

Desert Cross Lutheran Church Council Minutes
April 16, 2018

Present: Jim Matthews, Paul Fagerman, Vince Sciame, Jennifer Hunsaker, Stanley Fernandez, Bryan Riensche, Tom Rewolinski, Dan Apel, Rebekah Doll

Absent: Don Pelley

Staff Present: Dan Megordon, Matt Dobyons, Andrea Cain, Doug Bjotvedt

Devotions: Bryan opened with devotions.

Agenda / Minutes Approval: Jim moved and Dan seconded the acceptance of the April Agenda and the acceptance of the March Minutes. Council approved the motion unanimously.

Old Business:

1. RENEW Update- Current Financials: \$11,000 in Renew Mission received. \$240,000 in Renew Home received. No bills have been submitted yet. Roof Update: Community Center roof is done. There was a shipment delay on the sanctuary roof, will resume work soon. Parking Lot Update: Contracts have been signed. Will complete Gilbert and Tempe parking lots in May. Next Steps: landscaping out front; signage; remodel the interior of the sanctuary. Currently in preliminary discussions. There will be a presentation at the April 29th meeting.
2. April Congregational Meeting- Election of Council Members and Endowment Committee Members. Short financial update- facts regarding where we stand after the first quarter. Renew Home PowerPoint.

Reports:

1. Staff Report- Shannon Fossett- Children's Ministry. Reviewed her main areas of focus. Worship and Education- built a model where all generations are worshipping together, learning together, and serving together and it is working well. Education for all ages- from Littlest Lutherans up to the Adult Forum. Service opportunities are especially important for families with young children. Joyful Noises- an outreach ministry to families in the community with small children: it includes story time, snack, and singing. Family Nights- one time a month, dinner together, opportunity to bring in guest speakers. She is involved with 3rd graders receiving Bibles, acolyte training, and First Communion instruction. VBS- usually have about 100 kids and 60-80 volunteers. Really fun week. Kids Connect- Kristen leads a Sunday afternoon fun fellowship time for kids, youth group type experience.
2. President's Report- Happy with all the work done by the Renew Home Committee.
3. Pastor Andrea- Will be a guest speaker at the MOPs program this week and will be bringing them a Mother's Day message. Will be the guest speaker at Family Night next week. The topic will be Family Faith Practices and will be making prayer bracelets. Wrapping up Faith Friends this week until the Fall. She will be

teaching the Pre-Confirmation class for 4th and 5th graders at the end of the month. Will be heading up the Stewardship Team for the fall. Invited to be part of the Dignity Health Partners of Faith board, excited about that.

4. Pastor Matt- Still basking in how well Lent went. Wrapping up the school year. Getting ready to launch summer programming- Campfirmation. Youth raised about \$1,400 with the Rummage Sale.
5. Pastor Dan- Synod Assembly coming up in June. Asking the voting members to go to a meeting that will be outlining the election process: Open Ecclesiastical Ballot for Bishop Nominees. Glad about Lent and Easter. Dean Anderson is no longer going to serve in the Choir Director position. Jane will be stepping back in to that role. Really appreciate the Renew Team.
6. CCMM- No concerns brought to the Council in Tempe this month. A couple of questions in Gilbert related to signage.
7. Financial Report- Cash flow in March was bad, because of three payrolls. Giving was the best this year, but still down from last year. Working to check on giving units. For the quarter down \$63,000, not too worried because a large chunk is related to payroll and the expense of a new projector. Looking into ways to possibly grow the Endowment Fund. Bryan moved and Stan seconded that we accept the financial report as presented. Council unanimously approved.
8. Gilbert Chamber Report- Met last Tuesday. The Chamber is working well. The sub teams are getting a lot accomplished. Will be having a presentation coming up in Gilbert- will review roles, process for nominations that was developed, future plans. New signage is in the works- for the Northwest corner, will be lit from the inside with LED lights. Bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall with Chamber Members pictures and most recent Chamber meeting minutes.
9. Committee Reports- None.
10. Program Reports- Thank you to the staff for your ongoing efforts in ministry. The Council appreciates the monthly updates.

New Business:

1. Ministry Profile Review- Pastor Matt is feeling called to move on. Will be taking on Active Duty Chaplain call with the Air Force. Not sure where he will be going, but it will happen sometime between early June and late August. It is an exciting time for his family. Pastor Dan will be turning 65 in November and will be retiring at the end of the year. The plan is to tell the congregation at the Congregational Meeting on April 29th. A letter will also go out to people's homes the following Monday or Tuesday. Healthy congregation- use the upcoming months to begin a call process and have a new senior pastor in place by January 15th or February 1st. Have been in touch with retired pastors who are willing to help in Tempe (Pastor Steve Holm) and Gilbert (Don Legacy and Bennett Henrikson). Have been in conversation with Bishop Almen. Will not be looking to get an interim pastor. Have put together a schedule with the goal to have a new senior pastor identified by the end of the year. Will not be looking to fill the Associate Pastor

position until we have the Senior Pastor in place. Time table- Sunday May 20th will hold a Congregational Meeting to elect a Call Committee of six members. Deadline for submitting nominations to the church office is May 13th. Outline of the Call Committee schedule: As soon as possible after the May meeting, the Call Committee organizes and meets with the Bishop. Council's job is to support the Call Committee; June- conduct an online survey of the Congregation, receive mobility papers for Senior pastor candidates; June/July- first round of interviews with candidates (video interviews); August- continue first round, start second round and start scheduling site visits; September- schedule visits to current parishes of candidates; October- select a Senior pastor candidate to be recommended to the Church Council and Congregation; November- put the nomination to a vote during the November Congregational Meeting. Once a new Senior Pastor is in place, we will address the need to fill the Associate Pastor position, with input from the new Senior Pastor. Have put together the first draft of a Ministry Site Profile. Council reviewed the draft as a group. Council will review more in depth at home and submit any changes to Paul by next Monday. Will have a special Council meeting on May 14th to review the Call Committee nominees.

Prayer Concerns:

Prayers for Don Pelley as he recovers from stent surgery.

Next Council Meeting- May 21st

The meeting was adjourned and closed with Pastor Dan leading us in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Hunsaker, Council Secretary