

Desert Cross Lutheran Church

Gilbert Chamber Meeting

January 12th, 2021

Attendees:

<u>Council</u>	<u>Chamber</u>	<u>Pastors</u>
Angela Nannenga—P	Nancy Zine (worship 1 of 3)—P	Andrea Cain—P
Patrick Jennett—P	John Hughes (finance/stewardship 2 of 3)—P	Thaddeus Book—P
	Deborah Gabrielson (Mission & Outreach 1 of 3)—A	
	Rosemary Schlechty (Education 1 of 3)—A	
	Susan Johnston (facilities 2 of 3)—P	
	Deb Christiansen (Hospitality 1 of 3)—P	
	Kelly Kaiser Borning (Communication 1 of 3)—P	

Devotions: Rosemary Schlechty (absent, Pastor Andrea led us in prayer)

Approval of Agenda and minutes

Motion for Approval of Agenda (January) and Minutes (December) : Motion made by Nancy, seconded by Deb. Motion approved.

Old Business:

Dogs 4 Vets update: Approval was received on December 31st. The permits need to be paid for in order to go forward. We also need a finalized/approved bid to move forward. We are above budget \$4,000-5,000. Some things need to be moved out of the storage area so the process can begin. Maybe on a Saturday? COVID precautions need to be followed. January 30th (tentative)? Discussion about the need for a dumpster vs. trips to the dump with pickups. Patrick will price things out to see if getting a dumpster or having a service help dispose of unneeded items is more cost effective.

Reports:

Council report: Patrick attended. Pastor Thadd has joined us since the last meeting. Farewell for Pastor Doris was a success.

Pastor Andrea report: Pastor Thadd has arrived and we are very excited to have him. He will be orienting over the next couple weeks. He has joined “Zoom, Chat, Pray” and he attended staffing. He is going to the Fiesta Conferencemeeting and his installation is coming up this weekend. Andrea is finalizing the bulletin for the installation services. This will be a Zoom (live) service with the Bishop. There is a reception that will follow the installation for Pastor Thadd and his family.

Lent planning is underway as it starts February 17th. This will be a combination of prerecorded and possibly Zoom services. Once live-streaming services from the Tempe sanctuary are able to safely resume, it will probably be with staff only, and gradually move to having some people join live when it is possible.

Education team met today and planned for the playlists. The January playlist is baptism (50+ visitors visited the page already). There is a new website being developed for Desert Cross (utilizing Tithe.ly). Maegan is working on this and staff is contributing to their pages. It will be more streamlined and user-friendly. The package that was included with the website includes a "church-app". We also have a text-giving option as well. There is a church-management software included which will help with streamlining processes at the church. Nancy may be able to help with this with her experience. Quickbooks may be able to be connected with this package.

Pastor Thadd: Reports he arrived in town Saturday evening. He has been enjoying the warm weather. He is moving into his new house and getting ready for the installation. His family arrives on Friday.

Finance report: The church finances have been impacted by COVID but our church has made good financial decisions and has benefited from the PPP loan/grant. Summers are usually more difficult times financially and the 4th quarter is usually better, and while it still was better, it wasn't as good as years past. As of December our deficit may be around \$135 (for total year) which does not include the PPP money. We have utilized the PPP loan to keep moving forward. Forgiveness applications are soon being accepted (through Chase bank). We should have \$35,000 (positive) to start the year, but our giving and expense levels are not balanced. We have a cushion to get through these tough times. The new stimulus package includes a "PPP package, second draw" for small businesses and small nonprofits, so we may be able to apply for additional funding through that. This will be presented at the next council meeting. Desert Cross (as a body) is overall down, but the Gilbert campus grew by \$3,000 dollars this last year. This is a growth of 1.5%.

Committee reports:

Susan Johnston (facilities): See report that was submitted prior to this meeting.

Annual reports are due in 3 days (1 has been submitted so far). These are due by January 15th. Submit to Angela and/or Doug. The nominating committee will be developed in February and new positions/members will be voted on in April/May. Openings will include (for Chamber): Angela (council and Chamber), John (finance), Susan (facilities). Unofficial term limits are 3 terms.

New Business:

None reported.

Closing:

Prayer Concerns: Angela requested prayers for Deb Gabrielson and Rosemary Schlechty (for health). John asked for prayers for our country. Patrick asked for prayers for Oliver for Pediatric Trigger Thumb Surgery (both hands). Angela requested prayers for Peyton who is going to be allowed to participate in the experimental trial in Seattle. Nancy asked for prayers for Laura and Thadd and the boys' move/transition.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Thadd.

Adjourned: John made the motion to adjourn, Susan seconded this motion. Chamber passed the motion. Adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Devotions next month: **Patrick Jennett**

Distribution:

Council:

Patrick Jennett
Angela Nannenga

Chamber:

Nancy Zine
John Hughes
Deborah Gabrielson
Rosemary Schlechty

Deb Christensen
Susan Johnston
Kelly Kaiser Borning

Pastors:

Andrea Cain
Thaddeus Book

Staff:

Maegan Jennett
Michael Lottes
Doug Bjotvedt