



Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2022

Attendees: Pastor Martin Eldred, Sam Carter, Cheryl Smith, Joe Baggett, Deb Reilly, Eugene Bain, Chip Edwards, Karen Faulkner Anne Geiger, Chris Nelson, Carol Shaffer, Gary Wolfe, Jeremy Shoop

Absent: Stanley Medikonda

I. Call to Order

President Sam Carter called to order the Zoom meeting (during Covid-19 pandemic) of the Holy Cross Lutheran Church (HCLC) Council at 7:02 p.m.

II. Devotions

Deb Reilly led devotions and prayer.

III. Draft Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Devotions
3. Approval of the minutes
4. Treasurer's Report and Approval
5. Director of Music & Liturgy Report
6. Pastor's Report
7. Reading of correspondence
8. Reports of ministry teams
9. Finance Committee Report
10. Unfinished business
 - a. Renew pain on sign and add RIC symbol
11. New business
 - a. Change Mask Policy
 - b. Council Retreat
12. Closing prayer
13. Adjournment

IV. Approval of Summary

Deb Reilly made the motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2022 meeting. The minutes were approved with the following notation "Chris Nelson was not in attendance". The minutes will be updated. Anne Geiger seconded approval with the updated change. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Joe Baggett submitted his report prior to the meeting. He noted that in regard to the pledge to the Synod, he would like to submit payment on a scheduled basis as long as we have the funds. Joe stated that people should be mindful that there is value of the stock in the account with Morgan Stanley. It's been a turbulent month and the account is down about \$80 from the last day of 2021.

Joe sent out his report on February 6, 2022. Carol Shaffer moved to approve and Gene Bain seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Addendum from Joe: Five checks were reimbursed from the IRS for a total of \$10,333.48. It will look like it was paid to the wrong place but is coming back to be re-dispersed. There is a group of people working on the proper disbursement.

V. Director of Music and Liturgy Report

Jeremy Shoop said he will be sending out an eBlast in the morning to explain the Lenten liturgy. This year, we are putting on our own theme called Credo - I Believe. It is a collection of poems by Susan Palo Cherwien. She passed away last December. This should be all encompassing for Lenten services. Each poem explores a portion of the Apostles' Creed through the lens of baptismal preparation.

Jeremy expressed how much he enjoyed yesterday's service. The attendance was great, fellowship afterwards was well attended. 8 children participated outside in the kids' service. People are returning. John Hunt has returned to reconnect.

VI. Pastor's Report

Pastor Martin sent out his report prior to the meeting. This has been a very busy month with meetings and conferences. The "Ignite the Church" conference gave some good ideas. The focus was on hybrid and what it means----we will have to do things differently.

The joint bishops are working together. 30-40 people met at Mar-Lu-Ridge where they went through the Lenten text.

Lunch for the Souls is going well.

Since the 14th, he has been doing distance working and it has given him a chance to reconnect with his mother. Pastor thanked everyone for the opportunity.

Canoeing the Mountains was written long before the pandemic but is relevant today. He'd like everyone to read the first 30 pages for discussion at the next meeting. Tod Bolsinger attended the conference in Orlando. Pastor is recommending we read the first 3 chapters. Later in the meeting, this was changed to read the book in entirety for discussion at the upcoming March Board retreat (date TBD).--

VII. Reading of Correspondence

No correspondence to share.

VIII. Reports of Ministry Teams

Outreach – Deb Reilly said that everything is in her report and things are in good shape for now.

Evangelism – Karen Faulkner said that her written report has everything included in it. She was happy to see 2 new visitors yesterday and she sent them emails.

Fellowship – Anne Geiger said the king cake that was served at Sunday’s fellowship was from Great Harvest. Bob Thompson sent in information regard the jazz concert coming up on March 27th at 7 p.m.

Personnel – Gene Bain said there is a gap in the leave entitlement policy for people with four years of service. Table 1 will be replaced with Table 2 to align with the text in the report. A clarification does not require a vote. Jeremy stated that the information is stated correctly in the document he received.

The team reviewed Pastor Martin’s compensation and discovered he has been somewhat under-compensated. The key is to get something out of Paychex. The team is continuing to review.

Worship – Carol Shaffer submitted a written report. She said that Holy Week is not planned yet. There are many openings in Altar Guild that need to be filled. A ten-year-old has stepped forward to be an acolyte. This is great news to have a child participate. No one wants to take over Lori Newcomb’s job. They have decided to divide that function up into four parts. They have people to take over 3 parts..

Education – Chip Edwards has been looking into background investigations. Betty Skelton told him that we used an entity to help the investigations. Chip found other companies. He was told that there may be information in the pastor’s office. Pastor confirmed that he does have the files in his office and he and Chip will get together to discuss.

Stewardship – Chris mentioned that he has recently learned that there is an actual Stewardship Committee. He plans to make better use of them and will plan to meet with them.

Property – Gary Wolfe reported that cleanup is scheduled for March 26th from 8 a.m. to noon. Send an email to Gary to let him know if you can participate and what job you would like to do.

Unfinished Business

When renewing the paint on the sign out by the street, the RIC emblem will be added at the same time. We will also put decal near the windows by the main entrance door. Pastor and Sam are looking for resources for signs. Anne said she saw something in North Carolina and will try to get a photo.

New Business

Council needs to approve the concert on the 27th. Anne Geiger made the motion and Karen Faulkner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Changes to the Mask Policy – Following CDC guidelines, Sam Carter said it is time to take masks off. Deb Reilly moved that the mask policy be removed, effective March 1. Gary Wolfe seconded. All were in favor.

It’s been almost two years in the pandemic and it’s time to have a retreat to talk about the Bolinger book and how to approach things differently. Sam is recommending a half-day, mid-morning session followed by lunch. This would replace the council meeting. Council members are asked to read most of the book prior to the retreat.

Adjourn

Deb Reilly moved to adjourn at 8:14 p.m. Carol Shaffer seconded.

REMINDERS:

Devotions

March – Gary Wolfe

April – Joe Baggett

Meetings

March 14 – ExComm (6 p.m.)

March 21 – Council Meeting (7 p.m.)

April 2 – Council Retreat (1/2 day)

April 11 – ExComm (6:30 p.m.)

April 18 – Council Meeting (7 p.m.)