

Desert Cross Lutheran Church Council Minutes
October 17, 2016

Present: Don Pelley, Jim Matthews, Paul Fagerman, Jennifer Hunsaker, Stanley Fernandes, Dale Martin, and Dan Apel

Absent: Jennifer Hefner and Bryan Riensche

Staff Present: Pastor Andrea Cain, Pastor Dan, Doug Bjotvedt

Devotions: Jim opened with devotions.

Agenda / Minutes Approval: Jim moved and Stan seconded the acceptance of the amended October Agenda, and Dale moved and Jim seconded that the September Minutes be accepted. Council approved both motions unanimously.

Old Business:

1. Stewardship Drive- A whole program has been laid out for various talks and communications in the newsletter. The theme is "Because of God's Great Mercy." Drive will start October 23rd. Commitment Sunday is November 20th.
2. Gilbert "Next Steps" Update- The next step will be the upcoming Town Hall meetings. Two scheduled in Gilbert and one in Tempe. It will be a conversation about where we are going. Next Monday (10/24) the Gilbert Leadership Team is meeting and they would like the Council to participate in the meeting as well to make sure that everyone is on the same page. Pastor Matt will be the point person for leading all of the Town Halls.

Reports:

1. President's Report- There is a lot going on right now and Don is glad that he gets to be a part of it.
2. Pastor Andrea- It is important to think about how we approach change. Lots of opportunity to provide pastoral care. Helps to put perspective on other things that are happening in the world, see faith in action. Spending time building relationships and getting to know people. Having fun teaching classes. There has been good interest in the Adult Forum. First meeting for the Beer and Bible group went well.
3. Pastor Dan- Confirmation service October 30th. Advent is not far away. Mid-week services will be offered at both locations. Thanksgiving Eve worship service in Tempe only.
4. CCMM - Able to answer a few questions. Mostly related to the upcoming Town Hall Meetings and the change in the structure of announcements.
5. Financial Report –Ended the third quarter. Expenses were off by \$13,000. Three payrolls in September. Finances were tight at the beginning of October, but are currently stable. Jim moved and Dan seconded to accept the Financial Report as presented. The council unanimously approved the motion.

6. Program Reports – Thank you to the staff for your ongoing efforts in ministry. The council appreciates the monthly updates.

New Business:

1. I-Help in October- Church Council will be hosting on Tuesday, October 25th. The sign-up sheet for meal contributions was finalized.
2. Budget Development Changes for 2017- Have been working on the budget for the last two months. Close to finalizing it. Doug reviewed the proposed changes in the budget from 2016 to 2017. Finalized budget will be presented to the Executive Team in November.
3. December Budget Meeting Agenda- Need to determine what will be on the agenda and get it published. 2017 Budget and Gilbert Next Step Update will be included. Need to finalize any additional items before November 1st. If additional items come up, they will be emailed to Council.
4. Request from Gilbert Leadership- Gilbert Leadership Team would like to use some of the leftover funds from the Capital Campaign to complete various repairs (e.g., replace carpet in a classroom or replace signage). They will work on getting firm quotes. Council is in agreement that the items being requested are reasonable.
5. Imagine Tomorrow - Need to start looking at next steps in Tempe, as well as Gilbert. Are we aging out of our congregation? Working hard on paying attention to children, youth, and family, however, there are many generations we are not engaging. 1) Outreach: How can we be intentional about having meaningful interactions with new generations? 2) Capital campus improvements need to be addressed. 3) Mission support. Need to start thinking about forming study groups.

Prayer Concerns: Continued prayers for Jenn Hefner. Adeline Franke as she recovers from a stroke. Prayers for Dan's son, Billy's, ankle recovery. Prayers for Ross Reck as he will be undergoing infusion treatment.

Trunk or Treat in Gilbert- October 22nd
Picnic in the Park- October 23rd
Stewardship Kick-Off- October 23rd
I-Help Hosting by Council- October 25th
Crop Walk- November 6th
Next Council Meeting- November 21st

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Hunsaker, Council Secretary