



Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
October 10, 2022

Attendees: Sam Carter, Stanley Medikonda, Joe Baggett, Cheryl Smith, Deb Reilly, Karen Faulkner, Anne Geiger, Gene Bain, Gary Wolfe, Carol Shaffer, Pastor Martin Eldred, Jeremy Shoop

Absent: Chip Edwards, Chris Nelson

**I. Call to Order**

Sam Carter called to order the Zoom meeting of the Holy Cross Lutheran Church (HCLC) Council at 7:00 p.m.

**II. Devotions**

Carol Shaffer led devotions and prayer.

**III. Draft Agenda**

- Call to Order
- Devotions – Carol Shaffer
- Approval of the minutes
- Treasurer Report and Approval
- Director of Music and Liturgy Report
- Pastor’s Report
- Reading of correspondence
- VP/Finance Committee Report
- Reports of ministry teams
  - Community Outreach – Deb Reilly
  - Christian Education – Chip Edwards may be unable to get back in time
  - Stewardship – Chris Nelson
  - Worship & Music – Carol Shaffer
  - Property - Gary Wolfe
  - Personnel - Gene Bain
  - Fellowship – Anne Geiger
  - Youth – Vacant
  - Evangelism – Karen Faulkner

Old business

- Annual Meeting (11/13/2022)
  - a. Approve recommendation for Constitution & By-Laws Changes previously distributed by Joe Baggett
  - b. Approve recommendation for 2023 Budget from Finance Team
- Thank you & Reminder-Annual Report input submission for each ministry

New business

- a. Approve BSA Troop 12 Charter Renewal

Closing prayer

Adjournment

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

Deb Reilly made the motion to approve the minutes from the September 19, 2022 meeting. The minutes were approved. Carol Shaffer seconded approval. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **V. Treasurer's Report**

Joe Baggett submitted his report prior to the meeting. Joe said that we had another positive month. There was a big increase in September, which we usually have that later in the year. Gene Bain made the motion to approve the report and was seconded by Gary Wolfe. All voted in favor of approval.

#### **VI. Director of Music and Liturgy Report**

Jeremy Shoop will write his report. The December 13<sup>th</sup> date is finalized for Beer and Carols.

#### **VII. Pastor's Report**

Pastor Martin submitted his report. It is self-explanatory. The last class of the funeral planning guide was good. There are planning forms in the Narthex. The completed files will be kept in the office. This class was meant as a way to start a conversation. We have more people coming in person to services and we will need to figure out how to address those who have not returned. Pastor said he can call some but not all. We may have lost some, but that's not just happening at Holy Cross. The West Coast has been declining with this quite a while. We may be that place for those who are disenchanted of their religion where they grew up. We should be mindful that this is an opportunity for excellence and outreach and make sure we are poised for this. Deb Reilly said that in early 2021, she had a list of people to contact and check in and offered to help with evangelism when she rolls off the Council. Sam asked Karen to start calling people again.

#### **VIII. Correspondence**

No report.

#### **IX. Vice President/Finance Committee Report**

Sam supplied Stanley's report. He has tried to consolidate all the files and has put it all in one massive workbook in Excel. Sam briefly walked us through it as he wants it to be a transparent process. Gene Bain asked if there is money in the budget for the supply pastor. Sam said there is baked in money in the budget if it would transpire in 2023. We truly support Pastor's sabbatical. Pastor Martin commented on the sabbatical:

1. Could hire a retired pastor on an interim basis for three months.

2. Get somebody for Sundays/get a supply pastor. \$5,000 is just for Sunday...anything else is not covered.
3. Look at local pastors. Have on a retainer for extraordinary events. Lay people could fill in some. His former church elected to do that.

Sam said that is a rational number. A supply pastor could pick up funerals and weddings. We would need designated gifts to bump it up.

We did not buy the defibrillator. We might want to do the same thing we did with the stove purchase.

## **X. Reports of Ministry Teams**

**Outreach** – Deb Reilly will be ending her term on Outreach this year. Vivian Jefferson will replace her.

**Education** – Chip Edwards submitted his report and had nothing to add.

**Stewardship** – Chris Nelson met with Pastor Martin and Sam Carter. He will put together a video on how to sign up in Vanco. He's looking at a couple of other ideas going forward. Sam mentioned that Vanco requires a single account owner. Classic Vanco and the new Vanco do not speak to each other. Virginia Muller is the owner and Sarah has all the administrative ability to do everything.

**Worship** – Carol Shaffer submitted a written report. Carol thanked those who supported with providing flowers and the bake sale. It raised awareness on the flower situation. The bake sale raised \$330. The team decided they will do this every year on Rally Day. They are trying to come up with creative ideas for keeping the perpetual lamp running.

**Property** – Gary Wolfe said everything is in his written report. Joe and Kevin did an outstanding job. We're moving forward on the sign. An article will go out in Quest and the weekly e-blast about November 12<sup>th</sup> being the designated work day.

**Personnel** – Gene Bain said everyone got paid (in reference to new staff employees).

**Fellowship** – Anne Geiger submitted a written report. We will be going back to advent dinners. Council members will start on November 30<sup>th</sup> with soup and sandwich. Pastor Martin, Jeremy, Cheryl and Karen signed up to make soup. Members donated desserts for Marge Nafy's funeral reception.

**Evangelism** – Karen Faulkner has no further updates other than what's in the report. She thanks people for their support at SterlingFest and the Herndon Homecoming parade.

## **New Business**

November 13<sup>th</sup> has been set as the date for the Annual Congregational Meeting. Anne made a motion to adopt this date. Carol Shaffer seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously. The constitution revisions will be sent out prior for review. Joe Baggett has made the changes which are mostly housekeeping changes to be in conformance with ELCA compliance. We need to take time to review them before the next council meeting. ExComm and Council meetings need to be moved up one week in October to accommodate the requirements. ExComm will be held on October 5, and Council Meeting will be held on October 10. Joe said the financial results won't be ready for ExComm but will be available for the council meeting. On the day of the annual meeting, we will bring in pizza and soda at 12:30 immediately following the service. We'll feed the congregation first, then hold the meeting. Anne Geiger made a motion to move the October meetings. Karen Faulkner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Use of the Building – Satish asked for use of the building on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Jeremy asked for clarification that this Council gave permission to the staff for approval on current renters. Gary Wolfe said that the dates and use on the contract are incorrect. Jeremy said that the information has been corrected.

An Ethiopian group has asked to use the building on October 1, 2022. No one has background information on them. The request is for a party, but it started out as a meeting although it looks like a family reunion. There is a damage clause in the contract. They are requesting use on October 1<sup>st</sup> from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. The previous council declared that the church would no longer do parties and is restricted to non-profits or church/community related activities. Pastor Martin would like more information because he is planning to say no. Sam said that we will leave it to Pastor Martin and the staff to make a decision. We do not want to jeopardize our non-profit status. Jeremy clarified that if it is a community or church-related group, the staff has the authority to approve, but if it is not in that group, then Council has to approve.

On the subject of ELL, they have a new instructor starting. Ellen Atwell is looking to have Christmas party this year and they will start to meet in-house in January.

Pastor Louis from the Missional Alliance Group said that they are looking to do their own version of ELL. Pastor Martin suggested that they negotiate with us and suggested Thursday evenings.

## **Adjourn**

Pastor Martin led the closing prayer. Carol Shaffer made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. The motion was seconded by Chip Edwards. All approved

## **REMINDERS:**

### Devotions

October – Carol Shaffer

November – Annual Meeting

### Meetings

October 5 – ExComm (4:00 p.m.)

October 10 – Council Meeting (7:00 p.m.)

November 13 – Annual Congregation Meeting (1 p.m.)