

Desert Cross Lutheran Church Council Minutes
August 21, 2017

Present: Jim Matthews, Jessica Robinson, Don Pelley, Paul Fagerman, Jennifer Hunsaker, Rebekah Doll, Stanley Fernandez, Bryan Riensche, and Dan Apel

Absent:, Jennifer Hefner

Staff Present: Dan Megordon, Matt Dobyms, Doug Bjotvedt

Devotions: Jessica opened with devotions.

Agenda / Minutes Approval: Paul moved and Don seconded the acceptance of the August Agenda, and Jessica moved and Bryan seconded that the July Minutes be accepted. Council approved both motions unanimously.

Old Business:

1. RENEW Update- \$331,974 in pledges. Currently have \$90,166 in cash for facilities and \$18,288 in cash for mission. Masterworks led focus groups in Tempe last week. There was good participation, the process continues along. There is a conference call scheduled for this week. Will get a written report from Masterworks in three weeks.
2. Korean Church- They signed the lease in mid-July and have started worshipping.

Reports:

1. President's Report- The synod is preparing to go through the process of filling the next bishop position. There will be a conference meeting on October 28th. It will be important at that meeting to express to the synod what we think we need as a bishop. There will be opportunities to speak. In June, Jim brought in a list of 13 things for the Council to undertake. Ten of those items have been accomplished or are in progress. Three items are remaining, two of which are not ready to do time-wise. Jim's goal is that we become smarter about the work of the church.
2. Pastor Matt- Summer activities have come to an end. At the end of Campfirmation learned that we will need to find a new camp for next year. It was a slow process getting 18 congregations to agree. Most likely it will be back in Prescott at the camp used previous to the one in Payson. Fall planning is lining up well. Putting the finishing touches on the stewardship ask for this fall. During the campaign want to highlight the story of Desert Cross. There will be a series of three videos. Part of the ask will be to consider taking a step up either financially or with ministry involvement. Excited about Service Sundays.
4. Pastor Dan- It has been four years since the WE90 Team was formed to bring the focus on families and children worshipping together. We are going into our second year of WE Together. There will be a Reformation festival during Reformation weekend. There will be special music on Saturday night and the interim bishop Lowell Almen will preach Sunday morning. There will be a dinner

on Sunday evening with a Rick Steves presentation. Will need to discuss a Plan B with the congregation if we can't get the \$450,000 for Renew. A patch is not going to work to fix the roof, will need a new roof. Roofer in the congregation to provide us with hard numbers to fix the roof.

5. CCMM- One inquiry on where we stand on getting the roof fixed. Other than that, there were no comments/concerns brought to the Council in Tempe or Gilbert.
6. Financial Report- Income and expenses were what was predicted; we are maintaining a good course. Paul asked that the Council review the usefulness of the financial reports received each month and provide suggestions/feedback as deemed appropriate. Paul moved and Stan seconded that we accept the financial report as presented. Council unanimously approved.
7. Interdependence Model Report- Changed from road map to "Journey to Interdependence," more of a process toward a destination. Got through the three main topics last month. Figured out that it is more like a pyramid: structure at the bottom, finance in the middle, programming on the top. On September 24th will have a listening post after church service in Gilbert during Fellowship time. For 2018 push to get more involvement in Gilbert.
8. Program Reports- Thank you to the staff for your ongoing efforts in ministry. The Council appreciates the monthly updates. The Endowment Committee made several recommendations this month. \$8,000 in scholarships for college students. Maegan Jennett asked for \$1,000 for MOPS program in Gilbert. Diane Fernichio asked for \$1,000 for a Reading Buddies program at STEP UP Charter School. Jim asked for \$3,000 for La Sagrada Familia Lutheran Church in Phoenix to help with building expenditures (i.e., chairs, refrigerators, etc.) The Endowment Committee recommended that all of the above requests be met. Paul moved and Don seconded that we approve the recommendations made by the Endowment Committee.

New Business:

1. Rental Procedures/Policies- Rent comes from multiple groups. Part of our outreach. GA meetings every night, 2 AA meetings, 2 Overeaters Anonymous meetings. Biggest tenants- American Service Animals, Felix Construction (ended in June), Chandler Children's Choir third, summer camps (Strings Camp, Foundations Camp), Korean Church. Not required to fill out a tax return, one of the perks of the church. 2 sets of prices, member and non-member.
2. Cid Update- Went to the doctor, extended her out for three more weeks. Going to the doctor next week, will know if she can come back part-time/full-time or if more time off is needed.
3. Portico Time Tables- announcing this month what the increase will be in 2018.
 - a. Contribution rates for 2018 in August- Pastors have to decide which package, based on Synod recommendations.

- b. Plan selection by DCLC in October- Pastors will have to sign up for specific package.
- c. Member sign-up for 2018 in November
- 4. 2018 Budget Development and Workshop- Scheduled for August 31st at 2p.m. in the Tempe Fellowship Hall.

Prayer Concerns:

Prayers for Elaine Kraemer and her family as they prepare for Mike's memorial service.
Praise for Ross Reck's smooth recovery from surgery.

Next Council Meeting- September 18th

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Hunsaker, Council Secretary