

Council Meeting 7:00 PM June 21, 2021

Attending: Pastor Andrea, Pastor Thadd, Glenn Tischaefter, Stan Fernandes, Bill Kalaf, Doug Bjotvedt, Adam Pfau, Patrick Jennett, and Vince Sciame.

Devotions were offered by Glenn T ischaefter.

The date on the agenda was corrected. Stan moved to accept as amended. Bill seconded. Motion passed.

Stewardship for All Seasons. Stan and Pastor Thadd summarized the kickoff meeting and further activities. The Desert Cross group will meet on June 23. A meeting with Evan, a SAS consultant will be scheduled for sometime in the next week or two. The next Synod-wide meeting is July 10.

Doug reported on Dogs4Vets renovation status. The work is complete and tenants are returning. The Pre-School lease was agreed to.

The Council discussed the Tempe PD No-trespass letter. Signing the letter with Tempe PD means we must then put up no-Trespass signs. Bill Kalaf recommends sign number 8 from a number of signs he sent out in an email. Council agreed to allow Bill and Doug to select an appropriate sign. We either need a bi-lingual sign (English and Spanish), or two signs, one in each language

Adam Moved that DCLC sign the letter with Tempe PD authorizing no-Trespass signage and giving Tempe PD the ability to cite individuals for violations without calling a DCLC member. Vince Seconded. The motion passed. Bill and Doug will work out selection and purchase of signage as needed.

Pastor Reports:

Pastor Thadd attended a seminar with education staff on Zoom. The topic was Faith Formation & Education. The Synod Assembly was two weeks ago, on Zoom.

Pastor Andrea: Both campuses are in full swing. Communion is being offered. Offices are open again. Some members of the congregation have said they are waiting until fall to return to in-person worship. Live-Stream is being improved. The worship team is considering purchasing software to allow combined computer and video. Joni van Rossum is doing the live-stream. An individual from Malcolm's company will also help. The worship band is rehearsing again and will appear live soon. Pastor Andrea is kicking off Strategic Planning again. She shared an article titled "Becoming "Anticipators of the Future""

Bill Kalaf shared his thoughts on Strategic Planning. He suggested to council that Desert Cross look at "where do we want to be in three to five years?" For instance: In areas such as Administration, Online, Streaming. He proposed a Vision Task Force (VTF) lead by Bill and separate from Strategic Planning comprised of "experts" from the congregation who will determine the vision of Desert Cross and research and assemble information to support planning to reach the vision. The task force would consist of 4 or 5 people with particular skills and would not include Pastors, Council, or Staff. Council needs to set up the framework/scope/objectives/ground rules. Council requested that Bill submit a

written proposal for review and Bill agreed to do that. Pastor Andrea reminded Bill and the Council that the intended Strategic Planning team of Pastors, Council, and Staff already includes development of vision, both short and long term planning, and feedback from the congregation in one process.

Vince noted that some folks would like worship at 8 and 9:30 (as we used to do in Tempe), rather than 9:00 and 10:30 because of the heat. Pastor Andrea noted that since so many people are still viewing the Live-Stream service (at 9:00), it was a good idea to keep that time the same for the immediate future for consistency and unity. The worship team is meeting weekly over the summer and plans to change the worship/education schedule for fall, and we don't want too many changes in worship times in a short time period.

Committee Reports were reviewed. Patrick moved to accept the reports as written. Adam seconded. The motion passed.

The Finance report was reviewed. Vince discussed property costs, including maintaining the Columbarium. Vince moved that the Council approve \$5K carryover for memorial garden. Patrick seconded. The motion passed.

Pastor Andrea reported on the giving response to the letter. General fund giving increased \$30k. 70% were new givers. See Pastor Andrea's letter for more info.

The Endowment Committee met and approved scholarships and grant requests. Council will vote to approve the Endowment recommendations at the July meeting.

Stewardship: There was nothing additional to add beyond the report on Stewardship for All Seasons.

Young Adult Group: Erin Pelley is a case worker for refugee minors. They threw a high-school graduation party for the refugee minors, which was a great time.

Renew:

Lola and Barb Kalaf are working on shade structure for the columbarium area. Clean up the fountain will be done in the short term. Pastor Thadd recommended mentioning it to the congregation. They are looking at new floors (vinyl plank) and carpet for the Sanctuary. Bill is working on creating a map of our irrigation system (which doesn't currently exist). He may possibly get Scout help as an Eagle project. We can now look at Water usage on a Tempe City website. Tempe will do an audit to find excessive flow. Amy is working with Pastor Andrea on painting and lighting. Tim Collins is working the pews.

Patrick reported on Gilbert Chamber. They drew up a proposal for a grant to host an outdoor movie in December. Chamber is planning to reach out to families with children to let them know Sunday School will be back in the fall. Chamber discussed serving food after service during fellowship time. There have been new faces in Gilbert.

Program Reports. No questions.

Giving Day is launching tomorrow.

Glenn discussed a Financial and Accounting best practices review. It is a program offered for free by ELCA through a Lilly Foundation grant. Glenn said that since no funds were needed, that he and members of the Finance committee would conduct the review.

Prayer concerns for Dawn and John Hughes were offered.

Pastor Thadd offered the closing prayer.

Doug moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded. The motion passed. Meeting closed at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted by Stan Fernandes.