

Holy Covenant MCC Board Minutes
October 19, 2023
Meeting Held at HC

I: Meeting called to order: 7:14 pm

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

Regrets:

Guests:

II: Opening Prayer: Rev. Martha Daniels

III: Check-In:

- Barbara – Senior night at Bryan’s football game on 10/20. He asked us to walk on the field with him, Mom and Dad at halftime as they honor the seniors. We feel so honored to be asked. Might have broke my left little toe as the toe area is bruised. It does not hurt.
- Joanie – New system at work will go live on Nov. 1st. She is feeling excited buy yet apprehensive about the issues that will come up.
- Martha – Had a nice few days away with some of the women from the church in Greenlake, WI. Ben’s wedding was fabulous.
- Roxann – Work is slow, and Colin is off for a few days which he loves.

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

Motion was made to approve the Agenda with changes and additions by Roxann and 2nd by Martha. The changes include a changes of add to Fundraiser and disposal of chairs downstairs. All in favor.

V: Approval of September 2023 Board Minutes – Barbara Adams-Latsaras

Motion by Roxann to approve the September Board Minutes with corrections of spelling 2nd by Barbara. All in favor.

VI: Reports

A. Clerks Report – 18 adults, 4 children removal of 4 adults from membership after no response from the letters sent out in September to the 4 members if they wanted to keep their membership

B. Treasurer’s Report – Joanie Baird

a. Tithing – Pension for Q3 2023 is $\$1.75 \times 22 \text{ members} = \$38.50/\text{month} \times 3 = \115.50 due October 10, 2023.

b. Income – Our current Operating Fund cash balance as of 10/17/23 is about \$12,064 plus one Sunday's estimated total \$300 = \$12,364 Total Less \$3,450 restricted to salary -

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less \$480 restricted for Cost Overruns less \$3,000 Reserve = **\$5,434 Available** less \$517 unpaid October bills leaves **\$4,917 unrestricted balance on October 31, 2023** Less \$2,500 Martha Salary = \$2,417 Balance on Nov 2, 2023 for other November expenses.

Unusual and/or large bills incurred in September 2023: None

Bills October 2023 for Board approval:

a) Electric	\$ 69 Est
b) Gas	\$ 75 Est
c) AT&T	\$ 52
d) Erie WC	\$ 58 Monthly
e) Northfield Insurance	\$ 321
f) Water Est. Jul-Aug	\$ 0
g) Pastor License	\$ 175
Total Bills	\$ 750

- a. Total owed by the Operating Fund to the Designated Fund is still \$1,200 as of October 19, 2023
- b. There is about \$91 balance in the Bid Repair - Painting Fund (Rainbow Restoration).
- c. HVAC Designated Fund Balance is about \$983.
- d. Balance in the Sign Repair Fund is still about \$2,528
- e. Checking Balance in the Designated Fund on 9/10/23 was \$7,128 less Age Options Zoom \$16 less Age Options support \$68 = \$7,044 on 9/20/23. plus Age Options Grant 2023 on 10/6/2023 \$2,000 = \$9,044.
- f. Current Balance in the Age Options Designated Fund as of 10/17/2023 = \$5,487

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 October bills as listed, 2nd by Joanie, all in favor.

Holy Covenant MCC Board Minutes
October 19, 2023
Meeting Held at HC

C. Pastor's Report

Worship

The Worship Team met Wednesday, October 18.

Upcoming special worship services include All Saints and the Community Thanksgiving service on November 19 (location tbd). We will be trying something new for the Passing of the Peace—a video of members sharing greetings, in addition to those in person greeting each other.

We have begun planning for Advent, which begins December 3. We will have a theme of Christmas symbols (stars, angels, etc.) and Christmas carols.

Pastoral Care

The community prayers continue.

I continue to support the two men in Cook County Jail.

I continue to be available for congregational support as needed, both for people who are in church in person regularly, and for others.

Pints with the Pastor was not held in October—I was not well.

Social Action Ministry

Barbara Adams Latsaras is our lead on this right now, with her active participation at Share Food Share Love. We have requested Bombas socks again, and they will be arriving sometime in the 2nd quarter of the year.

Administration

I am generally in the church office one or two days a week, most often Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Community Outreach

WSSS— (formerly known as SAGE)-- continues to meet by Zoom; and now in person also (hybrid) on Fridays at 1 pm.

LaGrange Ministerium met Wednesday, October 18. I was not able to attend but will report on whatever is passed on to the group via email.

Plymouth Place (senior/assisted living) held an appreciation lunch for clergy in the area who have been supportive of Plymouth Place, on Thursday, October 12. It was very nice, and I enjoyed meeting some clergy people I hadn't met before.

On Friday, October 13, Church Women United held a "get-acquainted" breakfast at First Presbyterian of LaGrange. Church Women United works nationwide to support social justice and ecumenical work. My mother was active in CWU for many years—they do good work. The individual "units," as they call them, at the local churches, are led by laywomen. I don't know if this is something anyone at HC would be willing and able to take on—a lot of the meetings are during the day, but their work in the community can be very effective.

Holy Covenant MCC Board Minutes

October 19, 2023

Meeting Held at HC

Thrive with Pride

The large group continues to meet via Zoom on the fourth 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 June 1).

The next large group meeting will be October 24 at 11 am, via Zoom, The focus will be on LGBTQ+ history of Chicago, in recognition of LGBTQ+ history month. The next café (small group) will be Thursday, November 1, at 7 pm.

Education and Formation

For our fall education event, we will watch "Joseph," (1995; available on YouTube) for discussion October 22 after church.

UFMCC

I have been attending Tea Time with the Elders on the third Tuesday of the month at 4 pm CT. As MCC looks to the future, the Governing Board and Board of Elders is seeking input from all those involved with MCC. There will be a series of "Dreaming Sessions" held in late October by Zoom for discussion, comment, and dreaming! I plan to attend the session on Thursday, October 26.

Louisville Institute Grant

The grant awardees will be announced November 1st, so I am just waiting to hear! Motion to accept the Clerk, Treasurer & Pastor's report by Roxann, 2nd by Barbara, all in favor.

VII Continued Items

1. Building and Grounds

A. Weeding

We paid Allison Daly \$100 for 3.5 hours of weeding at the church on 10/4. She did the front, side and back. Others in the congregation pulled weeds alongside the garage and the back of the garage. There is more that needs to be done but it looks better.

B. Chairs

Roxann would like to dispose of the chairs downstairs and replace them with the chairs (which are better) from upstairs. There was general discussion about it. There was a motion by Roxann to dispose of the chairs in the alley and bring the extra upstairs chairs to the downstairs. It was 2nd by Martha. All in favor.

Holy Covenant MCC Board Minutes
October 19, 2023
Meeting Held at HC

2. Fundraisers

- a. **Garage Sale** – Garage sale was held on October 7th. Cheryl Bartik (Roxann's mother) helped with Barbara assisting with the sale. Other congregants showed up to help setup, sell and take-down. Barbara took unwanted or older items to Goodwill and other items were hauled to the alley and they were taken. We collected \$645.65 for the church and \$31 for Share Food, Share Love Food Pantry.

- b. **Potential Fundraiser**
Roxann attended a Trivia night at the local VFW. She scooped it out and thinks it will be good for us to have one at either P.J. Klems or Pub 78. There are tables of teams with names, and they answer trivia questions. The table with the most correct answers wins and gets the prize of a trophy and some drink tickets. Roxann and Rev. Martha will talk more about it and make a visit to Pub 78 as Roxann has not been there yet.

3. UFMCC – See Martha's Notes

4. Social Media Coordinator

- a. **Website** - Have changed the website for October for Breast Cancer Awareness month, continued Constant Contact every week and updated Facebook as needed. Events have been updated in the calendar.

5. Letter To Absent Congregants

Barbara mailed out to 4 members the letters and followed up with an email. They had until September 30, 2023, to respond to which none responded to keeping their membership active. They were removed as members on October 19th, and we will now have 18 adult members and four children.

6. Annual Congregational Business Meeting

Barbara informed the Board that the Budget 2024, 2023 meeting minutes and application for board member are available online at the website. An email was sent out to members only with the password and information on the meeting. Will be sending out another email in a week for the meeting.

b. VIII. New Business - None

IX: Executive Session – None

Closing prayer by Barbara Adams Latsaras

Motion to adjourn at 9:23 pm moved by Roxann and 2nd by Martha.