

Holy Covenant MCC Board Minutes
September 23, 2021
Via Zoom

I: Meeting called to order: 7:05 pm

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

Regrets:

Guests:

II: Opening Prayer – Roxann Victory

III: Check-In:

- Barbara and Mary Ann's dog Gracie has been diagnosed with Lymphoma. They are taking her to the Cancer Clinic at Univ. of Illinois in Urbana on Tuesday to have a consultation with the oncologist there.
- Joanie's trip to see family was good.
- Roxann and Colin got their first Pfizer Covid shots. Roxann's company is closing the office here and she will permanently working from home.
- Martha has had some back issues and saw the Dr Wednesday. She continues to have PT on her foot and it is progressing nicely.

IV: Approval of the September Agenda – Barbara Adams-Latsaras

- Joanie wants to add Rev. Martha Daniels clergy license renewal to the bills to be paid this month.

Motion to approve the agenda with the Clergy License added by Roxann, 2nd by Joanie, all in favor.

V: Approval of July 2021 Board Minutes – Barbara Adams-Latsaras

- Motion to approve the August minutes by Roxann, 2nd by Joanie, all favor

VI : Reports

A. Clerks Report – 21 adults, 2 children

B. Treasurer's Report – Joanie Baird

Tithing – August 2021 assessment \$4,849 x .035 = \$170, which has been paid.

IRS UPDATE – Was paid and was received by IRS. Received the green postcard from USPS back that it was received.

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PPP Loan – We have applied for forgiveness for the first PPP loan via PNC's process, which has been recommended to the SBA to approve. I have not received official notice of approval, but I did notice that the PPP loan #1 balance on the PNC website is zero, Nevertheless, since I was unable to successfully submit the application on time despite three attempts, PNC did deduct a payment of \$763 from the Designated Fund. However, John Sadler, my contact for PPP loans at PNC, assured me that it would ultimately be refunded at some point.

We did receive an email regarding the 2nd PPP loan to apply for forgiveness.

Income - In August 2021 we had total Operating revenue of,\$4,849, including one donation for \$2500.This resulted in Net Income of almost \$1100 for August 2021.

Our current Operating Fund cash balance as of 9/22/21 was about \$7,256, plus one Sunday's estimated total \$400, less zero September bills all paid. This leaves the 9/30/21 Operating Fund checking account balance estimated to be \$5,156 after paying Reverend Martha's salary for October of \$2,500.

Due to the generous unexpected \$2500 donation in August, we had a gain almost \$1100, so we won't need to use any of the Krieger Bequest in September. This could allow the Krieger Fund to last until December. Beyond that, our reserve will probably be used up, assuming that we continue to have a monthly deficit of about (\$2000.)

Bills September 2021 which were approved already via email:

a) Electric	\$ 90 Estimate
b) Gas	\$ 50 Estimate
c) AT&T	\$ 53 Fiber for internet
d) Erie Insurance	\$ 341 Monthly
e) Village of Brookfield	\$209 Actual July/August 2021
f) Clergy License	\$175 Due by November 1st
<u>Total Bills</u>	<u>\$918</u>

Flood repair Designated Fund balance is about \$8 as of 8/17/21.

Barbara and Joanie to meet to work on the tax-exempt form.

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

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C. Pastor's Report

Worship

We continue to worship via livestream (FaceBook Live). As soon as I am mobile enough to access the church, and when the work is completed on the church interior, we will move to hybrid worship. This will also depend on the COVID19 infection rates for Cook County and any government restrictions. The Worship Team is meeting next week, and we will be discussing plans for the fall and Advent.

Martha is thinking of doing hybrid worship on October 17th. This will depend on Covid-19, carpeting and the upstairs being done.

Pastoral Care

I have shared prayers for several individuals. I continue to support the two men in Cook County Jail. I continue to be available for support as needed.

Social Action Ministry

We are waiting for our next shipment of Bombas socks to donate at various locations which will arrive in 2022. Members continue to support Share Food, Share Love Food Pantry.

Administration

I have reviewed my usual activities and compared them to my contract, with an eye to keeping my hours to the 32 hours contracted for. I'll be discussing that as a separate topic after this report.

Community Outreach

SAGE continues to meet by Zoom—mostly simply for check-ins and updates. The Brookfield/LaGrange Ministerium has begun to meet in person again, although I was not able to attend the August meeting.

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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. We met on August 5. The next large group meeting will be August 24 at 11 via Zoom, and the topic will be dementia and caretakers. Our small group will meet September 2 at 7 pm. A SAGE Table is planned for Thursday, October 14—this is an intergenerational event for seniors and younger LGBTQ+ individuals to have conversation over a meal (provided).

Revitalization Team

The group met Tuesday, August 17. We have postponed our planned seniors/youth event to November. The idea is that seniors will share their stories of being LGBTQ+--coming out, early Pride, what it was like for them in that time and place, to share with the youth. We will offer a training session for seniors who would like to participate in October, led by Katie Fasullo, the SAGE intern.

We also discussed the possibility of planning events to be held outside. The first is a blessing of animals in early October. This would include a couple of prayers and readings and maybe a hymn or two, and then each animal present would receive a blessing and a small gift (treat or St. Francis medal, for example). Leashes/carriers would be required (for the pets!) and the option of bringing a photo would be offered, too (for pets who don't travel well or don't get along well with other animals). This is something we would open to the neighborhood. The second is a bonfire/homecoming in late October or early November. We would use the gravel area by the alley; we might offer s'mores, singing, or drumming. This would also be open to the larger community. These last two are still in the planning stages, obviously.

UFMCC

I attended a webinar on protocols for returning to in-person worship (or not) on August 5. Our main focus should be caring for one another, whatever that might look like in our context. For some churches, they may be able to continue (or go to) in-person or hybrid worship and programs, while others would be at high risk to do so. The guidance is to keep monitoring the infection and vaccination rates in your area, and make informed, prayerful decisions based on that information. A suggestion I found useful was the use of wristbands to indicate the level of contact a person is comfortable with—for example, red for none, yellow for elbow bumps and a wave, green for go in for a hug. A sign (and announcements) would explain the different levels.

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Rev. Martha submitted her grant request to the Louisville Institute which she may call Rainbow Bridges to continue with her prison ministry. Notification of awards in November 2021.

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

VII Continued Items

A. Building and Grounds

1. Sign Update

Getting another quote from a sign company in Oak Lawn. The issue is the job is too small for some companies to do and getting the plastic materials for the sign.

2. B & G update

Mary Ann is working on the upstairs inside and trying to put the finishing touches upstairs and downstairs.

B. Fundraisers

Pints with the Pastor has moved to PUB 78. It is a gay owned business that we would like to support in Brookfield. In discussion with one of the owners Jen, we asked if we could have Drag Queen Bingo there. Martha is to talk with Kate from Age Options about a Drag Queen to help us.

C. UFMCC News – See Pastor's notes

D. Social Media Coordinator

Have changed the website for September, continued Constant Contact every week and update Facebook as needed.

E. Revitalization Program

See the Pastor notes above.

F. Planning for the Future

We are watching the COVID numbers and the CDC with the state mask mandate. Might start hybrid worship October 17th.

VIII New Business

A. Clergy License

This was approved with the bills to be paid before November 1st. It is \$175.

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B. Annual Congregational Meeting

The date of November 14th was set for Annual Congregational Meeting. There are two Board positions open. Joanie will run again and there is an open slot.

IX: Executive Session

None

Closing prayer by Joanie Baird

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 pm moved by Roxann and 2nd by Joanie,
All in favor.