

**Holy Covenant MCC Board Minutes**  
**April 21, 2022**  
**Via Zoom**

**I:** Meeting called to order: 7:35 pm

Present: Joanie Baird, Martha Daniels, Barbara Adams Latsaras,  
Roxann Victory

Regrets:

Guests:

**II: Opening Prayer** – Rev. Martha Daniels

**III: Check-In:**

- Barbara – Mary Ann and I had to let our Gracie Ann be at rest today. We are devastated by her passing as we thought we had more time.
- Joanie – Getting along with co-worker and her car is good
- Martha – Ben came to church and we went to breakfast. The rest of the week has been hard.
- Roxann – Working a lot, hurting as she fell in dining room.

**IV: Approval of the April Agenda** – Barbara Adams-Latsaras

Motion was made to change the Agenda to add IRS Notice issue with the contractors from when the basement was fixed. Motion to the agenda IRS notice Roxann moved and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joanie. All in favor.

**V: Approval of March 2022 Board Minutes** – Barbara Adams-Latsaras

Motion to approve the March minutes by Joann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roxann, all in favor.

**VI: Reports**

**A. Clerks Report** – 21 adults, 3 children

**B. Treasurer's Report** – Joanie Baird

**a. Tithing** – March 2022 assessment  $\$1,776 \times .035 = \$62$ , which has been paid. 2018 Assessment repayment is suspended for now. Note: Should have been  $\$1,726 \times .035 + \$60$ , so overpaid by \$1.75 due to typo.

**b. IRS UPDATE** – Was paid and was received by IRS. Received the green postcard from USPS back that it was received.

**c. PPP Loan** – We have received forgiveness for the first PPP loan, Forgiveness is pending for the second PPP loan and is no longer showing up on the PNC banking

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page for us.

**d. Income** – Our current Operating Fund cash balance as of 4/20/22 is about \$1,212, plus one Sunday's estimated total \$300 = \$1,512 Available, Less \$432 April unpaid bills leaves \$1,080 on 4/30/22.

Operating Fund checking account balance estimated to be (\$1,420) SHORT before paying Martha's salary for May (\$2500).

It would still be almost \$1000 short even if we defer paying the April Utilities until May.

This Operating cash balance on April 20<sup>th</sup> is after transferring \$10 to the HVAC Fund.

**Bills Spril 2022 for Board approval:**

a) Electric	\$ 80 Estimated
b) Est. Gas	\$300 Estimated
c) AT&T	\$ 52 Fiber for internet
d) Erie Insurance	\$ 355 Monthly
e) Water, sewer	\$ 0
<b>Total Bills</b>	<b>\$ 787</b>

Flood repair Designated Fund balance is still \$8 as of 2/28/22.  
Landscaping Designated Fund balance still \$75.

HVAC Designated Fund Balance is about \$2,296 including the March 2022 income of \$10 and less \$4,500 down payment paid in March and less permit \$75 paid in April

Unusual and large bills paid in March are for the UFMCC National Conference registration for two people @\$200 = \$400 + fee \$22 = \$422

There was general discussion about paying the bills using designated funds

**e. IRS Notice** – General discussion about what to do with the IRS notice. Barbara will talk with her contact Tom Lynch who is a tax lawyer and see what he says to do.

Motion to approve the and pay bills as income becomes available in May was moved by Rox and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joanie, all in favor

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**C. Pastor's Report**

**Worship**

We had a wonderful celebration of a baptism on April 10!

I have been working with a couple who plan to be married on June 26 at 4 pm (at another venue).

We used the “flat palms” for Palm Sunday, which were popular. We did not have quite enough for everyone, a combination of my understanding that the bundle held c.25 stems (when there were c.18), and the unexpected size of the congregation due to the baptism that day. The bunch of palms was only c.\$6—next year I would recommend 2 bunches, even without the baptism.

We opened the church for a couple of hours on Good Friday afternoon (4 – 6 pm) to allow for meditation and walking the labyrinth. This is something we will need to promote more next year. The Good Friday service was held at Plymouth Place and was very well attended. It was a traditional “Seven Last Words” with candles extinguished after each reading.

Rev. Nilsa Irizarry will be leading worship on April 24, and Jim Ulisse will be leading worship on May 22.

**Pastoral Care**

I continue to support the two men in Cook County Jail. I continue to be available for support as needed.

**Social Action Ministry**

We have approved for a 2022 donation of Bomba socks.

**Administration**

I continue to mainly work from home. I am in the church office one or two days a week, usually when I have a meeting or a Zoom call.

I do send out my planned schedule each week (usually)—this is to give the Board an idea of what work I am engaged in and when I am available. Just remember that sometimes things come up and the schedule gets changed

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**Community Outreach**

SAGE continues to meet by Zoom and now in person also (hybrid) on Fridays at 1 pm. The lunches will not resume at this time—they are hoping for late April.

The Brookfield/LaGrange Ministerium met Wednesday, April 20. Information from that meeting:

- Peace Camp: A five day (June 20 – 24) summer camp for kids 4 -14, located at Emmanuel Episcopal in LaGrange, helps children engage with peace building skills, via art, stories, music and so on. Scholarships are available.
- Diversity and Inclusion workshop on Saturday April 30, 10 am – 1 pm at Lyons Township HS South Campus. Many different workshops will offer information and support on a variety of topics—equal pay, homelessness, racism, colonialism, gender diversity, employment after incarceration, and many more. Registration is required.
- The LeaderShop (provides support and training to youth in District 105) is sponsoring a Back to School Supply Drive. They will be distributing school and hygiene supplies to children and teens in need on Saturday, August 20. I will bring this to the Social Action Team for their input and action.
- Sunday, June 19, an observance of Juneteenth at the LaGrange Community Center. I will add details as I get them.

I will send Barb the flyers/links on these so she can include them in the newsletter.

**Thrive with Pride**

The large group continues to meet via Zoom on the last Tuesday of the month at 11 am. Our smaller group (the cafe) meets on the first Thursday of the month at 7 pm. The next large group meeting will be April 26 at 11 via Zoom, and the topic will be intergenerational (youth and seniors) housing in the Chicago area.

I met with Kate Spelman (coordinator of Thrive with Pride) to update her on developments and changes in the groups during her leave of absence. We are thinking of shifting the focus of the cafes to social support. Outreach continues to be a hurdle.

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**Revitalization Team**

I continue to meet with Rev. Dexter. The Holy Covenant Revitalization team is setting up a meeting date.

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**UFMCC**

I continue to participate in the Thriving in Ministry program, meeting on a monthly basis with my mentor. The program will be coming to a formal end in May. Jim Ulisse, our appointed lay delegate, and myself are both registered for General Conference's programming sessions (July 1 – 3). This allows us access to all the presentations and worship services for six months. A complete worship service will be a part of this, so everyone can take part in conference worship. A separate registration will be required for the business meeting (July 15 – 16) and voting.

**Louisville Institute Grant**

Since MCC's General Conference will be completely virtual, all workshops will be pre-recorded. I created my presentation and submitted it on time (April 15). I continue with the readings and study, as well as setting up interviews with individuals in other denominations who work with people on the inside. Rev. Nilsa will be our supply preacher for April 24.

Motion to accept the Clerk, Treasurer & Pastor's report by Roxann, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barbara, all in favor.

**VII Continued Items**

**A. Building and Grounds**

**a. Roof Repairs**

Mary Ann is waiting on Erie to make a decision on the claim. An inspection is needed to close out the previous permit from the flood. Barbara will meet with the inspector on Monday, 4/25 between 11 to 3pm. Also will ask about putting the rock down or have the lot paved.

**b. Air Conditioner Repairs**

Waiting for a date to start. Have the permit

**B. Fundraisers**

**a. Plant Sales** – Tabled until May

**c. Garage Sale** – Patty V & Laura have offered to be the leads

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**C. UFMCC – See Pastor’s notes**

**D. Social Media Coordinator**

Have changed the website for April, continued Constant Contact every week and update Facebook as needed. Events have been updated in the calendar.

a. Discussion to approve an ad in the Brookfield Landmark with Age Options designated funds of \$195. Joanie moves and Roxann 2nds, all in favor.

**E. Revitalization Program**

See the Pastor notes above. Tabled until April meeting.

**F. Planning for the Future**

Looking at masking & unmasking for the church. We will stop taking temperatures. Masks will still need to be worn in church and singing will be allowed if you wear a mask.

**G. Aurora Pride**

Sue & Karen Callahan will be in the parade on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Roxann sent in the application and is waiting for reply. Candy to be given out with stickers.

**VIII New Business**

**A. Coalition of Churches membership –**

Barbara has filled out the form and sent in the \$25 to join.

**IX: Executive Session**

None

Closing prayer by Roxann Victory

Motion to adjourn at 10:11 pm moved by Barbara and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roxann,  
All in favor.