

**Desert Cross Lutheran Church Council Minutes**  
**May 15, 2017**

**Present:** Don Pelley, Jim Matthews, Paul Fagerman, Jennifer Hunsaker, Jessica Robinson, Dale Martin, and Bryan Riensche

**Absent:** Stanley Fernandes, Dan Apel, and Jennifer Hefner

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

**Devotions:** Jim opened with devotions.

**Agenda / Minutes Approval:** Jim moved and Dale seconded the acceptance of the amended May Agenda, and Jim moved and Bryan seconded that the April Minutes be accepted. Council approved both motions unanimously.

**Old Business:**

1. Congregational Meeting- April 30th, 2017. Good turnout- 117 people. Two new Council members and an Endowment Committee member were elected. There was some confusion, but good discussion about the RENEW Capital Facilities and Mission and Outreach campaign.
2. RENEW Campaign- Reviewed a communication plan for the Capital Campaign over the next five weeks. Pledge cards were sent out on Friday to all members. There will be two postcards sent to members, three Mission Moments during the services, e-bulletin announcements, and an announcement in the June Newsletter. Possibly also on the website and Facebook.
3. Synod Assembly- June 9th and 10th in Mesa at Love of Christ Lutheran Church. Paul Gryniewicz, Jim Matthews, Gary Balliet, and Jane Balliet will be attending as representatives of Desert Cross. Pastor Andrea and Pastor Dan will also be attending.

**Reports:**

1. President's Report- Thankful for the opportunity he had to serve as President over the past two years.
2. Pastor Andrea- A lot of pastoral care with home visits and hospital visits. Faith Friends is wrapping up this Tuesday night. The last Beer and Bible is this Friday. Looking ahead, thinking about Fall programming. Has enjoyed serving with Nancy Zine during Gilbert "office hours." There will not be summer hours in Gilbert. Nancy will work from home. Gilbert is at the point of getting ChristCare groups started.
3. Pastor Matt- Fun to watch 4th and 5th graders who have completed First Communion. Confirmation wrapped up in early May. 18 congregations represented at Campfirmation this year. Eight Desert Cross high schoolers will be counselors. 35-39 people heading to Mexico in July, lots of able bodied builders. Annual tour for the Air Force will be the first two weeks in June. Stewardship Committee is already looking at how to make a fun campaign.

4. Pastor Dan- Thankful for diligent staff. Lots of participation in Pastor Steve's Tuesday night classes, will be taking a break for the summer. Interim Synod Bishop, Lowell Almen, will be preaching on Reformation Sunday. Have Masterworks 4-6 week proposal, doing preliminary groundwork, but need to wait for the money to come in before we proceed. Renew hearts, refresh spirits is theme for the summer.
2. CCMM- There were no comments/concerns brought to the Council.
3. Financial Report- We are \$7,000 ahead of last year, attributed to general increase in fund giving. Paul moved and Jim seconded that we accept the financial report as presented. Council unanimously approved.
4. Report from Interdependence Model- Working on a template/roadmap for Gilbert Interdependence. Discussed Gilbert budget approval process. Asked Leadership Team to let them know top twenty things they want to see approved for growth, will review similarity of responses between the Leadership Team. Should be able to present a roadmap by the end of the year.
5. Program Reports- Thank you to the staff for your ongoing efforts in ministry. The Council appreciates the monthly updates.

#### **New Business:**

1. Endowment Committee Recommendations- The Endowment Committee recommended granting \$1,000 scholarships for four college students, \$4,000 for the Mexico Mission trip, and \$600 for Reverend Donald Schneider to offset the cost of attending the annual Grand Canyon Retired Pastors Retreat. Jim moved and Paul seconded that the Endowment Committee recommendations be accepted. The Council unanimously approved.
2. Finance Committee Recommendations- The Finance Committee is in support of the 2018 budget having one fund. Paul moved and Dale seconded that we move to a single operating fund for the 2018 budget. The Council unanimously approved. The Finance Committee recommended to continue to have Doug negotiate with the City of Tempe/Felix Construction regarding the Access Agreement and to install the water meter as planned. Dale move and Bryan seconded that the Finance Committee recommendation be approved. Council approved unanimously. Doug reported on the option of purchasing floor cleaning equipment to be used in the gym, bathrooms, and tile areas versus paying Total Floor Care to do the cleaning. If we purchase the machine, it would save the budget approximately \$4,000 per year, after the first year. Paul moved and Bryan seconded that we accept the recommendation of the Finance committee to buy the machine and needed equipment. Council unanimously approved. The Finance Committee is in full support of exploring new tenants in both Gilbert and Tempe.
3. Future Activities Review- Jim passed out a Project List for the upcoming year for Council members to be aware of.

4. Gilbert Signage- Small changes need to be made to the signs that were added in December. Bryan will talk with Gilbert leadership team to figure out specific changes.

**Prayer Concerns:**

Continue to keep Mike Kraemer and his family in prayer, prayers for Jenn Hefner, Cid Stiefel, Ora Mae Smith, Juanita Youngberg, and Don Hutson as they recover. Prayers for continued strength for Kathleen Pelley. Praise for Barb Martin- progressing well with her walking.

Office Closed- May 29th

Vacation Bible School- June 5th

Beach Camp- June 12th

Next Council Meeting- June 19th

The meeting was adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Hunsaker, Council Secretary