

MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES APRIL 19, 2022, 7:00 PM

2022 Elected Church Council Members: Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Brian Fisher * (Endowment Committee), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), Susan Prosser (Property), Rebecca Riley * (President, Personnel Committee), Bill Stoll * (Secretary, Learning), Evonne Kuchera (Care Team), Tom Neuhaus * (Vice President, Service & Missions), Jim Dinges * (Adult Education), Kristine Dawson (Fellowship & Welcome), Rick Gardner * (Budget & Finance)

Executive Committee: Becky Riley (President), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President), Bill Stoll (Secretary), Rick Gardner (Treasurer)

Representatives: Wendy McClary- Child Development Center
Collin Edwards / Sophia Valencia - Youth Group

Call to order: The meeting was held virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7 P.M. by President Rebecca Riley

Council Members Present: Barbara Cranfill, Brian Fisher, Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, ~~Kristine Dawson~~, Rick Gardner, Kevin Churchill

Representatives Present: Wendy McClary- Child Development Center
~~Collin Edwards~~ - Youth Group

Staff Members Present: Pastor Julie Morris, Joe Zimmerly

Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half)
Number of council members' present 11 of 12
Number of voting representatives present 0

Devotion: Led by Susan on "Want more faith – Do more stuff"

Caring Conversation: What about the last month makes you feel good, happy, hopeful—all or any of those things?

Approval of Minutes for March 22, 2022_Motion to approve the minutes made by Tom Neuhaus and seconded by Rick Gardner. **The minutes were approved.**

Action: Motion from the Endowment Committee, Brian Fisher
The Mount Cross Legacy Giving Committee in consultation with the donors and Executive Committee would like to make two motions involving current Memorial Gifts. In the coming months we will work with the Treasurer to further refine our memorial and gift policies to ensure clarity to staff, donors, and the congregation. It is our hope that these motions will help provide financial flexibility to the congregation in a tight budget environment while creating a long-term solution to the challenges involving Memorial Gifts.

Motion One:

The Legacy Giving Committee moves that three perpetual funds be created: Property & Capital Improvements, Worship & Music, Mission & Social Action. Committees and Congregants may request potential uses for these funds which will be approved by a majority vote of the Church Council. The initial funding will be as listed in the chart below:

37140	37140 Bina Norall	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 60.18
37785	37785 Lester, John	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 550.00
37787	37787 Bergh, Gordon	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 2,077.00
37788	37788 White, Roni	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 30.00
37790	37790 Valle, Homer	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 100.00
37791	37791 Myers, Gene	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 250.00
37793	37793 Myers, Betsy Lee	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 130.00
37797	37797 Colby, Janet	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 325.00
37798	37798 Beat, Jan	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 150.00
37799	37799 Sobolik, Jim	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 1,000.00
37800	37800 Lacy, Evelyn	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 375.00
37801	37801 Sheller, Mary	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 100.00
37803	Edell, Bob	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 1,300.00
37805	Fajnor, Vlad & Arlene	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 1,000.00
37806	Wall, Charles & Lenore	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 750.00
37807	Watts, Lois	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 50.00
37809	Wulschleger, Howard	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 30.00
37515	37515 Marguerite Rowley	WORSHIP & MUSIC PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 50.00
37779	37779 Strand, Marold	WORSHIP & MUSIC PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 1,546.50
37808	Cordell, Ed and Joyce	MISSION & SOCIAL ACTION FUND PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 20,000.00
37808	Cordell, Ed and Joyce	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 9,000.00
		TOTAL CREATION OF PERPETUAL FUNDS	\$ 38,873.68

Question called by Bill Stoll; **Motion passed.**

Motion Two:

The Legacy Giving Committee moves that the following memorial funds be transferred into designated funds as per the chart below.

37786	37786 Altschuler, D.	DESIGNATED FUND 638XX FOR STAFF CONFERENCE & EDUCATION	\$ 1,300.00
37789	37789 Bergh, Karen	DESIGNATED FUND BELL CHOIR 35545	\$ 1,720.00
37795	37795 Peterson, Clair	SPECIAL FUND SOUND ROOM COMPUTER OR #35363	\$ 1,720.00
37405	37405 James Jones	SUMMER TRIP ACCOUNT	\$ 15.00
37784	37784 Dinges, Donette	CATHY CHANNELS SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ 275.00
37779	37779 Strand, Marold	DESIGNATED FUND 35367 PRAYER GARDEN	\$ 1,546.50
37808	Cordell, Ed and Joyce	DESIGNATED FUND ABUNDANT TABLE #61171	\$ 1,000.00
		TOTAL MOVEMENT OF MEMORIALS TO DESIGNATED FUNDS	\$ 7,576.50

Question called by Bill Stoll; **Motion passed.**

Action: Vote on approval of Brian Fisher to fill the remaining term of the endowment committee vacancy. Motion by Legacy committee to approve Brian Fisher; **Motion passed.**

Action: Renewal of the Anti-Racism Pledge (see below) Bill; Susan Prosser moved to reaffirm the council's commitment to the Anti-race Pledge; Jim Dinges seconded; **Motion passed.**

Action: Discussion & Decision regarding Reconciled in Christ program. Bill; Do we want to investigate this further Susan Prosser made a motion that Council approve an ad hoc committee to gather more information regarding RIC. Tom Neuhaus seconded. **Motion passed.**

Information: Many Meals – Susan

Susan talked with the representative of Peace Lutheran today and they have decided there are not enough available volunteers or people to lead a Meal Program contingent from their congregation. She will suggest to the Peace Lutheran Church Council that they inform Trinity

Presbyterian that Peace will not be participating by sponsoring one of the Thursday night meals. Since the only way Peace has sponsored a meal in the past was in partnership with Mount Cross, their decision also makes it impossible for Mount Cross to sponsor a meal unless some other partner was available.

Susan has made efforts recently to recruit a Mount Cross Meal Program coordinator just in case a decision was made for Mount Cross along with Peace to sponsor either a Thursday night meal or get actively involved with the Monday night dinner at St Mary Magdalene's. She has had no luck in finding someone to take on managing the program although there is interest in serving with a Many Meals type program. The best current recommendation (and surprisingly the same one that will be made at Peace) is that Mount Cross make known the opportunities to serve at both Trinity Presbyterian and St Mary's to our congregation members. Susan will secure information as to the specifics as to how volunteers can volunteer at each location and make that available in various formats of church publications. We know that St Mary's is willing to add names to their regular weekly emails to volunteers with signups. We will have to find out how Trinity might make use of any volunteers not directly associated with their church or any sponsoring a specific night.

Staff Reports

Pastor

Pastor Julie submitted her written report (see below); She added; Thanks to Council for help in getting Lenten speakers. Mike Carpenter was doing well today. She went to Chrism Mass (blessing oils). Conference assembly this Thursday. Thanks to all for help with Holy Week.

Action Entertained a motion to accept Balinda Legare's membership to Mount Cross (Tom so moved & Susan seconded; **Motion passed.**)

Joe Zimmerly

Joe submitted his written report (see below)

Treasurer's Report - Rick Gardner: Rick is very encouraged by our current financial condition.

Treasurer's Report – 4/19/2022

Budget Performance (through March 2022):

Gross income for March was \$37,364 (101% of budget versus 88% last month).

YTD gross income was \$128,909 (117% of budget versus 124% last month).

Pledged giving for March was \$28,253 (109% of budget versus 88% last month).

Pledged giving YTD was \$102,937 (133% of budget versus 145% last month).

Expenses for March were \$36,826 (90% of budget versus 95% last month).

Expenses YTD were \$113,547 (93% of budget versus 94% last month).

Net income for March was \$37,364 - \$36,826 = \$538 (compared to budget amount of - \$3,994).

Net income YTD was \$128,909 - \$113,547 = \$15,362 (compared to budget amount of - \$11,982).

Calculated reserves were \$181,529 compared to \$180,888 in February.

Analysis:

1. Net income in March was positive in contrast to budget projections of a \$4,000 loss. We continue to have a strongly positive net income YTD instead of the sizable loss that had been projected.
2. Expenses YTD are running at 93% of budget. The gas bill is running over twice the budgeted amount, probably due to extensive use of the heaters in the pavilion cover area. The bill should decline dramatically as we enter the summer months.
3. Reserves are slightly higher than last month. The expected drawdown in reserves has yet to materialize.
4. Our Balance Sheet for March shows cash assets totaling \$992,701, yet a new all-time high. Most of this money is in restricted accounts (\$755,333 or 76% of cash assets).
5. Expenditure of funds in restricted accounts will not impact net reserves.

Respectfully,
Rick Gardner
Treasurer

Committee Liaisons Reports:

Facilities Planning – Bill: Bolts removed; met 4 times; discussed our mission of devising a master plan long range capital improvements and large-scale maintenance projects; Plan to interview committees, Pastor, Joe, Deacon Cecelia, Carol, & CDC, have informal discussions with members, and employ a suggestion box; Timeline is to complete interviews by June and complete our process by end of September.

Legacy – Brian: Requests for endowment due by April 30

Worship – Allison Johnson: May 15 worship asst. refresher (Spring Training)

Care – Yvonne: educational sessions; in June “Aspects of Grieving”, in August “Health and Healing Sunday”

Property – Susan

Information: Sign Up for Devotions – Kevin volunteered for May

Information: Next meeting date – May 17 at 7:00 pm in person

Information: Executive Committee meeting May 5 at 7:00

For the Good of the Order:

Senior Ministry services on 3rd Thursday @ 2:00

A motion was made by Bill Stoll to adjourn at 8:53; Allyson Johnson seconded. **Motion passed.**

Adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer at 8:58 PM.

Looking ahead:

Next Executive Committee meeting: May 7, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Next Council Meeting: May 17, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. (please note this will be in-person in the PLC

* DEVOTIONS			
FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
Bill Stoll	Becky	Susan	Kevin
JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY 2023
Barbara			
** COUNCIL LISTENING POST (1 st Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)			
FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY 2023

Pastor’s Report for April 19, 2022 Church Council Meeting

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Holy Week was a graced time. We celebrated the Great Three Days (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil) with St. Columba’s Episcopal Church. On Easter Sunday at Mount Cross we had a **full sanctuary** for the first time since the pandemic began. 181 people attended our in-person Easter worship service and we had 35 “Peak Live Viewers” on Facebook. Thank you to all who helped us offer reverent and Spirit-filled Holy Week and Easter services, including the choir, musicians, Carol Browning, many, many worship assistants, the Altar Guild, Jim and Susan Prosser for the flower cross, Todd Ebright for hanging the banners, Bill Dawson and his Tech Team, Deacon Cecelia, Joe Zimmerly and the youth for a wonderful Easter Breakfast, and the Learning Committee for a fun Egg Hunt.

April 2022 Report – Joe Zimmerly

We give thanks to all who supported our youth in various ways this past month! Whether it was

dining at Presto Pasta or our Easter Breakfast, where we raised over \$1000 towards our high school summer trip. I want to give a big thanks to everyone in this generous congregation who always put the youth at the forefront. We are excited that we keep inching closer and closer to our goal of raising enough money for our trip to Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp in Montana. We will be sending out more information regarding what we will be doing as well as ways to help us in the coming weeks.

Easter Sunday was a great day! We enjoyed gathering together in many ways. Whether it was for worship, Easter Breakfast or for our Egg Hunt, we were happy to have the most normal-like Easter of the past in comparison to the past few years. We are so thankful for all who participated and volunteered their time to make this day meaningful for all.



Mount Cross Pledge of Anti-Racism

We the Church Council of Mount Cross Lutheran Church, in our position of leadership of our congregation, do hereby resolve to:

- Commit to study, prayer and action to become an anti-racist congregation in a wider anti-racist church and share our participation on social media using [#ELCA4justice](#).
- Work to dismantle racial injustice by [listening](#) to voices, experiences and the expertise of people of color. We will learn about the [ELCA ethnic-specific associations](#) and their [strategies](#).
- Learn the history of systemic racism in this country and the ways racism and white supremacy impact every aspect of our life together.
- Join, support or attend our synod's anti-racism team or work with our synod leadership to start one in our congregation. We will study the ELCA social statement "[Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture](#)" and the "[Explanation of the Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent](#)."
- Explore and use on "God's work. Our hands." Sunday the forthcoming ELCA Advocacy resources on a "Just Society Supporting the Health of All," which are focused on

advancing racially equitable public policies, and by engaging in [ELCAvotes](#) to encourage and ensure voting rights for all.

- Start where we are by joining community organizations working for racial justice.
- Reach out to build or [deepen relationships with Historic Black Churches](#). We will consider using the congregational resource “[Understanding One Another](#),” co-authored by the ELCA and the African Methodist Episcopal Church, or our [Joint Statement of Mission](#) with the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church as a way to get started.
- Explore and use the [anti-racism resources of our ecumenical partners](#) through the [A.C.T. Now to End Racism initiative](#) of the National Council of Churches.