

**Holy Covenant MCC Board Minutes
December 17, 2020
Via Zoom**

- I:** Meeting called to order: 7:06 pm via ZOOM
Present: Joanie Baird, Martha Daniels, Barbara Adams Latsaras,
Roxann Victory
Regrets:
Guests: Mary Ann Latsaras
- II: Opening Prayer** – Joanie Baird
- III: Check-In:** Barbara is ok
Joanie's has started a job.
Roxann is surviving
Martha is okay and she finished her recording for the choir for Christmas. Feeling better.
Mary Ann – Okay – completing the office – hand hurts.
- IV: Approval of the Agenda** – Barbara Adams-Latsaras
- Motion to approve the agenda as amended by Roxann, 2nd by Joanie, all in favor.
- V: Approval of November 2020 Board Minutes** – Barbara Adams-Latsaras
- Motion to approve the November minutes by Roxann, 2nd by Joanie, all favor
- VI : Reports**
- A. Clerks Report** – 21 members
- B. Treasurer's Report** – Joanie Baird
- There was a discussion about the Age Options grant to come in at the end of December.
- Tithing** – November 2020 assessment \$1,621 x .035 = **\$57.00** which has been paid. The 2018 repayment is suspended for now. All prior assessments have been paid.
- IRS UPDATE** – Was paid and was received by IRS. Received the green postcard from USPS back that it was received.
- PPP Loan** – Have not seen anything yet on PNC website
Note: Joanie will apply for PPP loan forgiveness as soon as PNC opens their portal.

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Income - In Nov 2020 we had total income of \$1621, which caused a net loss of about (-\$2871) before adding in the salary subsidy allocation from the Krieger Bequest \$1500 = net loss of (-\$1371).

Our current cash balance as of 12/16/20 is about \$19,914, plus two Sundays estimated total \$500, less Dec expenses \$3964 means 12/31/20 Operating Fund checking account balance estimated to be \$16,450, after paying Martha's salary for Jan

Bills

High current bills for **November 2020**:

- Erie Insurance \$292
- Total Building and grounds is \$472 various expenses: paint, building supplies, etc.

Need to Approve

- a) Electric \$85 November due 12/30
- b) Gas \$145 December est..due around 12/30
- c) AT&T \$63 December actual due 12/29/20
- d) Reliable Fire \$254 due now (fire extinguisher inspection)
- Total Bills \$839
- e) Flood repair Designated Fund balance is now \$0 left as of 11/30.
- f) Current Balance in the Krieger Bequest is about \$19,491 after allocating the Salary subsidy for Jan 1 paycheck \$1500 and **After** deducting the imputed charge of \$1746 for November to take into account any temporary "borrowing" to cover current expenses.

Motion to pay utilities as they become due was moved by Joanie and 2nd by Barbara, all in favor

C. Pastor's Report

Board meeting by remote App

- Board meeting will be remote for January using ZOOM

Worship

We continue to worship via Zoom to Facebook Live from the sanctuary. We observed Trans Day of Remembrance on Sunday, November 22, in the worship service, and World AIDS Day on November 29. Our Advent/Christmas worship is based on the idea of music—Jim Ulisse and Holly Blonde have provided solos of music in the public domain. At the Board meeting, we should discuss the options for Christmas Eve. The Worship Team would like to have an in-person (masked, distanced, BYO Communion, outside) service, if it is safe. The Board should make a final decision by December 22 (Tuesday).

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Worship (cont)

Rev. Elder Cecila Eggleston will be sending a pre-recorded message to all MCCs for the Sunday after Christmas, to give pastors a break. I plan to pre-record our service and post it on Facebook (scheduled for 10 am on the 27th).

In the New Year, I plan to continue live-streaming from the church sanctuary on Sunday mornings.

Pastoral Care

I have continued to respond to various prayer requests, either privately or via the community prayers on Sunday, by email, phone call or visit. I have provided pastoral support to some struggling members. I continue to support the two men in Cook County Jail via prayers, court support, visits, letters, and phone calls.

Social Action Ministry

We continue to support Share Food, Share Love Food Pantry through donations of goods and the time of church volunteers. Barbara has started to distribute the donation of Bombas socks

Education/Formation

I've requested feedback on the congregation's wishes for a study in the New Year but have not received any responses. It's hard to know what to offer, when you don't know what people want/need, but I will reach out and talk with some people. I am considering something on a monthly basis—a book/movie/Bible topic (book of the Bible; topic like women, or food, or concepts of government, or apocalypse; or Bible in general, such as history or archaeology of the Bible).

Administration/Flood

Mary Ann Latsaras will be giving us an update on the renovations.

Community Outreach

Holy Covenant's Thrive with Pride Café is meeting regularly on the first Thursday of the month at 7 pm via Zoom. Meetings include a social time, resource sharing and information, with occasional special guests. Larger meetings are led by Kate Spelman of AgeOptions and include a presentation on a topic of interest (financial issues, legal questions, housing, health, etc.). These are recorded and are part of the smaller groups' sessions.

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UFMCC

The Connection newsletter is moving to monthly in January. As noted above, Rev. Elder Cecilia Eggleston will be providing a prerecorded message (sermon) for the Sunday after Christmas—a Christmas gift to the preachers!

Rev. Carolyn Mobley, our Network Leader, has been in touch, for encouragement and support as needed.

Revitalization Team

The Revitalization Team met briefly in December, and we have set a meeting for January. We want to see what we have learned from these COVID days of being online, and how we can use that in the future.

I continue my monthly calls with Rev. Dexter Brecht (Imago Dei MCC, Media, PA) and Rev. Joy Simpson (Joy MCC, Dayton, OH).

Other

The deadline for the report for the Louisville Institute grant has been extended to December 31, 2020. I plan to take a couple of days in November and December to finish that up and get it to them.

VII Continued Items

A. Building and Grounds Mary Ann Latsaras

1. Wind Damage on Outside Sign

Waiting on quotes from sign companies Sign Outlet & Infinity Signs

2. Progress on Fellowship Hall Rehab

Fellowship Hall is cleaned up with tables and chairs in place. A 2nd coat of paint will be applied as will touch-ups. Bathrooms are being finished up, kitchen is done, and everything is put away. Anything extra is being stored in the boiler room on shelves. Mary Ann will paint the hallway and lay the carpeting. Hopefully everything will be done by the end of the year.

B. Fundraisers

Roxann and Rev. Martha to meet.

C. UFMCC News – See Pastor’s notes

D. Social Media Coordinator

Have changed the website for December. Changed the Facebook page to the Business Suite which now incorporates Instagram. So, when something

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is posted on Facebook, it now goes to Instagram.

E. Revitalization Program

Rev, Martha continues my monthly calls with Rev. Dexter Brecht (Imago Dei MCC, Media, PA) and Rev. Joy Simpson (Joy MCC, Dayton, OH).

F. Planning for the Future

a. Opening the church building – the Board will assess the situation every month. There was a discussion to open up church to AA meeting. A motion was made by Roxann to allow the AA group to meet in the building (but they have to follow all IDPH COVID-19 rules listed below) and was 2nd by Barbara. All was in favor. This is subject to change following the IDPH rules and restrictions should the COVID numbers go up.

- Masks to be worn
- Maintain six feet distance
- Clean washrooms after meeting
- Limit meeting to 10 people
- No use of kitchen, no food, no drink
- Use of hand sanitizer encourage

b. In person worship criteria – Will be reassessing at the January 2021 board meeting.

c. Barbara and Joanie are still working on getting the Admin office in order.

VIII New Business

a. **Elder Law** – Martha will contact Age Options to see about having a webinar in 2021 on elder law.

b. **Christmas Family** – Contacted Holly Blonde from SAM to see what should be done to help our people at Christmas. Holly has three families she works with and would like to give them gift cards. Decision on Christmas giving is as follows:

1. Three gift cards of \$25 each from Walmart to Holly to distribute
2. Share Food, Share Love a check for \$25
3. Eddie, Martha's pen pal in prison \$50 (Martha will handle)
4. Walmart gift cards of \$75 each to two congregants in need

Barbara moved to expend funds from the designated fund for the Christmas Family in the amount of \$300 to various congregants and friends of Holy Covenant. Roxann 2nd and all approved.

Barbara will get the two \$75 Walmart gift cards and put them in Christmas cards to be delivered by Joanie and Roxann.

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IX: Executive Session

A. None

Move to end the meeting at 9:25 pm by Roxann and 2nd by Barbara. All in favor.

Closing prayer by Barbara Adams Latsaras