

**Desert Cross Lutheran Church Council Minutes  
December 18, 2017**

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

**Absent:** Bryan Riensche

**Staff Present:** Dan Megordon, Matt Dobyms, Andrea Cain

**Devotions:** Rebekah opened with devotions.

**Program Director Presentation:** Denise McClellan- Adult Ministries. Three main areas of focus to her job: Adult Studies, Christ Care, and 55+ Group (behind the scenes helper). Organized a lot of Reformation 500 events this past year. Looking forward to the start of "Stories of Joy" beginning January 8th. In April, going to the Festival of Faith and Writing. Leading a discussion on talking about books, based on her experience with leading the Desert Cross Book Group.

**Agenda / Minutes Approval:** Dan moved and Stan seconded the acceptance of the December Agenda and the acceptance of the November Minutes. Council approved the motion unanimously.

**Old Business:**

1. RENEW Mission- Stories of Joy- Denise McClellan will be the Chief Editor for the RENEW Outreach. Will roll out "Stories of Joy," new way of connecting with the digital world. Soft roll out will be in January. She is working with staff members to get everything set to share these Modern Day Gospel Stories.
2. RENEW Home Update- The team is planning to meet again in January.
3. Congregational Meeting Review- Received approval for the roof, with a price cap of \$121,000. Will discuss the parking lot at the April meeting.

**Reports:**

1. President's Report- Jacque Jecker will be leaving in March/April. Jessica Robinson will be leaving the Council and taking over the Worship Coordinator position 15 hours per week. Paul Fagerman will move to the Council Vice President position and will find a new Treasurer.
2. Pastor Matt- During Lent we will be looking at the Voices of the Prophet- Justice, Mercy, and Forgiveness. Working with a friend to set up offering meditations and devotions as a remote artist in residence. Prepping for Campfirmation and the new location. Confirmation continues, looking to spring.
3. Pastor Andrea- The cantata was a gift to the community. Great to involve the Ignite Choir with the Adult Choir. Children's Christmas program was a joy. Talking about Advent in Adult Forum, reflecting on the coming of Christ. Faith Friends group on break for Advent, will be starting up after Christmas, looking at the women in Jesus' genealogy.

4. Pastor Dan- Community Outreach Team and the Congregation brought in an abundance of gifts. It was a genuine spirit of cheerfulness and joy in that giving. Advent meditations on Waiting, Watching, and Wondering have been great.
5. CCMM- Only one question about the roof, which was addressed at the Congregational Meeting.
6. Financial Report- Pledge card update. 160 pledge cards for 2018 vs. 125 pledge cards for 2017. Yearly finances running behind projection, but hopeful that we will have a good December and end the year on target. Paul moved and Jim seconded that we accept the financial report as presented. Council unanimously approved.
7. Gilbert Chamber Report- Went well at the Congregational Meeting. First official meeting will be January 9th at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall in Gilbert. Dan will put together an agenda with a set report for each group lead to report on.
8. Committee Reports- Finance Committee recommends honoring the 2017 Covenants as outlined in the minutes.
9. Program Reports- Thank you to the staff for your ongoing efforts in ministry. The Council appreciates the monthly updates.

**New Business:**

1. RENEW: Roof Contract- Jessica will talk to Doug about going over the contract with the roofer.
2. RENEW: Parking Lot- The planning team will meet in January, likely will not have everything ready until April meeting.

**Prayer Concerns:**

Prayers for Carol Carrier and her family following the loss of her spouse. Continued prayers for Jim as he continues with treatment. Prayers for Stan's sister Mary, as she deals with housing issues as a result of the California fires.

Next Council Meeting- January 15th

The meeting was adjourned and closed with Pastor Dan leading us in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Hunsaker, Council Secretary