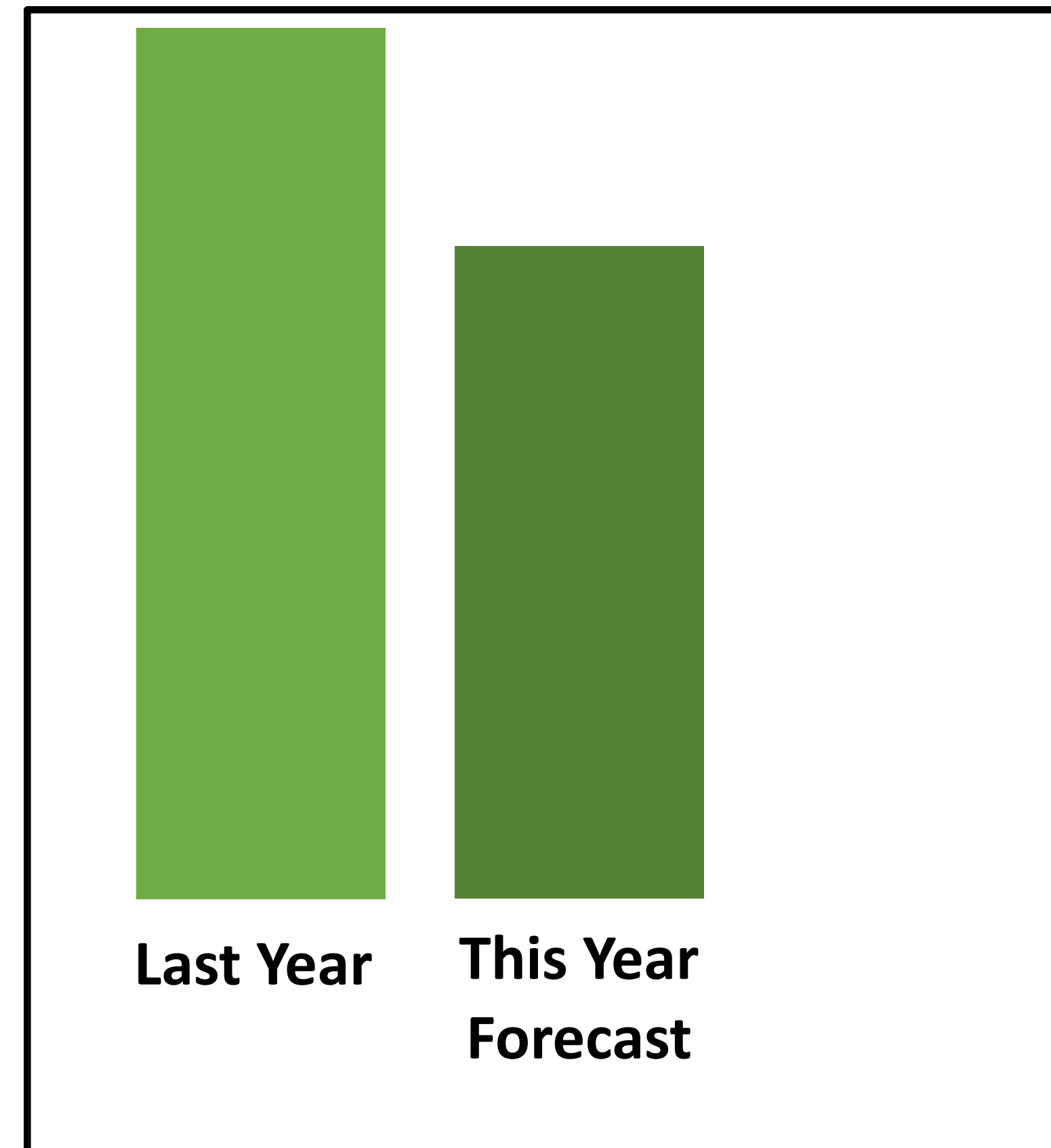
Part of first half's strength will not repeat in April due to timing

\$ Rounded Thousands

March



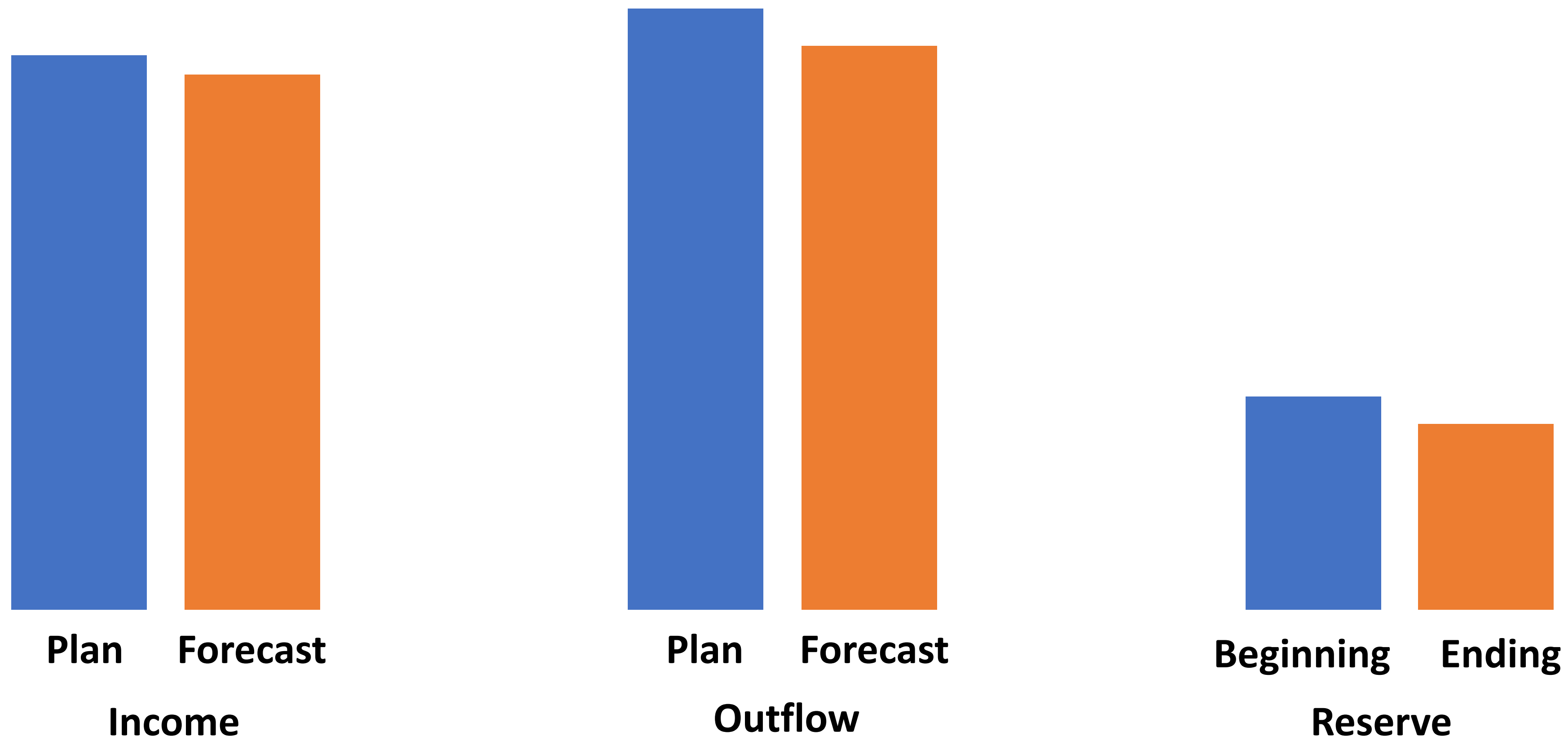
April



Lower Full-Year Income Offset by Disciplined Outflow

Outflow projected below plan, helping offset lower income

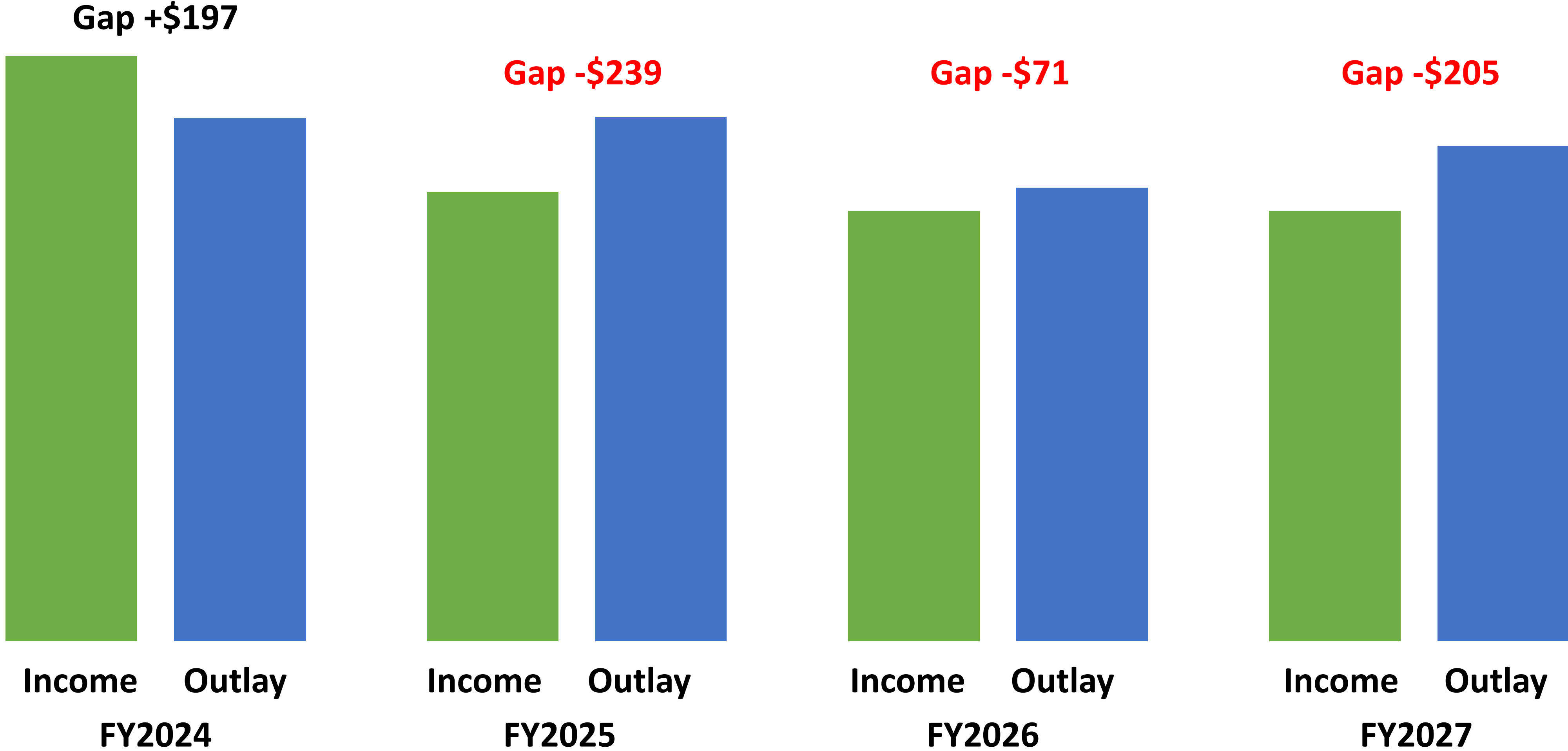
\$ Rounded Thousands



Where Our Current Structure Leads

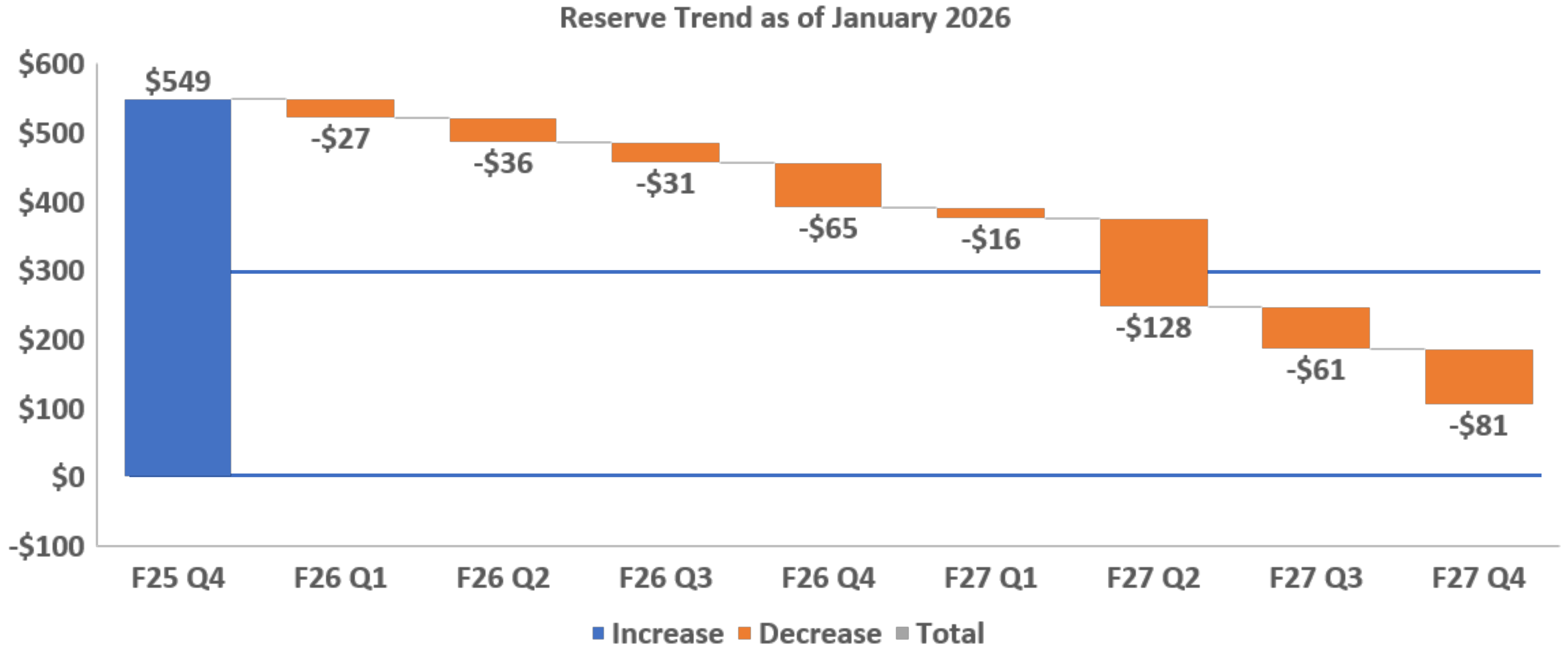
A Structural Gap of ~\$200 to \$300K Over Time

\$ in Rounded Thousands



Financial Trend Indicates a ~\$300K Structural Gap

Without adjustment, reserves fall below our target sustainability threshold



Note: Prior Session agreed to maintain a reserve target of ~\$300K (~3 months of operating expenses).

Takeaway

First half stronger than expected → Give thanks

Full-year income projected lower → Stay attentive

Spending discipline is helping → Continue stewardship

Structural gap remains → Pursue alignment

Changes are underway → Walk together in faith

ELDER

AARON SHIER

Sustainable Ministry

A Season of Stewardship & Discernment

Sustainable Ministry

A Season of Stewardship & Discernment

Discernment Posture

- ▶ The church is first a spiritual body before it is an organizational structure.
- ▶ Prayerful and unhurried, yet attentive to financial realities.
- ▶ Grounded in Christ's victory and free from anxiety.
- ▶ Committed to faithfulness and stewardship over preservation.

Our Financial Reality

- ▶ Ongoing budget deficit over the past few years
- ▶ Meaningful non-payroll cost reductions have already been made
- ▶ Expenses still exceed current giving
- ▶ Financial Reserves are declining

Stewardship and Decisions

- ▶ Current staffing structure is not sustainable (maintaining five pastoral roles is not viable)
- ▶ Eliminate Pastor of Discipleship position
- ▶ Continued commitment to:
 - Teaching Pastor (future)
 - Executive Pastor
 - Family Ministry Pastor
 - Worship Pastor
- ▶ Focus on sustainable ministry – not overload

A Season of Change and Invitation

- ▶ Gratitude to the Lord for what he is doing in our midst
- ▶ The Lord is refining and leading us, together
- ▶ Invitation to trust Him more deeply, together
- ▶ Stay engaged, for new opportunities to lead and serve, together

RECOGNITION OF JACOB COLLINS

RECOGNITION OF JACOB COLLINS

A Faithful Servant

- ▶ A decade of faithful ministry investing in the life of the church
- ▶ Discipled and taught with clarity, conviction, and humility
- ▶ What stands out is his love for the Lord and consistent focus on pointing people to Jesus Christ as Savior

Reception to celebrate, honor and thank Jacob!

Wednesday, May 27 @ 6:30 p.m.

CORPORATE PRAYER

CORPORATE PRAYER

“Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.” Psalm 66

- ▶ Worship the Lord with praise and thanksgiving for all He has done. “Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man” Psalm 66
- ▶ Pray for Jacob, Angela, and Zane and Zoe—that the Lord would continue to guide them, provide for them, and give them peace as they walk through this season together.
- ▶ In seeking a new Teaching Pastor, prayer for absolute trust in the Lord's will; and for wisdom, unity and discernment for our church
- ▶ Pray that we remain faithful—steadfast and immovable—we trust that God will continue to guide us, be present with us, and use our faithfulness for His purposes. (1 Corinthians 15:57-58)



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING | 4.26.2026

GO WITH GOD

