

Desert Cross Lutheran Church

Gilbert Chamber Meeting

October 13th, 2020

Attendees:

<u>Council</u>	<u>Chamber</u>	<u>Pastors</u>
Angela Nannenga—P	Nancy Zine (worship 1 of 3)—P	Andrea Cain—A
Patrick Jennett—P	John Hughes (finance/stewardship 2 of 3)—P	Doris Nolan—A
<u>Denise Viker (Special Guest) - P</u>	Angie Stone (Mission & Outreach 3 of 3)—P	
	Laura Krizan (Education 3 of 3)—A	
	Susan Johnston (facilities 2 of 3)—A	
	Deb Christiansen (Hospitality 1 of 3)—A	
	Kelly Kaiser Borning (Communication 1 of 3)—P	

Devotions: Susan Johnston (absent) so Angela Nannenga read a prayer.

Motion made to start with Old Business so Denise Viker can present the church reopening plans. Also Approval of Agenda (October) and Minutes (September) : Motion made by Patrick, approved by John. Motion approved.

Old Business:

1. Church reopening plan (Denise Viker)
 - a. Plan will be flexible to adjust to any changes that come our way.
 - b. Equipment for live streaming is in Tempe which is why services will be there.
 - c. Members will have to register/sign-up to attend on-site church (including number in group attending). Room for 50 people at each site/area. If you or anyone in your family/group doesn't feel well in any way then please do not attend.
 - d. Safest place continues to be online.
 - e. DCLC is asking the congregation to promise to follow the guidelines (masks, wash hands (hand sanitizer), physical distance (at least 6 feet apart), etc.). Mask for all when inside the building (except for children under 2).
 - f. Seating - chairs are set up with appropriate physical distance on all sides (front/back/sides). Groups/households seated together and the first group to arrive will be seated towards the front and filling toward the back.
 - g. We won't be singing during the services at this time, but there will be music. Offering/passing the peace will be symbolized by putting our hands on our hearts instead of shaking hands.
 - h. Friendship pads and offering plates will not be passed during the services, but there will be a collection bin located in the area. Online offering continues to be the best method to make an offering.

- i. Communion will be prepackaged (juice and wafers) and will be taken together at the end of the service (4th Sunday of the month only).
 - j. Ushers will dismiss the congregation starting at the back and people will exit to the parking lot. Congregation encouraged to continue to maintain physical distance when leaving the campus.
 - k. There will be no nursery or children's time during the service, but there will continue to be a children's message and playlists online.
 - l. There will be enhanced cleaning procedures (light cleaning to be done by church ushers/volunteers).
 - m. Signage will be posted on the website (procedures and rules) as well as around the church.
 - n. Concerns/Questions: What do we do with people who don't realize they need to register and they just show up? Not going to be actively seeking out visitors at this point, but there will be some flexibility in the plan in case some show up.
 - o. Online services will still be accessible later for those unable to watch it live.
2. Dogs for Vets - Gilbert accepted the upload of the plans, then later rejected the plan because they were not combined in one file. After getting a list of what needed to be corrected, the contractor combined the files and was going to resubmit the documents today. Cost expectation was 20% more than initially planned.

Reports:

Council report: Discussed the upcoming congregational meeting. The PPP loan is expected to be forgiven and become a grant. Discussed the reopening in detail. Pastor Doris is on medical leave due to Chemo treatments so Pastor Andrea is "holding down the fort" with other staff members at the church. Financial and stewardship reports were given. There is an eagle scout project in Tempe to paint a mural on a wall there.

Pastor report: Andrea's report focused on the upcoming church reopening plans. Also discussed the upcoming congregational meeting including the elections. The meeting will be virtual. After 18 months of searching for an associate pastor, the call committee has recommended a candidate. Andrea has officiated several funerals and knows that the congregation struggles to grieve for those losses as they have not been able to attend those services.

Finance report: DCLC has had a change with the staff accountant. Giving is the issue that is front-and-center and we are currently in a downward trend with giving. We were blessed to have received the PPP funds (\$165,000). Givings have been lower than usual. DCLC was short \$40,000 just in the month of September. We are now short \$127,000. We have not "spent" some funds due to limited programs and utilities so payroll is the main expense. We have been committed to maintaining the payroll and it is time to consider utilizing the PPP funds for operational costs to support payroll. There is currently a recommendation going to council for this. October giving level expected to continue to be low. Even with PPP funds, it is very possible that our funds will be short even more as the year goes on. Budgeting is done for expenses but relies on giving. Commitment weekend is October 24/25.

Committee reports: Angela received one report from Susan regarding the landscaping. The wind has affected some trees and they had to be taken care of.

Congregational Meeting: October 24 at 4:00 by ZOOM. New members for Gilbert's Chamber will be elected, including 1. Education and 2. Mission & Outreach. Usually the new members take over in May but this will happen in November this year. Outgoing, incoming, and continuing members should all attend the November Chamber meeting. Laura Krizan and Angie Stone will be leaving the Gilbert Chamber.

Update from Doug about tenants in Gilbert who are paying rent: Doug has been talking with them about starting to pay rent again (preschool and Dogs for Vets). The Korean church has been paying rent throughout the pandemic.

Closing:

Prayer Concerns: Update on Peyton (10). She had 2 of 3 surgeries at St. Jude's in Tennessee but at a pre-surgery check-up before the third surgery she had a brain scan and it was found that the cancer has spread to her brain. She has since flown home and is undergoing an experimental treatment (an adult dose and not for her kind of cancer). Prayers for Pastor Doris. She is currently on medical leave due to side effects from cancer treatments. Prayers for Paul Gryniewicz. In the hospital for congestive heart failure. Dealing with infections and assorted kidney liver issues. Visiting heart hospital next week. Came home today.

Closing Prayer: Lord's Prayer

Adjournment: Adjourned at 8:50

Distribution:

Council:

Patrick Jennett
Angela Nannenga

Chamber:

Nancy Zine
John Hughes
Angie Stone
Laura Krizan
Deb Christensen
Susan Johnston
Kelly Kaiser Borning

Pastors:

Andrea Cain
Doris Nolan

Staff:

Maegan Jennett
Michael Lottes
Doug Bjotvedt