

**Holy Covenant MCC Board Minutes**  
**April 18, 2024**  
**Meeting Held on Zoom**

**I:** Meeting called to order: 7:10 pm

Present: Joanie Baird, Martha Daniels, Barbara Adams Latsaras (via Zoom),  
Roxann Victory

Regrets:

Guests:

**II: Opening Prayer:** Barbara Adams Latsaras

**III: Check-In:**

- Joanie – Work is getting strange. Doing a cycle count at work. Planning for her trip in June for her granddaughter's graduation June 18-23rd.
- Martha – Carly from 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational is retiring because of her health. She is terminally ill with a blood disorder. Rev. Johnathan's wife Dani is having issues with radiation. Ben and Kristen are in LA for her work.
- Roxann – Colin has a cold and went to the Dr. He went back to school today. Rox is worried about her job.
- Barbara – Having an angiogram on 4/23 to see about blockages in heart.

**IV: Approval of the April 2024 Agenda** – Barbara Adams-Latsaras

There is an addition to the agenda about July 4<sup>th</sup> Brookfield parade. Motion was made to approve the Agenda as amended by Roxann and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joann. All in favor.

**V: Approval of March 2024 Board Minutes** – Barbara Adams-Latsaras

Motion by Roxann to approve the March Board Minutes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barbara.  
All in favor.

**VII: Reports**

**A. Clerks Report (verbal)** – 18 adults, 4 children Martha will talk to Bev Bell to see when she wants us to welcome her into the membership by transferring her from New Spirit (which is now defunct) in Columbus, Oh to Holy Covenant.

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

**a. Tithing** – Pension for February 2024 is \$1.75 \* 18 members = \$31.50/month.

**b. Income** – In March 2024 we had Net Operating revenue of \$4,007 and expenses of \$3,645 so we had a **Net Gain of about \$362.**

Our current Operating Fund cash balance as of 4/16/24 is about \$12,691 plus two Sunday's estimated total \$600 = \$13,291 Total Less \$3,450 restricted to salary - less \$480

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restricted for Cost Overruns less \$3000 Reserve = \$6,361 Available less \$714 unpaid April bills leaves \$5,647 unrestricted balance on April 30, 2024, less \$2630 May Salary leaves \$3,017 Unrestricted Balance on May 1. (Adding back reserves \$3,450 Salary, \$3000 unrestricted and \$480 HVAC contingency = \$9,947 total projected Checking Account balance on May 1, 2024.)

- c. Advanced Fire & Security Invoice – Was not an invoice, just a contract. Will be signed by Barbara and returned to Advance to be scheduled by them after May. Motion by Joanie to approve the contract and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roxann. All in favor.
- d. Unusual and/or large bills incurred in March 2024: None
- e. Checking Balance in the Designated Fund on 2/29/24 was \$9,033 less Age Options Zoom less Age Options Landmark Ad \$715, less April Zoom \$16 = \$8,134 as of 4/16/24, (rounding down).
- f. Current Balance in the Age Options Designated Fund as of 4/16/2024 = \$3,488
- g. Balance in the Sign Repair Fund is still about \$2,528

**Bills April 2024 for Board approval:**

a) Electric	\$ 100
b) Gas	\$ 150
c) AT&T	\$ 52
d) Erie WC	\$ 58 Monthly
e) Water	\$ 0
f) Northfield Ins	\$ 354
g) CCLI	\$114
<b>Total Bills</b>	<b>\$828</b>

March 2024 assessment = Total income \$4,007 x .02 = \$80; (Paid \$100.08 error, leaves about \$20 credit for April).

There was general discussion about CCLI streaming versus copyright. Missed paying a CCLI bill of \$114 for streaming. Rox/Joanie will pay this missed payment.

The Board set a priority for how bills should be paid ongoing. The importance of bills is as follows:

1. Pastor's Salary
2. Church insurance
3. Overdue Utility bills
4. Regular Utility bills

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Motion by Joanie to pay April bills as we have the funds and they become due, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roxann, all in favor.

**C. Pastor's Report**

**Worship**

The Worship Team met March 19 via Zoom to plan worship for Palm Sunday and Easter. We have a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 17, to plan for the rest of April and into May, including the Holocaust Remembrance on May 5, Mother's Day on May 12, and the International Mr. Leather Service on May 26.

I have been asked to lead worship for Imago Dei MCC several times in May, June, and July. I offered prayers for Nancy Heise, a friend of Pay McGrath, at the placing of Nancy's ashes at the cemetery, on April 3. Rev. Doreen Sturba-DeZur preached and I led worship on April 14—I had a couple days off for my birthday and to visit family for the eclipse earlier that week

Good Friday services will be at Plymouth Place this year, at 7 pm on March 29. I am looking into getting a supply pastor for April 14—this is the Sunday after I return from a couple of days off for my birthday.

**Pastoral Care**

We continue to receive prayers through our prayer request form on our website. I have responded to several texts from congregation members, and have had conversations with others. Some of the most meaningful discussions have been in the coffee hour after church!

**Social Action Ministry**

Barb Adams Latsaras continues as our liaison with Share Food Share Love Food Pantry. I will be attending the Crossroads Antiracism workshop on April 19, sponsored by the Community Diversity Group of LaGrange.

**Administration**

I am planning to take some time off in August; I will confirm the dates in the next month or so.

**Community Outreach.**

The West Suburban Senior Center LGBTQ+ group (formerly known as SAGE) continues its hybrid meetings.

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The Brookfield/LaGrange Ministerium met on Wednesday, April 17, at Blueberry Hill in La Grange. We tentatively decided to hold an independent community summer worship service on August 4. The La Grange Endless Summer Fest will no longer take place, but the group felt that the community worship was important. We are hoping to be able to utilize the community center in the west end of La Grange for this service. More news to come!

A friend of Holy Covenant, Rev. Carly Sucklen-Sather (First Congregational Church of La Grange) is retiring, effective May 31, with a farewell party at the church on May 19 after worship, due to her failing health due to cancer.

The group is praying for her and for Dani Krogh, spouse of Rev. Jonathan Krogh (First Presbyterian Church of La Grange). Dani's health is also failing; the radiation and chemo have been very hard on her—for peaceful and pain free transitions, and healing for their respective spouses.

Finally, I have been invited to celebrate Second Seder (the second night of Passover) at West Suburban Temple Har Zion in River Forest. A member of our clergy group is an active member of the temple and is sponsoring a table for a group from the Ministerium. It has been a while since I attended a Seder and I am looking forward to it.

**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, also by Zoom. We had a presentation at our March meeting from the Gerber-Hart Library and Archives here in Chicago, which preserves and celebrates the history of the LGBTQ+ community of Chicago.

Roxann made a motion to accept all reports and Barbara 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in Favor,

**VIII Continued Items**

**1. Building and Grounds**

- A. Grass Cutting** – Barbara is getting a quote from Brian Przybylski -708-203-1927 on cutting the grass and edging. We have asked for volunteers to cut the grass. No one has stepped up.

**2. Fundraisers**

- a. Trivia** – Still need to talk to Pub 78. Tabled until May.
- b. Garage Sale** – Discussion about feeding the volunteers who will be at the garage sale on April 27<sup>th</sup>. We need people to help setup and take down. Barbara will be getting some soda and Home Run Inn pizza to heat up and serve everyone.

**3. UFMCC –Nothing**

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**4. Social Media Coordinator**

- a. **Website** - Have changed the website for April. Barbara has continued sending out emails via Constant Contact every week and updated Facebook as needed. Events have been updated in the calendar. Barbara did a poll to see if people liked the series on Women's History. Out of 167 emails sent there were 6=yes and 1=no. Barbara also took the pop up for the t-shirt off and just made a separate link on the home page that links to another page on the website to purchase a t-shirt or other clothing.

**5. Microsoft 365 for non-profits** – General discussion about the good and bad and the Board decided to not take advantage of this type of program because of the restriction levied on it.

**b. VIII. New Business**

- a. **July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade** – Discussion about the parade and getting people involved in it. The rev will do follow up with people and it will be announced in church and in the newsletter.

**IX: Executive Session – None**

Closing prayer by Joanie Baird – Motion to adjourn by Rox, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joanie at 9:29 pm