

Holy Covenant MCC Board Minutes
February 16, 2023
Via Zoom

I: Meeting called to order: 7:33 pm

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

Regrets:

Guests:

II: Opening Prayer – Joanie Baird

III: Check-In:

- Barbara – Everything is okay.
- Joanie – Work is good. Waiting on grandchildren to be born.
- Martha – Taking care of physical health. Had dinner with Ben on Wednesday and choir rehearsal has restarted.
- Roxann – Work is good as I have been working from home.

IV: Approval of the February 2023 Agenda – Barbara Adams-Latsaras

Motion was made to approve the Agenda as is by Barbara and 2nd by Roxann. All in favor.

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

Motion by Barbara to approve the January Board Minutes, 2nd by Joanie. All in favor.

VI: Reports

A. Clerks Report – 22 adults, 3 children.

B. Treasurer's Report – Joanie Baird

a. Tithing – January 2023 assessment = Adjusted income (excluding Designated and Donor Payment of Church bills) = \$2,380 x .035 = about \$83, which has NOT been paid to UFMCC..

b. Income – Our current Operating Fund cash balance as of 2/14/23 is only about \$601 plus two Sunday's estimated total \$600 = \$1,201 available so we are (\$1,299) short of paying Martha's salary for March 2023 (\$2,500) less \$866 Feb. est bills, leaves (\$2,165) total shortfall for regular bills.

This is excluding UFMCC Q3 and Q4 Pension and Aug, Sept, Oct, Nove & Dec assessments, which total \$687 which are also unpaid to UFMCC.

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Bills February 2023 for Board approval:

a) Electric	\$ 75 Est
b) Gas	\$ 300 Est
c) Gas catch up payment	\$ 112
d) AT&T	\$ 52
e) Erie Workmens Comp	\$ 58 Monthly
f) Northfield Insurance	\$ 321
Total Bills	\$ 918

We had to pay \$1,408 to pay for the building insurance downpayment. We have to get a loan to pay for our building insurance.

Flood repair Designated Fund balance is still \$8 as of 11/17/22.

February 2022 HVAC Designated Fund Balance is about \$935.

We setup a payment plan for the combined Dec/Jan Nicor bills. We paid \$213 immediately and will add \$112 a month to the regular bill for four months starting with the February bill.

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

Motion by Roxann to pay February bills as money is available and the Board agrees. Barbara 2nd and all in favor.

C. Pastor's Report

Worship

I have been preaching a sermon series on the four values stated in our mission state statement (inclusion, spirituality, community action, social justice), and then recording ideas/dreams for how Holy Covenant can live out those values. We will continue gathering the ideas until February 26, when we will select, as a congregation, those we wish to focus on and develop.

Our Lent focus will be on how to live into those—how can we, following Christ, make those dreams come true?

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Ash Wednesday is February 22; our service will be at 7 pm. We will offer Communion and both regular and glitter ashes.

We will be baptizing Felix Michael Ikonnikov on March 26th. His mother, Jill, and older brother, Asher, were baptized here in December of 2021.

I will be officiating at the memorial service of Tom (TT) Pleasants this Sunday, February 19, at 4 pm. You may have known him as a facilitator of AA, before he became too ill.

Pastoral Care

The community prayers continue. I continue to support the two men in Cook County Jail; this seems to be drawing closer to a resolution. I continue to be available for congregational support as needed.

Social Action Ministry

order of Bombas socks is due next week. There seems to be some interest in the congregation in reviving this ministry, which faded during the COVID shutdown.

Administration

I am generally in the church office two days a week, most often Tuesdays and

Community Outreach

SAGE continues to meet by Zoom; and now in person also (hybrid) on Fridays at 1 pm.

LaGrange Ministerium met yesterday, however, I was unable to attend due to a medical appointment. I will report to the Board once I have their report, especially on plans for Good Friday (April 7).

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 via Zoom (next meeting October 6).

The next large group meeting will be January 24, at 11 am, via Zoom. I will be offering a presentation on LGBTQ+ people who are imprisoned, especially seniors. The small group meeting will be on February 1 at 7 pm via Zoom.

Revitalization Team

We are working on setting up a meeting.

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Education and Formation

I am looking for another book or movie for our study group. Ideas welcome!

UFMCC

Rev. Michael Cooper came to Holy Covenant on January 22nd and presented me with the Rev. Elder John Hose award. Thanks to the Board for organizing the reception afterwards.

I have been attending Tea Time with the Elders on the third Tuesday of the month at 4 pm CT via Zoom.

Louisville Institute Grant

I continue with the readings and study, as well as setting up and conducting interviews with individuals in other denominations who work with people on the inside, and learning from MCC clergy who have worked in this ministry.

Motion to accept the Clerk, Treasurer & Pastor's report by Roxann, 2nd by Joanie, all in favor.

VII Continued Items

A. Building and Grounds

a. Roof Repairs

The roof for the church and garage has been approved by Erie to be fully replaced. Nick Brito said that they will be looking at the building on 2/22 with a decision by late February on replacing the siding..

B. Fundraisers

a. Fundraisers – General discussion on the dance for May 20th and if no one comes outside of the church we will discontinue it.

b. PJ Klems – Remove from agenda.

C. UFMCC News

None

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D. Social Media Coordinator

Have changed the website for February, continued Constant Contact every week and update Facebook as needed. Events have been updated in the calendar. Our domain name has to be renewed by 4/28 along with our domain privacy. The cost for domain renewal is \$21.99 and privacy is \$24.99. Will approve at the March meeting.

E. Revitalization Program

See the Pastor notes above.

F. Planning For The Future

General discussion for wearing masks in church as the mask mandate will be ended by the U.S. Government soon.

VIII New Business

A. Outreach for Pride Events

We received the request for the Aurora Pride Parade which is June 11th with a cost of \$25. We will ask the congregation if anyone would be interested in coordinating any pride events. Will put in the announcements and the newsletter.

IX: Executive Session - None

Closing prayer by Roxann Victory.

Motion to adjourn at 9:24 pm moved by Roxann and 2nd by Joanie.