

Desert Cross Lutheran Church

<u>Council</u>	<u>Chamber</u>	<u>Pastor</u>
Mari Johnson	Gary Balliet (Finance/Stewardship)	Thaddeus Book
Tony Tainter	Tracey Landa (Altar Guild)	Andrea Cain
	Rosemary Schlechty (Education)	
Vicky English	Joe Weingartz (Facilities)	
Anna Sion	Dana Hargis (Hospitality)	
	Joy Petroff (Outreach)	
	Kerry Wilson (Communications)	

Gilbert Chamber Meeting - via Zoom September 9, 2025

Absent: Rosemary Schlechty

Devotions: Dana Hargis

Approval of Minutes (August):

Motion to approve meeting minutes by Gary Balliet and seconded by Joe Weingartz. Motion carries.

Approval of Agenda (September):

Motion to approve agenda by Joe Weingartz and seconded by Tony Tainter. Motion carries.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Parking Lot (Mari Johnson):** Mari Johnson and Doug Bjotvedt met with contractor. Awaiting to hear back on next steps. At time of meeting, Mari had emailed contractor with plans to follow up by end of week. Working to resolve the larger cracks and areas of light coverage.
- **Congregational Survey:** Mari Johnson and Pr. Thadd have developed questions to explore.

REPORTS

Finance (Gary Balliet):

- Discussion on technological endowments received in amounts of \$20,000 and \$30,000.
- Overall budget in good shape. Income > Expenses.
- Still waiting on land sale check from City of Tempe. City now exploring a smaller space/easement property.

Pastor (Pr. Thadd Book):

- Further discussion on technological grant money - \$50,000 total. In discussion with Joni Van Rossum on how to best allocate funds.
- Discussion about replacing church check-in from pew pads to Ipad.
- Diana Berry will be at DCLC Gilbert on 9/21/2025 with Crystal Cards Project.
- Sunday School resumed on 9/7/2025. Nine students in confirmation.
- Labor Day breakfast a success - 41 people in attendance.
- Leading a class starting at the end of October, Wednesday nights. Book of Matthew. Dinner at 6:00 pm/Study at 7:00.
- Christmas Eve times set for Gilbert - 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm.
- Volunteer schedules set up for the next couple months as Sharyn Jennings attends to some personal issues.
- DCLC Family Reunion - Stewardship campaign. Holding a meal 11/1/2025 at 6:30 pm. Want to foster conversation and being together.
- Still collecting pictures of as many groups as possible for Stewardship drive.

Facilities (Joe Weingartz):

- Recent storms were hard on the steel pipes that hold new banners in place. Pipe fittings/threads broken. Joe will replace as soon as able. Storms also brought down two large tree limbs.
- During storms, water came through south facing windows in Sanctuary. Doug Bjotvedt has someone coming to fix.

Outreach (Joy Petroff):

- Group gathered on 9/7/2025 and went over planned outreach events.
- Food drive events to start after Trunk or Treat in October.

Hospitality (Dana Hargis):

- Refresh committee going to council on Monday to present and ask for approval to get started on fundraising. Asking for prayers.
- Plea to have more people join the Hospitality Committee.

Council Report (Mari Johnson):

- Council to do iHelp on 9/23/2025.

NEW BUSINESS

- Trunk or Treat (Mari Johnson): Trunk decorating sign-up to begin Sunday 9/12/2025. Invite small businesses to participate or donate. Discussion with Dana Hargis about list of food items needed - people can donate burgers/buns/water/chips. Have clean-up function be a separate sign-up. Tony Tainter volunteered wife, Donna, to lead children's games in sanctuary.
- Golf Tournament (Gary Balliet): 64-72 people signed up at present. Raffle tickets sale started, collected \$200 in Gilbert on 9/7/2025. Raffle tickets also being sold in Tempe. Gary Balliet to text all players/groups on 9/10/2025 to direct them to full commitment and payment.
- Art Show - Refresh Fundraiser (Gary Balliet): Gary and Jane Balliet's son is an artist. Discussion about holding at art show where 25% of sales would go towards Refresh Project. Will further discuss and take to council.
- Parking Lot Party (Mari Johnson): Table the event until parking lot issues resolved. Many other events on calendar to promote socialization and community.
- ELCA Grant/Website Application (Mari Johnson/Pr. Thadd): Grand Canyon Synod grant applications open. Mari Johnson to attend live online Q&A event. Grant is up to \$15,000 per grant, to a congregation for the purpose of revitalizing an outreach ministry. Pr. Thadd asked Chamber to reflect on where this grant money could be used, if applied and awarded. Submission deadline is 10/31/2025.

CLOSING

Adjournment of Meeting (September):

Motion to adjourn meeting by Joe Weingartz and seconded by Dana Hargis.
Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

DISTRIBUTION**Council:**

Mari Johnson

Tony Tainter

Chamber:

Gary Balliet

Kerry Wilson

Dana Hargis

Tracey Landa

Joy Petroff

Rosemary Schlechty

Joe Weingartz

Pastor:

Thaddeus Book

Andrea Cain

Meeting minutes submitted by Kerry Wilson
July 16, 2025.