

# Desert Cross Lutheran Church

<b>Council</b>	<b>Chamber</b>	<b>Pastor</b>
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 March 10, 2026**

**Absent:** Joy Petroff, Joe Weingartz

**Devotions:** Mari Johnson

### **Approval of Minutes (February):**

Motion to approve meeting minutes by Tony Tainter and seconded by Tracey Landa. Motion carries.

### **Approval of Agenda (March):**

Motion to approve agenda by Dana Hargis and seconded by Gary Balliet. Motion carries.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Church/Business Cards (Mari Johnson): Remains open item.
- I-Help dinner (Mari Johnson): Sign up sheet coming closer to event.
- Fall Craft/Bake Sale (Mari Johnson): Tentatively scheduled for November 7, 2026. More information coming. Event has been approved by council; yet, where the funds will go has not been approved.
- Trunk or Treat (Mari Johnson): Potential date of October 17, 2026.

## **REPORTS**

### **Finance Report (Gary Balliet):**

- Mortgage is due for an adjustment. Last done in 2020 and currently at rate of 3.875%, common to renegotiate/examine every 5 years. Use Mission Investment Fund, MIF, a Lutheran financial institution.
- Tempe land sale still in escrow.
- Attendance up by 175+ people at both campuses YTD from 2025.
- General Fund giving down \$27,000 YTD from 2025. Tracks with last year's numbers, as compared to 2024, therefore currently monitoring.
- A cash carry over from 2025 of \$105,000 will help pay bills by expensing \$8750/month towards hot summer months. Doug Bjotvedt forecasting this transaction; will be made transparent on future statements.
- YTD: Income - \$252,000, Spending - \$192,000, Net - \$60,000.
- Still in need tellers to count offering at Tempe campus.

### **Pastor's Report (Pr. Thadd Book):**

- Easter preparations are coming along. Mid-week Lenten services, combined with soup suppers going well. Easter Egg hunt scheduled for March 29, 2026 after service.
- New member class scheduled for April 26, 2026. Members will be welcomed as part of service on May 3, 2026.
- Three baptisms tentatively scheduled for March 29, 2026. Tracey Landa said all is ready from altar guild standpoint.
- Feed My Starving Children - DCLC participation day is April 25, 2026.
- Confirmation is scheduled for May 17, 2026. Four confirmands.
- Hymn Sing was a success, 82 at event, around 60 for taco dinner afterwards.

### **Hospitality Report (Dana Hargis):**

- Still looking for members.

### **Education Report (Rosemary Schlechty):**

- Offers to talk to anyone with children in Sunday School yet especially those new to or visiting DCLC.

### **Altar Guild (Tracey Landa):**

- Palms secured and palm crosses ordered for Palm Sunday.

## **Council Report:**

- Golf Tournament (Gary Balliet): Date changed to September 12, 2026 at Springfield Golf Resort. Received approval from Council. Securing QR code to pay. 7:00 am shot gun start.
- Capital Campaign (Dana Hargis, Mari Johnson, Tony Tainter): Draft of commitment card needs small changes. Council needs to approve at March meeting.
- Refresh Project (Dana Hargis): Strong hope to start the project soon after Easter. Discussion - hold a Mission Moment on April 12, 2026 and present the Capital Campaign/Project Outline/Commitment cards.
- Fundraising (Gary Balliet, Mari Johnson): Continued discussion regarding earmarked fundraisers for specific projects.
- Loose/Free will offering (Gary Balliet): Discussion - Should a basket be available for people to give at events like Hymn Sing and Cantata or do we leave money out of it? Would funds be general or funneled to group who put on event?

**CLOSING:** Prayers led by Pr. Thadd Book.

## **Adjournment of Meeting (March):**

Motion to adjourn meeting by Gary Balliet and seconded by Mari Johnson.  
Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 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

April 4, 2026

Revised April 14, 2026