

Holy Covenant MCC Board Minutes
February 18, 2021
Via Zoom

- I:** Meeting called to order: 7:22 pm via ZOOM
Present: Joanie Baird, Martha Daniels, Barbara Adams Latsaras,
Roxann Victory
Regrets:
Guests: Mary Ann Latsaras
- II:** **Opening Prayer** – Rev. Martha Daniels
- III:** **Check-In:** Barbara is okay
Joanie on holding pattern, still waiting for job offer.
Roxann is good but tired
Martha is okay, was in Zoom meetings all day. Pleased with turnout for Ash
Wednesday.
Mary Ann – not feeling too good today
- IV:** **Approval of the Agenda** – Barbara Adams-Latsaras
- Motion to approve the agenda by Roxann, 2nd by Joanie, all in favor.
- V:** **Approval of January 2021 Board Minutes** – Barbara Adams-Latsaras
- Correction to tithing, s/b December not November and fix the spelling of the word “inauguration”. Barbara to correct
 - Motion to approve the January minutes as amended by Roxann, 2nd by Joanie, all favor
- VI :** **Reports**
- A. Clerks Report** – 21 adults, 2 children
- B. Treasurer’s Report** – Joanie Baird
- Tithing** – Jan 2021 assessment $\$1163 \times .035 = \37 which has been paid.
The 2018 repayment is suspended for now.
- IRS UPDATE** – Was paid and was received by IRS. Received the green
postcard from USPS back that it was received.
- PPP Loan** – Have been in contact with PNC regarding the PPP loan forgiveness.
Will apply for a new PPP loan with PNC.
- Income** - In Jan 2021 we had total income of \$1163. This caused a net loss of
about (-\$3187) before adding in the salary subsidy allocation from the Krieger
Bequest \$1500 = net loss of (\$1687)

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Treasurer's Report – Joanie Baird (cont)

Our current cash balance as of 2/18/20 was about \$14,421, plus two Sundays estimated total \$500, less Feb 2021 expenses \$3890, which includes Site Ground hosting for \$479, means 2/28/21 Operating Fund checking account balance estimated to be \$11,473, after paying Martha's salary for Mar..

The Checking Account balance is enough to cover our February Expenses. However, indirectly we transferred \$1687 in Jan from the Krieger \$10,000 reserve even after deducting the \$1500 we allocated for Martha's salary. See attached files for Cash Requirements for details.

Bills

High current bills for **December 2020**:

- Erie Insurance \$336
- Building Maintenance \$263

Need to Approve for February 2021

- a) Electric \$63 Due 2/28/21
- b) Gas \$160 February estimate. Due around 2/28/21
- c) Water/Sewer \$ Nothing due
- d) AT&T \$63 February actual due 2/28/21
- e) Erie \$336 Increased \$44.00 per month for 2021
- Total Bills \$736
- f) Flood repair Designated Fund balance is now \$71 left as of 12/31 due to some returns of products.

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

Joanie moves to apply for new PPP loan in the amount of \$6,400. Rox 2nd all approved.

Motion to accept the Treasurer report by Roxann, 2nd

C. Pastor's Report

Board meeting by remote App

- a. Board meeting will be remote for February using ZOOM

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Worship

We continue to worship via Zoom to Facebook Live. Recently there have been some audio issues (sound fading in and out on Facebook Live), which I am working on resolving.

Ash Wednesday, February 17, yesterday—we plan on placing of ashes in the afternoon from 3-4 pm and in the evening from 6-7 pm, masked and distanced outside.

Lent in a Bag will be given out (and one mailed!). The bags contain small items symbolic of various themes of the Lent season (a shell, sand, a human figure, small rock, candle, and seeds), and reflections to go with each. The message each Sunday will focus on one of those themes.

Palm Sunday (March 28) worship will be a dramatic reading of the Palm/Passion story, divided up among readers. The readings will be sent out in February to those willing to read so that they can record their portion of the reading; these recordings will then be edited into one worship video.

For Good Friday April 2, MaryAnn Latsaras will offer a short meditation and we will share prayers and some readings.

The Worship Team is still considering Easter and how we might celebrate it—as with so many church activities right now, much is uncertain.

Pastoral Care

I have continued to respond to various prayer requests, either privately or via the community prayers on Sunday, by email, Messenger, text, or phone call. 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. Barb Adams-Latsaras continues to distribute the Bombas socks.

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Education/Formation

Since the last study did not have much response, I plan to share resources for people to explore on their own websites, a reading list and so on. I am thinking of a “Gays and the Bible” study and discussion group starting after Easter (probably via Zoom), to end in June for Pride.

We are offering a presentation of the Center for Elder and Disability Law on powers of attorney and other legal documents of interest to LGBTQ+ seniors on March 10, via Zoom.

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.

I continue to connect with the Brookfield/LaGrange Ministerium.

UFMCC

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

Elections to the post of Elder and membership in the Council of Elders took place at the end of January. The full slate of nominees was elected: Rev. Elder Carolyn Mobley-Bowie, Rev. Elder Alejandro Escoto, Elder Velma Garcia, Rev. Elder Goudy, Rev. Elder Karl Hand, Rev. Elder Miller Jen Hoffman, Rev. Elder Maxwell Reay, Rev. Elder Troy Treash. They will be formally installed later in February.

Revitalization Team

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

Other

I met with Rev. Cathy Alexander (Vocational Leadership Coordinator, MCC), Rev. Wanda Floyd (Emerging Churches and MCC Communities), Rev. Kharma Amos (Resource Development, MCC) and Rebecca Wilson (Church Development and Support Coordinator, MCC) on Friday, January 22, to discuss the possibility of revival of MCC’s Prison Ministries. In turn, they presented the concept to Rev. Elder Hector Gutierrez, head of the Community Development Team. He is supportive, and I am contacting others in MCC who have an interest in this ministry to begin working together on this.

Motion to accept the Pastor’s report by Roxann, 2nd by Joanie, all in favor.

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VII Continued Items

A. Building and Grounds Mary Ann Latsaras

1. Progress on Fellowship Hall Rehab

Will finish the downstairs week of 2/22/21.

- a. Mary Ann wants to clean the front and back deck of snow
- b. Needs to engrave the new keys
- c. Martha's lock will be reinstalled with new one and keyed different

B. Fundraisers

Anderson Books Store Fundraiser is March 14-20th.

- a) Mary Ann and Roxann met to discuss fundraisers. See Roxann's notes.
- b) Some questions on fundraisers with food and drinks and how that will work.
- c) Possibly have a creative therapy around April 9th.
- d) Garage sale dates set for May 15th with the rain date 5/22. Will ask the congregation to help.
- e) Prayer garden dedication

C. UFMCC News – See Pastor's notes

D. Social Media Coordinator

Have changed the website for February. Have added a new calendar to the website which will have the links to any Zoom meetings.

E. Revitalization Program

Talked with Dexter and how good it felt to be in church on Ash Wednesday and to see people. It will be nice to have a coffee hour and be able to talk with everyone soon.

F. Planning for the Future

Review COVID-19 numbers

- a. In person worship criteria – Will be reassessing at the March 2021 board meeting.

Planning for March through April

- b. We will still live stream probably through April. Martha is hoping to get the vaccine shot in March

VIII New Business

Renovation Recognition

Mary Ann has found shelves to put up. Will have the racks and pictures of help with before and after pictures.

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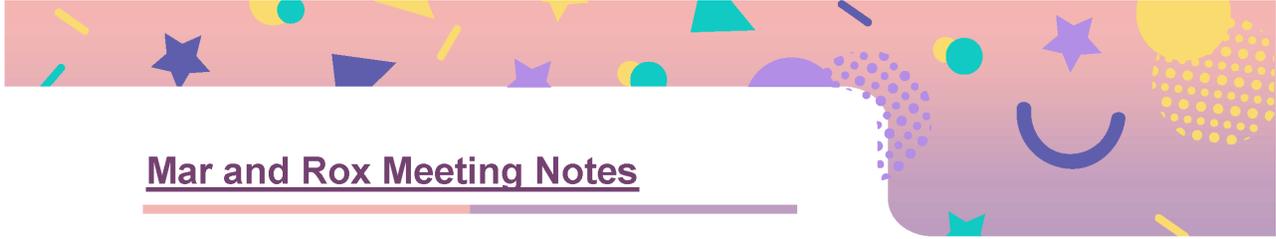
IX: Executive Session

A. None

Move to end the meeting at 9:53 pm by Joanie and 2nd by Roxann. All in favor.

Closing prayer by Joanie Baird

Holy Covenant MCC Board Minutes February 18, 2021 Via Zoom



Mar and Rox Meeting Notes

Creative Therapy

- Offered virtually and in person
- Mary Ann teaches while Roxann or Barb record for Zoom participants
- Every other Friday night at 7:00 pm, starting March 5th
- Two hours per session
- Some Art/Some Writing
- Healing Topics:
 - How Has COVID Affected You? What Would That Look Like?
 - What Will Your New Life Look Like Once COVID Is Under Control

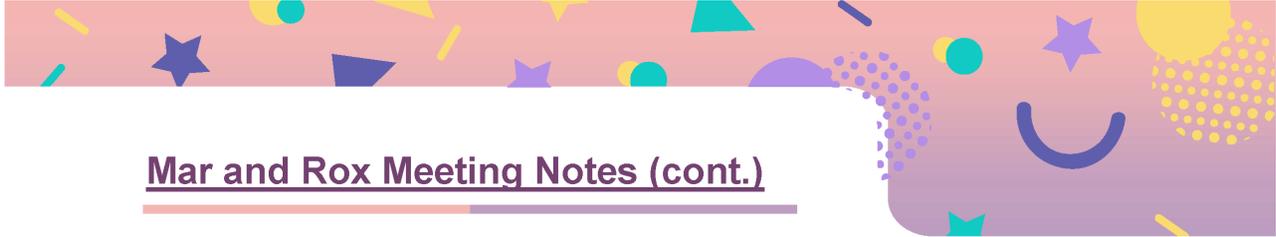
IN PERSON	VIRTUAL
\$30 per person (max 8)	\$13 per person (no max)
Includes supplies (Mar will supply and be reimbursed through profits)	Use supplies at home (pen, pencil, paint, crayons... whatever you have)
Includes cookies, coffee, tea, soda (disposable cups, plates, napkins, etc.)	Rox or Barb will monitor for any questions or concerns of Zoom participants
Masks, social distancing, temperature checks. hand sanitizer, church cleaned and sanitized beforehand, leader has been vaccinated	

Monthly Dinners

- Open and advertised to public
- One Saturday a month (maybe two if they are popular)
- Take turns with menu
- Reserve and pay in advance
- Cut off Date about a week before (so we know how much to buy/make)
- In person dining by reservation
 - 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
 - 2:15 pm – 3:15 pm
 - 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
 - And so on with 15 min breaks between reservation slots for clean-up, sanitizing, etc.
- Curbside pickup offered as well for those that prefer to eat at home



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Mar and Rox Meeting Notes (cont.)

Building Rental

- Open and advertised to public
- Rent Fellowship Hall and/or Sanctuary
- Bridal party, Baby shower, Wedding, Reception, Business Meetings, Birthday Parties, etc.
- Board Member or designee in attendance
- NO TAPE ON PAINTED WALLS
- \$100 per hour + \$50 clean-up fee
 - They clear tables, throw trash in garbage cans, rinse dishes, and throw them in drying rack
 - We sweep, clean, sanitize, take out trash, clean bathrooms, and put dishes (and drying rack) in the dishwasher
- Optional services:
 - Hire Mar as DJ - \$200/night
 - Rox sets up/runs photo booth - \$150/night
 - We decorate for you - \$150 - \$250 (depending on detail)
 - Bartender - \$75/hour
 - THEY BRING THEIR OWN ALCOHOL
 - Includes keeping coffee made

Prayer Garden Dedications

- They select the boulder they want (first come, first serve)
- Mary Ann will paint a name and/or message (as long as it fits)
- Boulder becomes permanent fixture in our prayer garden
- Any color background
- Sealed with two coats of spar urethane to endure weather

	Gold lettering	Any <i>other</i> color lettering
1st row, along cross	\$200	\$175
Top row of center	\$150	\$125
Bottom row of center	\$125	\$100

