



Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes (Revised on 10/16/23)  
September 18, 2023

Attendees: Sam Carter, Joe Baggett, Cheryl Smith, Vivian Jefferson, Karen Faulkner, Gene Bain, Carol Shaffer, Anne Geiger, Gary Wolfe, Jeremy Shoop, Pastor Martin Eldred

Absent: Chris Nelson, Chip Edwards

**I. Call to Order**

Sam Carter called the Zoom meeting of the Holy Cross Lutheran Church (HCLC) Council to order at 7:04 p.m.

**II. Devotions**

Sam Carter filled in for Chip Edwards to lead devotions, followed by Pastor Martin with the opening prayer.

**III. Draft Agenda**

- Call to Order
- Devotions
- Approval of the Minutes
- Treasurer's Report and Approval
- Director of Music and Liturgy Report
- Pastor's Report
- Reading of correspondence
- Reports of ministry teams
- VP/Finance Committee Report
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Closing Prayer
- Adjournment

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

Gary Wolfe made the motion to approve the corrected minutes from the August 21, 2023 meeting. Karen Faulkner seconded and all voted in favor of approval.

**V. Treasurer's Report**

Joe Baggett submitted his report prior to the meeting. Joe said that we continue to experience a downturn. We have a yearly deficit of \$25,000. We should break even in September. It will put a dent in the deficit but it will not wipe it out. Carol Shaffer made the motion to approve the treasurer's report. Gene Bain seconded. All voted in favor of approval.

Sam Carter said we would move to the Vice President's report from here. The Finance team met this week and came to the conclusion to see what September numbers look like before putting together the budget. Sam and Pastor will meet with the ministry teams to discuss their needs. Expenses went up significantly while there was a decrease in giving. Some of this could be contributed to some large contributors moving away or leaving the church. Joe Baggett mentioned that we are current on paying our legal obligations. Vivian Jefferson asked if the committee has come up with any ideas. Sam said that his article will have a taste of it in Quest. The Finance team did not discuss it. If we have a good fourth quarter, we should be ok.

#### **VI. Director of Music and Liturgy Report**

Jeremy Shoop submitted a written report and had nothing to add.

#### **VII. Pastor's Report**

Pastor Martin submitted a written report. He was mostly absent, but is grateful for the time to take care of his mother. His surgery is scheduled for August 31<sup>st</sup>. Starting on September 11<sup>th</sup>, he will work partial days and do some other projects. He plans to be back at work on October 8<sup>th</sup>. He has been doing in-person visits. Pastor brought up boundaries for the admin staff. They are getting work-related questions on their days off and especially on Sundays. Some are coming from Council members. Pastor asks that people please be respectful of the staff's personal time. Pastor is working on chairing Stewardship for this year's campaign. On October 8<sup>th</sup>, he will focus on Temple Talks and then pledges on the 29<sup>th</sup>, Reformation Sunday. Pastor Martin said that Finance has to be a team effort. We need to build a community.....a grass roots thing, i.e., Anne's fellowship block party. We should think about ways to encourage people. Karen Faulkner is a good example with inviting people.

#### **VIII. Correspondence**

Nothing to report.

#### **IX. Reports of Ministry Teams**

**Education** – Chip Edwards submitted a written report.

**Evangelism** - Karen Faulkner provided a written report. She said October is a busy month and she encourages everyone to come out to SterlingFest and Herndon's Homecoming parade. Trunk or Treat is coming up.

**Fellowship** – Anne Geiger submitted a written report.

**Outreach** – Vivian Jefferson submitted a written report.

**Personnel** – Gene Bain did not submit a written report. Virginia and Gene interviewed a woman last month who was very well qualified. She was offered a position, but she did not get back to them.

**Property** – Gary Wolfe submitted a written report. Saturday morning cleanup is scheduled on November 18<sup>th</sup>. He received estimates for the parking lot. They ranged from \$11K to \$130K. Nothing can probably happen until the weather gets good. Sam asked if the parking lot will get worse by Spring. Gary said it's not too bad, but one section probably needs to be replaced; the rest can be sealed. Virginia and Sarah are getting estimates for carpet cleaning before the anniversary celebration. Joe said that he will take the money out of the regular operating fund. Karen Faulkner made a motion to approve using the funds for this project. Joe Baggett seconded and all voted in favor.

**Stewardship** – Chris Nelson is moving over to Youth Ministry.

**Worship** – Carol Shaffer submitted a written report. New collars (stoles) for the choir were given as a gift from the Makowskis. Altar Guild made over \$500 from the sale of the recipe book and will sell more,,they should sell over \$600 worth.

**X. Vice President/Finance Committee Report**

Sam Carter submitted a written report. Sam just wants to highlight a formal date has been set for the Annual Congregational Meeting. November 12<sup>th</sup> is the only logical date. The AED cabinet is still delayed. Sam has been trying to get them to get it delivered and then we will get it installed. A decision needs to be made as far as who will get trained.

Joe Baggett said that a \$100 donation was sent to Lutheran World Relief in memory of Pastor Opshal. Carol Shaffer said that people respond to specific requests, that if you put a name on something, it might get people to respond. She thinks it's a good idea and our immediate need is the middle parking lot.

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

Anne Geiger asked if Council wanted an update on the bathrooms. She said that she will prepare a standard invitation for bid (IFB) for the construction contract. A package should go out within the next week or two. It will cost a couple thousand dollars for the architect to prepare the specification that will go with the IFB. Funding is coming out of the building fund. Sam said that we will reserve the right to make changes to the contract. Anne said she will send to Joe to review.

Pastor Martin referred to an email Sylvia Moran sent out regarding the nominating committee. They are active and they are working on finding replacements. Think and pray over the positions. The committee has a date in October and needs cooperation from everyone involved. If you're going off Council, let Sam know to meet to get your opinions/ideas and coordinate with Pastor.

**Adjourn**

Anne Geiger made the motion to adjourn at 7:46 p.m., seconded by Carol Shaffer. All were in favor. Pastor Martim ended the meeting with closing prayer.

**REMINDERS:**

Devotions

October – Carol Shaffer

November -

Meetings

October 16 – 7 p.m. (via Zoom)

November 12<sup>th</sup> – 12:30 p.m. (in-person)

November 20 – 7 p.m. (via Zoom)