

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)	
Mary Beth LaMont	Joe Weingartz (Facilities)	
Vicki English	Dana Hargis (Hospitality)	
	Claudia Huss and Sue Kyle (Outreach)	
	Kerry Wilson (Communications)	

Gilbert Chamber Meeting - via Zoom August 11, 2026

Absent: Tracey Landa and Rosemary Schlechty

Devotions: Mari Johnson

Approval of Minutes (July):

Motion to approve meeting minutes by Tony Tainter and seconded by Gary Balliet. Motion carries.

Approval of Agenda (August):

Motion to approve agenda by Dana Hargis and seconded by Claudia Huss. Motion carries.

ONGOING BUSINESS

- Golf Tournament (Gary Balliet): Currently 12-16 groups committed to play, close to 65 players. Jane Balliet and Gary will be selling raffle tickets the three remaining Sundays in August. QR code working well for payments and last day to pay is 9/6/2026. Proceeds from tournament will go to support FMSC and Children's Home Project in Honduras.
- Holiday Market (Mari Johnson): Set for 11/14/2026. Flyer recently received from Vicki English. Looking for additional vendors, hoping for around 30. Tessa Faust and Youth Group will be selling food at event to raise money for 2027 mission trip. Hoping to make a big impact/outreach in the community. Discussion on putting this info on all DCLC social accounts.
- Refresh Program (Dana Hargis): Meeting on 8/12/2026. Communicated to both campuses that \$61,000+ raised in donations thus far and construction will start. A sign-up sheet placed in Gilbert looking for volunteers for deconstruction. Team will do their best not to interrupt Sunday services/special events. Discussion about where to store cross during altar reconstruction – goal to keep people and cross safe. Bryan Riensche working to coordinate dates with contractors.

REPORTS

Finance (Gary Balliet):

- General Fund giving down by \$19,000 YTD from 2025. Accounting for \$8000 in gifts, \$11,000 down. Doug Bjotvedt monitoring closely.
- Accounting software has some remaining issues being worked out.
- Tempe land sale still in escrow. Doug Bjotvedt predicting transaction will go through within the month.
- Four acres of land and a house have been donated to DCLC. Property near St. John's, Arizona. Up for appraisal and more details to follow.
- Jim Buhr suggested the idea of a Reserve Fund purely for maintenance of buildings.

Pastor's Report (Pr. Thadd Book):

- A lot of fall planning happening with education, Faith Formation studies, and Refresh project all to kick off in September. Solid on Sunday School teachers and currently ordering confirmation curriculum.
- Good outing at Diamondbacks ballgame on 8/6/2026. Shout out to Tom Rewolinski for organizing the event.
- The Stewardship committee has been meeting for fall pledge drive. Commitment Sunday will be Reformation Sunday, 10/25/2026.
- Backpack Blessing was a solid success in Gilbert. Many kids, just enough cards.
- Rosemary Schlechty scheduled to speak on topic of Education on 8/23/2026.

Outreach (Claudia Huss):

- On top of the large collection of school supplies for Concordia, the Gilbert campus raised \$1170 for additional supplies.
- The Hunger Jar in August will go towards Women4Women. Supplies will be purchased and delivered in September.

Property (Joe Weingartz):

- Joe ordered more bungee cords for signs. Until cords can be installed, Tony Tainter secured signs with zip ties.

Council Report:

- Approved an endowment grant to spend up to \$35,000, specifically to address tile floors in gymnasium/community center.
- Awarded 11 scholarships to college students.
- I Help (Tony Tainter): Chamber scheduled to serve I Help on 8/25/2026. Plan to serve around 20 people.

Upcoming Dates:

8/25/2026 - Gilbert Chamber hosts iHelp Dinner

9/12/2026 - Golf Tournament

10/24/2026 - Trunk or Treat

11/14/2026 - Holiday Market

CLOSING: Prayer led by Pr. Thadd.

Adjournment of Meeting (August):

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

DISTRIBUTION

Council:

Mari Johnson
Tony Tainter
Mary Beth LaMont
Doug Bjotvedt

Chamber:

Gary Balliet
Dana Hargis
Claudia Huss
Sue Kyle
Tracey Landa
Rosemary Schlechty
Joe Weingartz
Kerry Wilson

Pastor:

Thaddeus Book
Andrea Cain

Meeting minutes submitted by Kerry Wilson
8/27/2026 to Chamber
9/9/2026 to Council