

**MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES DECEMBER 20, 2022, 7:00 PM**

**2022 Elected Church Council Members:** Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Brian Fisher (Endowment Committee), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), Susan Prosser (Property), Rebecca Riley (President, Personnel Committee), Bill Stoll (Secretary, Learning), Evonne Kuchera (Care Team), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President, Service & Missions), Jim Dinges (Adult Education), Kristine Dawson (Fellowship & Welcome), Rick Gardner (Budget & Finance)

**Executive Committee:** Becky Riley (President), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President), Bill Stoll (Secretary), Rick Gardner (Treasurer)

**Representatives:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
~~Collin Edwards / Sophia Valencia – Youth Group~~

**Call to order:** The meeting was held virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by President Becky Riley

**Council Members Present:** Barbara Cranfill, Brian Fisher, Kevin Churchill, Allison Johnson, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Evonne Kuchera, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, Kristine Dawson, Rick Gardner, Susan Prosser

**Representatives Present:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center

**Staff Members Present:** Pastor Julie Morris; Joe Zimmerly

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half)

Number of council members' present: 12 of 12

Number of voting representatives present: 1

**Devotions:** Tom Neuhaus – “Christmas reminds us that God works in unexpected ways”

**Caring Conversation:** As Christmas approaches, what is it for which you are the most grateful?

**Approval of Minutes for** November 22, 2022; **Motion to approve the minutes** made by Rick; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Evonne. **The minutes are approved.**

**Information:** Status of Reconciled in Christ program committee - Bill Stoll: Planning a short temple talk on Jan. 8, involvement in Leadership Retreat on Feb. 11, and educational forums starting in March.

**Action:** Consider the request from Joan Brundage to add people to the Vanco account. **Motion** to Table made by Bill; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom; **Tabled.**

**Reports:** Reports from Staff, Pastor Julie, Joe Zimmerly; Written reports from Pastor Julie, Joe Zimmerly; see below. Annual reports need submitting by January 18; Need technical help; Need Thrivent action teams- contact Joe

**Reports:** Treasurer's Report – 12/20/2022

**Budget Performance (through November 2022):**

Gross income for November was \$36,600 (99% of budget versus 122% last month).  
YTD gross income was \$426,977 (105% of budget versus 106% last month).  
Pledged giving for November was \$25,769 (100% of budget versus 105% last month).  
Pledged giving YTD was \$308,211 (109% of budget versus 109% last month).  
Expenses for November were \$43,049 (105% of budget versus 97% last month).  
Expenses YTD were \$457,122 (102% of budget versus 101% last month).  
Net income for November was \$36,600 - \$43,049 = -\$6,449 (compared to budget amount of - \$3,994).  
Net income YTD was \$426,977 - \$457,122 = -\$30,145 (compared to budget amount of - \$43,933).  
Calculated reserves in November were \$135,736 compared to \$142,310 in October.

**Analysis:**

1. The financials were down in November. Income was about as expected, but expenditures were higher than budgeted, primarily due to \$3,000 in incorporation costs provided to CDC.
2. Net income was below budget. Reserves were down over \$6,000 for the month and \$30,000 for the year. Despite this, reserves continue to be in the healthy range above \$100,000.
3. Designated funds are up significantly including a grant for sanctuary stucco/tile improvements from the Endowment Fund, and giving for senior adult ministry, caring, family faith formation, and other programs.

Respectfully,  
Rick Gardner  
Treasurer

**Reports:** Message from the Synod & Bishop Bos—Allison Johnson: Bishop sends greetings; Discussed what it means to be a Lutheran in SoCal.

**Reports:** Committee Liaisons

**Care:** Evonne - Advent calendars have gone out; planning more teaching seminars in 2023

**Property:** Susan – planning parking lot work; replaced sanctuary lighting.

**CDC Update:** Wendy McClary; Excitement for Christmas sing-along

**Senior Ministry:** Susan - Nice Advent service was held; Looking at goals for 2023

**Reports:** Listening Post: What is status of emergency preparedness?

**Information:** Discuss proposed budget with Executive Session

**Motion** by to extend to 9:30 by Bill; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom; **Passed**

**Motion** to move to executive session by Tom; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian; **Passed**; Pastor offered a prayer before leaving.

**Motion** by Bill to extend to 9:40; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom; **Passed**

**Information:** [Note assignments for Devotions and Listening Post](#)

**Information:** Next meeting date – January 17, 7:00 pm [on Zoom?](#);

**Information:** Executive Committee meeting January 5 at 7:00 [Zoom](#)

**For the Good of the Order:**

**Motion to adjourn** was made by at 9:40; 2<sup>nd</sup> by. **Motion passed.**  
 Adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer at 9:40 PM.

**Looking ahead:**

**Next Executive Committee meeting: January 5, 2023 7:00 p.m. Zoom**

**Next Council Meeting: January 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Zoom**

<b>* DEVOTIONS</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
Bill	Becky	Susan	Bill
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Kevin	Allison	Brian	Kristine
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Barbara	Evonne	Tom	Jim
<b>** COUNCIL LISTENING POST (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Brian	Becky	Susan	Allison
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Wendy	Bill	Kristine	Evonne

**Pastor’s Report for the December 2022 Church Council Meeting**

It’s been a busy month at Mount Cross as we prepare for Christmas.

- We gathered on Wednesday, November 23 for the Thanksgiving Eve Holden Evening Prayer Service and Pie Social.
- I’m pleased that the Advent Theme, “What Can’t Wait?” has generated good conversations among church members and been a helpful question for people to ponder.
- Sermons  
 Nov. 27, Advent 1: “The Daily Grind”  
 Dec. 4, Advent 2: “Welcome to the Water, Welcome to the Table”  
 Dec. 11, Advent 3: “Not the Whole Enchilada, but Plenty of Joy”  
 Dec. 18, Advent 4: “And They Said Yes”
- Many thanks to Carol Browning and Joe Zimmerly for directing our *Jesse Tree* program on December 11, and for all those who helped and participated. It was a lovely preparation for Christmas, as well as a good showcase for our Music Ministry.
- The new adult education offering, “ROOTED”, on Wednesday evenings, that I experimented with in the fall has had good attendance and positive energy, so I will continue it in the second half of our program year.
- In addition to responding to pastoral care needs in the congregation, I presided at a funeral for a community member at Ivy Lawn and provided grief support to the family.

I anticipate joyful celebrations of Christ’s birth at our Christmas Eve (12/24 at 5 p.m.) and Christmas Day (12/25 at 9:30 a.m.) services.

Thank you to all who so generously sign-up or answer the call to serve as worship assistants, technology helpers, or hospitality providers throughout the year!

I will be away the afternoon of December 25 – January 4. Deacon Cecelia will be away through January 1. Evonne Kuchera and Susan Prosser have graciously agreed to be on-call to receive any emergency pastoral care requests. They will then contact Pastor Lynn Enloe or The Rev. Kate Lewis to respond, as needed.

I was asked to lead the pre-ordination retreat for new priests in the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles January 10-12 and preach at their ordination January 14 at the Cathedral of St John in LA. I will be away from Mount Cross that week, although accessible by phone and email. I will be here for Sunday worship on January 15, but Deacon Cecelia will preach.

Thank you, Church Council, for all your work and all your prayers for our congregation throughout the year. God bless you! Please submit your annual reports and/or have your committees submit their reports no later than Wednesday, January 18. Our annual meeting is Sunday, January 29.

### **Joe Zimmerly - December 2022 - Council Report**

In November, we hosted our third annual Advent Wreath Making Event with St. Columba's. We were able to switch to reusable wreaths for the same price as styrofoam wreaths, which we used previously. We look forward to hosting this event once again next year.

This month we were able to host our annual Advent/Christmas Program. There were 10 generations represented in the program! This year, Mia Fernandez and Jeffrey Saner were our Co-Directors and did a fantastic job recruiting and organizing the kids. With joy around, it was a great way to celebrate the season.

Our last night of Wednesday programs was December 14th. Our kids were able to celebrate by decorating Christmas cookies. The middle school youth went Christmas Caroling to some of our older members in the congregation. Afterwards, Pastor Julie treated the kids to Rolling Pin Donuts, a favorite tradition at Mount Cross.

### **MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES NOVEMBER 22, 2022, 7:00 PM**

**2022 Elected Church Council Members:** Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Brian Fisher (Endowment Committee), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), ~~Susan Prosser~~ (Property), Rebecca Riley (President, Personnel Committee), Bill Stoll (Secretary, Learning), Evonne Kuchera (Care Team), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President, Service & Missions), Jim Dinges (Adult Education), Kristine Dawson (Fellowship & Welcome), Rick Gardner (Budget & Finance)

**Executive Committee:** Becky Riley (President), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President), Bill Stoll (Secretary), Rick Gardner (Treasurer)

**Representatives:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
~~Collin Edwards / Sophia Valencia – Youth Group~~

**Call to order:** The meeting was held virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by President Becky Riley

**Council Members Present:** Barbara Cranfill, Brian Fisher, Kevin Churchill, Allison Johnson, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Evonne Kuchera, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, Kristine Dawson, Rick Gardner,

**Representatives Present:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center; Keith Selbrede (Budget & Finance)

**Staff Members Present:** Pastor Julie Morris; Joe Zimmerly

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half)

Number of council members' present: 11 of 12

Number of voting representatives present: 1

**Devotions:** Evonne Kuchera – Prayer for Guidance

**Caring Conversation:** When you think back on your life, who is the person whom you believe has had the most impact and why?

**Approval of Minutes for** October 18, 2022; **Motion to approve the minutes** made by Allison; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian. **The minutes are approved.**

**Action:** Consider the request from Joan Brundage to add people to the Vanco account. **Tabled**

**Information:** Status of Budget Requests turned in—Rick Gardner – All in and populated

**Information:** Status of Reconciled in Christ program committee - Bill Stoll – RIC informational booklets in the Narthex and on the kiosk.

**Information:** Property Committee action - Bill moves to approve \$8050 from designated funds for parking lot work to be done after Christmas; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian; **Passed**

**Reports:** Reports from Staff, Pastor Julie, Joe Zimmerly; Written reports from Pastor Julie, Joe Zimmerly; see below.

**Reports:** Treasurer's Report – 11/22/2022

Budget Performance (through October 2022):

Gross income for October was \$44,849 (122% of budget versus 89% last month).

YTD gross income was \$390,377 (106% of budget versus 104% last month).

Pledged giving for October was \$27,098 (105% of budget versus 87% last month).

Pledged giving YTD was \$282,442 (109% of budget versus 110% last month).

Expenses for October were \$39,820 (97% of budget versus 103% last month).

Expenses YTD were \$413,847 (101% of budget versus 102% last month).

Net income for October was \$44,849 - \$39,820 = \$5,029 (compared to budget amount of - \$3,994).

Net income YTD was \$390,377 - \$413,847 = -\$23,470 (compared to budget amount of - \$39,939).

Calculated reserves in October were \$142,310 compared to \$135,279 in September.

Analysis:

4. The financials were much better in October. Gross income for the month was well above budget, due in large part to a generous gift from a church member. Pledged giving was also above budget. Expenditures were below budget for the month. Net income was \$9,000 over budget.
5. Reserves experienced a major rebound in October. Reserves continue to be in the healthy range although they are down about \$24K for the year.

Respectfully,  
Rick Gardner  
Treasurer

**Reports:** Committee Liaisons

**Care:** Cards for holidays; Red Cross will present in early 2023 re: fire safety in homes

**Worship & Music:** Allison – **moves to remove the platform behind the altar however property committee wants to do it.** 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill- **Passed**; Committee wants to make it a priority that a sanctuary design committee be formed.

**Fellowship:** Pie Social

**CDC Update:** Wendy McClary; December 15 CDC singalong; Enrollment is equal to last year. If licensing allows, will lower age to 2 years to increase enrollment; Kelly retiring as treasurer; Director wrote a letter to allay concerns regarding CDC leaving Mount Cross. Wording from bylaws would make it quite difficult.

**Reports:** Listening Post: cold in back of church (close doors or blankets?); keep members updated quarterly re: finances; Guest: enjoying our Mt. Cross, especially when choir sings

**Motion** by Kevin to extend to 9:30; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill; **Passed**

**Information:** Discuss proposed budget with Executive Session

**Information:** [Note assignments for Devotions and Listening Post](#)

**Information:** Next meeting date – December 20, 7:00 pm [on Zoom?](#);

**Information:** Executive Committee meeting December 1 at 7:00 [Zoom](#)

**For the Good of the Order:**

**Motion to adjourn** was made by Allison at 9:30; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rick. **Motion passed.**

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9:30 PM.

**Looking ahead:**

**Next Executive Committee meeting:** [December 1, 2022 7:00 p.m. Zoom](#)

**Next Council Meeting: December 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Zoom**

<b>* DEVOTIONS</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
Bill	Becky	Susan	Bill
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Kevin	Allison	Brian	Kristine
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Barbara	Evonne	Tom	Jim
<b>** COUNCIL LISTENING POST (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Brian	Becky	Susan	Allison
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Wendy	Bill	Kristine	Evonne

**Pastor’s Report for the November 2022 Church Council Meeting  
October 19-November 22**

Since the last Council meeting, we have commended our beloved church member, Marion Cole, to the arms of God, celebrated Reformation Sunday, honored all the saints and all Mount Cross members who have died this past year, and welcomed new members through Holy Baptism, Affirmation of Baptism, and transfer of membership. My ministry this month has centered around pastoral care and preparation for these services, as well as regular Sunday worship, ongoing faith formation programs, and administrative work.

As Thanksgiving Day approaches on Thursday, I give thanks to God for the collaborative and generous spirit that permeates the Mount Cross staff, Council, and general membership. The energy and joy at Mount Cross are noticed by newcomers. One frequent visitor to our Sunday worship recently said to me, “It feels like Easter here every Sunday.” That is good news, as every Sunday is meant to be a “little Easter.”

**Other Notes:**

- I completed most of my role on a committee working to develop regulations for licensing Lay Ministry in the Diocese of Los Angeles. I continue to work with the planning team for a day-long discernment gathering in the spring.
- I attended Ventura County Interfaith’s annual “Feast of Faiths” on October 23 and offered the prayer before the meal.
- Joe Zimmerly and I continue to alternate leading Preschool chapel services. The theme for October was “God Creates.” The theme for November is “God Provides.”
- It was a privilege to welcome Pastor Abel Arroyo Traverso, Assistant to the Bishop for Faith Formation for the Southwest California Synod, as our guest preacher on Reformation Sunday.
- I was away Nov. 7-14 and grateful to all those who filled in for me in various capacities. Pastor John Santoro preached and presided at Sunday worship on Nov. 13. Pastors Lynn Enloe, Bill Knutson, and Kate Lewis were graciously on-call for pastoral emergencies but, thankfully, were not needed.

Advent begins on Sunday. I hope members of the Church Council will be able to participate in as many of our seasonal offerings as possible.

- Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. for the 4 Sundays of Advent Nov. 27, December 4, 11, 18
- Sunday, November 27, 11:00 a.m. - Advent Wreath Making and Potluck at Mt. Cross with St. Columba's
- December 3, 8:30 a.m.-Noon - Work Day to spruce up the property for the season
- Sunday, December 4, 2:00 p.m. - Viewing the Film *Emanuel* at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Thousand Oaks. Carpool leaves Mount Cross at 1:15 p.m.
- December 11, 4:00 p.m. - Advent/Christmas Program for all ages, featuring our Youth and Music Ministry
- Sunday, December 18, after worship - Make sandwiches for Harbor House and trim the Mount Cross Christmas Tree
- Saturday, December 24, 5:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve service with Carols, Candles, and Communion
- Sunday, December 25, 9:30 a.m. - Christmas Sunday Worship
- Sunday, January 1, 9:30 a.m. - Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion
- Friday, January 6, 7:00 p.m. - Epiphany Star Service followed by a Dessert Potluck

I will be away December 26-January 4. The Rev. Kate Lewis, and Episcopal Priest and Director of Chaplain Services at St. John's hospitals in Oxnard and Camarillo, will preside at the Sunday service of Lessons and Carols on January 1.

### **Joe Zimmerly - October/November 2022 - Council Report**

October was a very special month here at Mount Cross. One day to point out specifically was October 23rd when we hosted our first ever Serving Sunday - Family Edition. This was when our youth and families volunteered to fill all the worship assistant positions. We had members of 9 different families participate in worship that day and even had some of our younger kids read! After worship, 35 people joined us at the pumpkin patch for our Play Date Sunday. The following week we hosted our second annual Trunk or Treat with over 200 people making their way through. We are so thankful for our partnership with the Mount Cross Child Development Center to put this event on where collectively we had 20 cars handing out candy from both the preschool and church. On Sunday October 30th, Martin Luther made a guest appearance for Reformation Sunday! Later that day our high school youth had a Halloween party at the Saner's house.

November has been a very busy month as well. Starting with our high school youth group fundraiser at Pizza Man Dan's raising over \$100 towards our summer youth trip. This year, we will be attending the Western States Youth Gathering at California Lutheran University with over 500+ youth from ELCA Regions 1-4. The theme is Revive, Reunite, Rejoice, grounded in Acts 2:1. On November 6th, we baptized 4 new members to the church while also remembering all the saints who have gone before us. During children's church, we even practiced baptizing toy babies so the kids could understand what they were about to see. As we finish up the month of November, we begin our practice for the Advent/Christmas

Program on December 11th. We have many kids of all ages ready to participate this year and I know they will do an amazing job. We thank you all for your continuous support for our youth here at Mount Cross.

### **Report from Property Chair**

**Mount Cross Lutheran Church  
Property Committee**



## **Recommendation to Church Council Regarding Parking Lot November 7, 2022**

Among the top five tasks from the Final Ad Hoc Committee Report is the maintenance of the church parking lot. As the Ad Hoc Committee recognized, sealing the paving is an item that cannot be delayed without risking more deterioration and ultimately higher repair costs. Over the last few weeks, the Property Committee has gathered and compared proposals from three paving companies for parking lot repairs. The Committee recommends accepting the proposal from Challenge Asphalt, Inc. Its proposal is the most forthright and the most reasonably priced after considering the scope of work and the suggested materials.

The contract amount is \$8,050.00. This can be funded using Designated Accounts numbered 35360 (Property Restricted) and 35364 (Patio and Grounds) and the Property Committee proposes to use those funds.

According to Challenge Asphalt, the work can be completed in about 30 days, weather permitting. Successful application of the sealer requires three or four dry sunny days before and after application.

Attached for reference are three quotations from Challenge Asphalt, Central Coast Paving and Western Asphalt.

Respectfully,

Mount Cross Property Committee

Craig Blois, Joan Brundage, Marilyn Gardner, Cy Johnson, Susan Prosser, Mark Saner and Amy Vega

Cy Johnson also reported via email:

- Sanctuary Stucco Repairs - At this point we have one preliminary estimate for the work in hand (\$14,750). That will probably go higher when it is finalized. Today another contractor pledged to email me his quote tomorrow. There is also a third very rough and wild estimate (20,000-30,000) from a plastering contractor who says the problem can be solved with special plater materials.
- Sanctuary Lighting - This seemed like a straightforward task, but new energy conservation requirements have made replacing the specialty bulbs in the existing lights a challenge. We have five varieties of bulbs in the ceiling. One is outright banned in California. Another is available from out-of-state distributors who might sell to an individual here. I am working with suppliers to make sure that suggested alternative bulbs will work. After working over a week to find the bulbs, this is becoming a real hair-puller.
- You have the recommendation from the Property Committee on the parking lot.
- Last spring we cleaned out the rectangular gutter behind the parapet wall above the walkway past the kitchen and restrooms. We noted then that the sheet metal gutter has deteriorated and at a few points is pin-holed. We decided to get volunteers to mop it with mastic as a short-term fix. The volunteers decided they did not have time. Now it is getting urgent and if I had foreseen how things would unfold I would have asked for this to be on the Ad Hoc list of tasks. So, I have sought a roofer to do the job, but none were interested in a small one. A handyman looked at it and recommended a full replacement of the sheet metal in the gutter (\$\$\$\$). Right now I am thinking of another try at leading a couple of volunteers to do the work. Keep this in mind because any patch we do will only be good for a couple of years.
- I will just add that getting contractors to bid these days and hold their bids is difficult. If we do not act on quotes as they become available, we will likely have to start the process over again for each project. This is worrisome to me given some indications that the budget is very tight. When will the fund raising begin for at least the top four projects in the Ad Hoc Report?

Blessings to you,  
*Cy*

Challenge Asphalt, Inc  
118 Nopalitos Way  
Santa Barbara, CA 93103  
805-969-2616  
info@challengeasphalt.com



## Proposal

**ADDRESS**  
Cy Johnson

**PROPOSAL #** 15062  
**DATE** 09/28/2022

**JOB ADDRESS**  
102 Camino Esplendido

**JOB CONTACT PHONE**  
479-4489

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Clean and prep surface - Pre-seal large cracks with Guard Top rubberized crack sealant - Apply one coat of Guard Top seal coat, brushed on, broom finish, stripe lines per existing	8,050.00

.....  
This proposal may be withdrawn by us if not accepted within 30 days.

**TOTAL**

**\$8,050.00**

To hereby to furnish material and labor complete in accordance with above specifications.

Payment to be made upon completion of work.  
Accounts that are past due 30 days, a 5% finance charge per month will be added to the balance.

All material is guaranteed to be as specified. All work will be completed in a workmanlike manner according to standard practices. Any alteration or deviation from above specifications, made by Challenge Asphalt or above customer, involving additional work or costs will be communicated via written notice before the work begins. Extra costs will be shown as an additional charge on the estimated price upon invoicing. Our workers are fully covered by Workers Compensation Insurance.

Accepted By

Accepted Date

**2022 Elected Church Council Members:** Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Brian Fisher (Endowment Committee), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), Susan Prosser (Property), Rebecca Riley (President, Personnel Committee), Bill Stoll (Secretary, Learning), Evonne Kuchera (Care Team), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President, Service & Missions), Jim Dinges (Adult Education), Kristine Dawson (Fellowship & Welcome), Rick Gardner (Budget & Finance)

**Executive Committee:** Becky Riley (President), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President), Bill Stoll (Secretary), Rick Gardner (Treasurer)

**Representatives:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
Collin Edwards / Sophia Valencia - Youth Group

**Call to order:** The meeting was held virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Vice President Tom Neuhaus

**Council Members Present:** Barbara Cranfill, Brian Fisher, Kevin Churchill, Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Evonne Kuchera, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, Kristine Dawson, Rick Gardner,

**Representatives Present:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center; Joan Brundage

**Staff Members Present:**

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half)

Number of council members' present: 10 of 12

Number of voting representatives present: 1

**Devotions:** Barbara Cranfill – Come with joyful song

**Caring Conversation:** Why are you a Christian? What difference has following Jesus made in your life?

**Approval of Minutes for** September 20, 2022; **Motion** to approve the minutes made by Yvonne; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brian. **The minutes are approved.**

**Action:** Consider the request from Joan Brundage to add people to the Vanco account. Vanco adds “tiles” for various church purposes (flowers, VBS, etc.) that can be utilized, but access needs to be given to other members. Motion by Bill to add Joe, Vicki, and Kris to the Vanco Account. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rick. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn until further information can be gathered.

**Action:** Approve a church potluck following the church service on January 29 followed by the annual meeting at noon to be in person. Motion to have a Council sponsored potluck following the service by Allison; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barbara; Passed

**Action:** Approve February 4 or 11 as the first 2023 meeting for the new Council and Leadership

Retreat. Discuss amending the employee handbook with regard to the specific dollar amount found under Health Insurance Reimbursement: "All "Exempt Employees," as defined above are eligible to receive **\$200 per month** to reimburse the employee for the cost of health insurance." Motion to have February 11 for the Leadership retreat and first council meeting. The intent is to meet at an outside location by Allison; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barbara; Motion passed

**Action:** Approve a date for Rally Day in February or March; Tabled

**Action:** Discuss amending the employee handbook with regard to the specific dollar amount found under Health Insurance Reimbursement: "All "Exempt Employees," as defined above are eligible to receive **\$200 per month** to reimburse the employee for the cost of health insurance." "A monthly amount to be determined annually by the council" Motion by Tom; Susan 2<sup>nd</sup>; Passed.

CDC requests for church to share in the cost of reorganization. Motion to rescind the cdc offer of 3000 for padding and use those funds to cover MC reimbursement of separation fee by Brian; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rick; Passed.

Motion to approve to receive new members on October 30 made by Bill; 2<sup>nd</sup> Tom; Passed.

**Information:** Volunteers for and Ad-Hoc Committee to meet and discuss Organizational Structure of Church Committees for presentation at the Leadership Retreat; Allison, Bill, Becky

**Information:** Potential Deacon Applicant Intern –Pastor Julie

**Information:** Status of Budget Requests turned in—Rick Gardner- going well

**Information:** Status of Reconciled in Christ program committee.-- Bill Stoll – Reformation Sunday

**Information:** Property Committee action -- Susan Prosser- Parking lot proposals; Status of old van (check engine light problem), smog test pass?; Gift with full transparency; Donate to charitable organization that has the capacity to tow the vehicle.

**Information:** Exploration of changing credit card company; investigating going with Chase

**Reports:** Reports from Staff, Pastor Julie, Joe Zimmerly,

Endowment – Motion by Endowment to spend 5911 on a tough shed; 9589 for appearance

enhancements to sanctuary. Passed

**Reports:** Treasurers Report – 10/18/2022

Budget Performance (through September 2022):

Gross income for September was \$32,715 (89% of budget versus 91% last month).

YTD gross income was \$345,528 (104% of budget versus 106% last month).

Pledged giving for September was \$22,555 (87% of budget versus 79% last month).

Pledged giving YTD was \$255,345 (110% of budget versus 113% last month).

Expenses for September were \$42,284 (103% of budget versus 104% last month).

Expenses YTD were \$373,840 (102% of budget versus 101% last month).

Net income for September was \$32,715 - \$42,284 = -\$9,569 (compared to budget amount of - \$3,994).

Net income YTD was \$345,528 - \$373,840 = -\$28,312 (compared to budget amount of - \$35,945).

Calculated reserves in September were \$135,279 compared to \$144,852 in August.

Analysis:

6. Pledged giving was well below budget, but somewhat higher than the previous month. Still, pledged giving year-to-date is 10% higher than budgeted.
7. Expenses were over budget for the month. The big expense items included: (1) a major one-time expense for the replacement of the air conditioning unit, (2) a three-paycheck month for the staff, and (3) music salaries above budget. This was offset somewhat by a refund on our insurance.
8. Reserves continued to decline but are still considered healthy. However, continued losses at the current pace will lower the reserves to an unhealthy level (below \$100,000) by April 2023. The trend line indicates that our reserves will be completely depleted by December 2024.

Respectfully,  
Rick Gardner  
Treasurer

Kevin moves to extend to 9:15; Tom 2nd

**Reports:** Committee Liaisons

Property : Discussions with roofers and moving to GCs & plasterers for sanctuary improvements;

Trying to move to LED lighting

Care: Continues serving & listening

Welcome: Julie held a welcome meeting- well attended

Worship & Music: discussed Advent & Christmas season (Blue Christmas service?); Piano from preschool moved to Parish Life; All infants & children are welcome at Communion

Stewardship: Packets on patio; still many not picked up; will be mailing them.

Tech: New computer in, sent back, will be in place soon.

Adult: Nothing new

Fellowship: Meeting next week

Senior Ministry: Thursday Chapel this Thursday; Wacky Mocktail Party coming up October 27

Motion Allison & Bill to extend to 9:30

**Reports:** CDC update Wendy McClary; nothing else to report

**Reports:** Listening Post: People seem to enjoy patio after church

**Information:** [Note assignments for Devotions and Listening Post](#)

**Information:** Next meeting date – November 22, 7:00 pm [In person or zoom?](#);

**Information:** Executive Committee meeting November 3 at 7:00 [zoom](#)

### For the Good of the Order:

A motion was made by to adjourn at; seconded by. **Motion passed.**

Adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer at 9:20 PM.

### Looking ahead:

**Next Executive Committee meeting:** [November 22, 2022 7:00 p.m. Zoom](#)

**Next Council Meeting:** [November 22, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Zoom](#)

<b>* DEVOTIONS</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
Bill	Becky	Susan	Bill
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Kevin	Allison	Brian	Kristine
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Barbara	Evonne	Tom	Jim
<b>** COUNCIL LISTENING POST (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Brian	Becky	Susan	Allison
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Wendy	Bill	Kristine	Evonne

### October Email Votes

**Action:** The Executive Committee moves to hire Melissa Henry as a Children & Youth Nursery Care Staff member per the attached job description.

Nursery Care Staff - Job Description

Nurturing and caring for our children is a value at Mount Cross Lutheran Church (the “Church”). This position will support the overarching goals of the Children, Youth and Family ministry and report to the Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries. Maintaining appropriate interpersonal boundaries and trust is of the utmost importance in this position. This includes making sure two or more adults are present in the nursery at all times.

Employee's Responsibilities and Areas of Focus :

- Nursery care staff will be working with children who range in age from three months to five years.
- The Nursery Care Staff position involves working on Sunday mornings and Wednesday late afternoons-evenings. Sunday hours typically start at 8:15 a.m. and end at 11:15a.m., but may change

depending on the Church service times. A schedule of work times will be posted in the office each Monday for the following work week (Monday-Sunday). Nursery Care Staff may need to work other days, but will be notified prior to the event(s). Questions regarding work hours should be directed to the Director of Youth and Family Ministries.

- Nursery Care Staff will work with the Children’s Ministry Assistant on a weekly basis inside the nursery. Nursery Care Staff must also be able to assist the Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries where needed, including assisting in keeping updated emergency medical release forms for children in the nursery.

- Nursery Care Staff are also responsible for setting up and putting away all materials used in the nursery to prepare for preschool use the following day. Nursery Care Staff should have reliable transportation for commuting to and from work and be able to do some light lifting and physical ability to play games with children. A background check through our Safe Gatherings training, including a fingerprint check with the Sheriff's Department, is a requirement of employment. Mount Cross will pay for both the background check and the fingerprinting process. Applicants should be capable of administering first aid and summoning assistance when necessary.

- Hours and Compensation: This is a non-exempt hourly position with a rate of pay of \$15.00 an hour . Employment by the Church is “at-will.” Nursery Care Staff must maintain a bi-weekly time sheet as provided for in the Church’s Employee Handbook.

Action: Executive Committee moves that Kris Dawson, Vicki Edel, & Joe Zimmerly each be given limited access to non-financial modules(s) of the Icon System Church Management Software.

### **Pastor’s Report and Deacon’s Report for September Church Council Meeting September 20, 2022 - October 18, 2022**

I will miss the October Council meeting, as I am attending *TheOasis*, the Professional Leaders Conference for the Southwest California and Pacifica Synods in LaQuinta, California. The theme is “Grief: Reflecting on Loss, Love, and Leadership.”

**Baptisms and New Members:** I request Council approval to receive the following new members on All Saints’ Sunday, November 6:

Elliot Ripley, Baptism

Laura Ripley, Affirmation of Baptism

Abigail Ripley, Baptism

Henry Ripley, Baptism

Emily Schweers, Baptism

Joan Erickson, Affirmation of Baptism

Brian, Amanda, and William Honda, by transfer from another ELCA congregation

Becky and Dave Gilberston, currently associate members, would like to become full members by transfer from another ELCA congregation

As we welcome new members on November 6, we will also remember those members who have joined the Communion of Saints, including Lucille Miley whose service was on October 6.

**Change of Role with Child Development Center:** The by-laws of the newly, separately incorporated CDC, require the Mount Cross Pastor or “designee” to be a voting member of their Board of Directors. In the past, the Pastor has served in an ex-officio role with voice but no vote.

**Adult Education:** Rooted, the new adult education offering on Wednesday evening is going well. It is a mid-week pause for parents of *Fun with Faith* children and others to stop, connect with each other, discuss scripture, and pray. All the other Bible studies continue to meet regularly, under lay leadership or my leadership. I am also teaching a 3-week class on Sundays October 16, 23, and 30 from 11-12 called *Following Jesus*.

**Ministry Intern Possibility:** I have been approached by a Luther Seminary student who is preparing to be an ELCA Deacon (Word and Service) with an emphasis on climate justice. He would like to do his required full-time six month internship (possibly beginning in August 2023) at Mount Cross in conjunction with the Abundant Table or another organization working on environmental issues. The total cost for the required stipend and fees is estimated at \$15,000 plus housing. The student has an impressive resume and would contribute a lot to Mount Cross, as well as learn a lot from us.

**Community Ministry:** I assisted with two funerals this month outside of Mount Cross.

**Regular Ministry:** All other congregational care, worship, and denominational responsibilities continue. I am grateful to be engaged in this ministry along with a wonderful staff and committed church members.

### **Joe Zimmerly -October 2022 Report**

October was a very special month here at Mount Cross. One day to point out specifically was October 23rd when we hosted our first ever Serving Sunday - Family Edition. This was when our youth and families volunteered to fill all the worship assistant positions. We had members of 9 different families participate in worship that day and even had some of our younger kids read! After worship, 35 people joined us at the pumpkin patch for our Play Date Sunday. The following week we hosted our second annual Trunk or Treat with over 200 people making their way through. We are so thankful for our partnership with the Mount Cross Child Development Center to put this event on where collectively we had 20 cars handing out candy from both the preschool and church. On Sunday October 30th, Martin Luther made a guest appearance for Reformation Sunday! Later that day our high school youth had a halloween party at the Saner's house

November has been a very busy month as well. Starting with our high school youth group fundraiser at Pizza Man Dan's raising over \$100 towards our summer youth trip. This year, we will be attending the Western States Youth Gathering at California Lutheran University with over 500+ youth from ELCA Regions 1-4. The theme is Revive, Reunite, Rejoice, grounded in Acts 2:1. On November 6th, we baptized 4 new members to the church while also remembering all the saints who have gone before us. During children's church, we even practiced baptizing toy babies so the kids could understand what they were about to see.

As we finish up the month of November, we begin our practice for the Advent/Christmas Program on December 11th. We have many kids of all ages ready to participate this year and I know they will do an amazing job. We thank you all for your continuous support for our youth here at Mount Cross.





On Oct 1, 2022, at 12:17 PM, Cy Johnson wrote:

Good afternoon All,

To keep you informed, I have a few updates to share.

- The new CDC shed in the playground is mostly complete but has some rough edges. Amy Vega has conveyed her concerns to the contractor. I am particularly interested in how or if the shed is anchored to the slab. When I looked Thursday the shed was resting on sleepers (pieces of wood) on the slab and there were no anchors to hold it in place. Today there is a skirt installed around the base and any anchors are concealed.
- We have two quotes on sealing and striping the parking lot and I have an appointment to meet another contractor Monday morning.
- There is no further word on when the dirt pile and surplus gravel needing to be removed from the parking lot. I've been speaking to Amy Vega and she is trying to work it out with her contractor.
- The two contractors holding plans for the sanctuary stucco repairs have not sent quotes yet. I will meet with one of them on site this Tuesday. I am still seeking a third qualified general contractor and I would welcome any referrals.
- The weed abatement on the slopes is complete (finally).
- Three portable air conditioners have been purchased by the CDC and have been in use for a few weeks. Although badly needed during the recent heat wave, we should recognize that these are inefficient machines and will cause a significant bump in the electric bill. On the other hand, the new office air conditioner should be more efficient than the old one.
- I have an appointment on October 10 with an electrician to discuss the sanctuary lighting and dimmers. I will continue to search for an electrician who can meet sooner. Any recommendations are welcome.

We have a substantial agenda for Thursday, Oct. 6th. Please review the attached draft and be generous with your comments.

*Peace,*  
*Cy*

**MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES SEPTEMBER 20, 2022, 7:00 PM**

**2022 Elected Church Council Members:** Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Brian Fisher (Endowment Committee), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), Susan Prosser (Property), Rebecca Riley (President, Personnel Committee), Bill Stoll (Secretary, Learning), Evonne Kuchera (Care Team), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President, Service & Missions), Jim Dinges (Adult Education), Kristine Dawson (Fellowship & Welcome), Rick Gardner (Budget & Finance)

**Executive Committee:** Becky Riley (President), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President), Bill Stoll (Secretary), Rick Gardner (Treasurer)

**Representatives:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
Collin Edwards / Sophia Valencia - Youth Group

**Call to order:** The meeting was held virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Vice President Tom Neuhaus

**Council Members Present:** Barbara Cranfill, Brian Fisher, Kevin Churchill, Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, ~~Rebecca Riley~~, Bill Stoll, ~~Evonne Kuchera~~, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, Kristine Dawson, Rick Gardner,

**Representatives Present:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center

**Staff Members Present:** Pastor Julie Morris, Joe Zimmerly

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half)

Number of council members' present: 10 of 12

Number of voting representatives present: 1

**Devotion:** Led by Kris Dawson – Do not judge / Do not argue with God

**Caring Conversation:** Back to School. September brings the traditional first day of school. What was one of your favorite years of school, and why?

**Approval of Minutes for** August 16, 2022; **Motion** to approve the minutes made by Brian; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rick. **The minutes are approved as amended.**

**Action:** To facilitate communication between the Property Committee and CDC, the Executive Committee **moves** to adopt a resolution inviting a representative of the CDC Board to serve as a non-voting member of the Property Committee. **Passed.**

**Action: Motion** from Property Committee to approve janitorial contract. **Passed**

**Information:** Status of new computer purchase – Kevin Churchill; Computer arrived last Sunday. Allows a higher quality feed. Faster and easier to switch cameras.

**Information:** Update re: VENMO account – Joe; Working great. Many using it on Wednesday night dinner. At some point we may want to have a “how to” seminar.

**Information:** Update on status of van donation and van sale – Susan Prosser & Rick Gardner; Looking to donate the old van to a homeless person. **Motion** by Brian to direct the property committee to remove Mount Cross labeling from the side of the van and proceed with the donation. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kevin. **Passed**

**Information:** Update re: 2023 Budget process - Rick Gardner; Introduced budget assignment form & instructions which will be provided to committee chairs. Due on 10/31.

**Information:** Update on Property Committee action re: church stucco and Ad Hoc Committee status - Susan Prosser; Property beginning to tackle Ad Hoc projects (stucco & painting, roofing; Prefer tile to re-stucco). Need to get roofing bids and prep bids. Also thinking about costs for paving and technical elements in sanctuary.

**Information:** Request to open discussion re: organization of Committees and Volunteers - Allison Johnson; We need to do something different in engaging our members in volunteering for committees. We also need to make sure our volunteers are contacted and encouraged.

**Information:** Update regarding the need for Joe Zimmerly Health Insurance in 2023 – Tom Neuhaus

### **Staff Reports**

Written reports from Staff, Pastor Julie, Joe Zimmerly; see below

Pastor Julie – Guy hopes to be back in October but may be too soon. Masks are now optional. Can we set the annual meeting for January 29? Bill moves Allison 2nds **Passed**.

Joe – Tomorrow from 5-6:30 be part of Pastor Julie’s adult group and Bible study. Need to hire another Wednesday night childcare person through e-vote.

**Motion** by Bill to extend the meeting to 9:15. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Susan. **Passed**

### **Reports: Treasurer’s Report – 9/20/2022**

Budget Performance (through August 2022):

Gross income for August was \$33,382 (91% of budget versus 102% last month).

YTD gross income was \$312,813 (106% of budget versus 108% last month).

Pledged giving for August was \$20,400 (79% of budget versus 115% last month).

Pledged giving YTD was \$232,790 (113% of budget versus 118% last month).

Expenses for August were \$42,413 (104% of budget versus 108% last month).

Expenses YTD were \$331,553 (101% of budget versus 101% last month).

Net income for August was \$33,382 - \$42,413 = -\$9,031 (compared to budget amount of -

\$3,994).

Net income YTD was \$312,813 - \$331,553 = -\$18,740 (compared to budget amount of - \$31,951).

Calculated reserves in August were \$144,827 compared to \$154,262 in July.

Analysis:

Pledged giving plummeted to a monthly low, even lower than February. This may be due to a summer swoon that the previous Treasurer had warned me about. Still, pledged giving year-to-date is 13% higher than budgeted.

Expenses were somewhat over budget for the month, mostly due to one-time expenses for the synod convention.

Reserves continued to decline, more or less in accordance with projections. However, the reserves are still considered in the healthy range.

Respectfully,  
Rick Gardner  
Treasurer

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Worship & Music:** Allison - Suggestion box for music; Discussed ideas for Linda Franz memorial funds.

**SAM** – Susan; Proposing to take on one Monday/month for many meals. Karin Grennan will coordinate. Looking for cooks or people to provide food.

**RIC:** Bill – Committee members took part in RIC online training and will meet in October to plan next steps.

**FF:** Bill - Learning Committee changed its name to Family Faith Formation.

**Motion** to extend the meeting to 9:30 by Bill; 2nd by Barbara; **Passed**

**CDC:** Wendy – Thanks to property committee. Year has started well. New board additions are great. Incorporation is complete at a cost of \$7000. Can Council help with that? Will be discussed at Executive Committee.

**Property:** Susan - people concerned about gravel in parking lot – due to COVID; Changing bulbs in sanctuary to LED.

**Information:** [Note assignments for Devotions and Listening Post](#)

**Information:** Next meeting date – Oct. 18, 7:00 pm on [zoom](#); October meeting on [Zoom](#);

November meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, November 22

**Information:** Executive Committee meeting October 6 at 7:00 on zoom

**For the Good of the Order:**

A motion was made by Brian to adjourn at 9:30; seconded by Allison. **Motion passed.**

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9: PM.

**Looking ahead:**

**Next Executive Committee meeting: October 6, 2022 7:00 p.m. Zoom**

**Next Council Meeting: October 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Zoom**

<b>* DEVOTIONS</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
Bill	Becky	Susan	Bill
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Kevin	Allison	Brian	Kristine
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Barbara	Evonne	Tom	Jim
<b>** COUNCIL LISTENING POST (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Brian	Becky	Susan	Allison
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Wendy	Bill	Kristine	Evonne

**Pastor's Report and Deacon's Report for September Church Council Meeting  
August 16, 2022 – September 20, 2022**

Our wonderful and joyful worship in the park and picnic officially concluded summer at Mount Cross. Thank you to all Council members who made invitation calls to church members and friends listed in our directory, and thank you to all who helped make the event happen. It was a beautiful Camarillo day, and the majestic Shamel Ash tree made a lovely canopy over our altar.

Our Fall programs resumed the week of September 12. In addition to our CYFM programs (see Joe Zimmerly's report), and our 3 Bible studies (Tuesday morning Women's; Wednesday evening all; and 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Men's), we are experimenting with a new program I am calling "ROOTED" for parents of Fun with Faith children and all interested adults. The first week was off to a good start.

On August 17, I attended a *Faithful Innovation* webinar hosted by Luther Seminary called "Getting Clear on the Why of Your Church." Churches across the country are facing existential questions about survival. In the face of tremendous cultural change regarding church affiliation and attendance (exacerbated by the pandemic) congregations need to do a lot of soul-searching about our core purpose. We were encouraged to start conversations in our congregation about why we are Christians and what difference

it has made in our lives to be followers of Jesus. Being disciples of Jesus and helping others to become disciples of Jesus is our why. Wanting to lead by example, I used the September newsletter to share a little bit about why I am a Christian and what difference it makes to me. Here is an excerpt of what I wrote:

*I am a Christian because Jesus invited me into his open, gentle, and humble heart offering rest, grace, guidance, strength, and a deeply meaningful life. He was and continues to be true to his word. As I follow Jesus, I notice my own heart expands. I care more for others; I want all people to experience belonging and love; I appreciate the beauty of the earth and the wonder of life; my priorities become clear; I recognize the world's empty promises; I find friends and companions with whom I can share burdens and joys; and I can face risk, suffering, evil, and death through the lens of the cross, trusting in the ultimate victory of goodness and life. Although I doubt I'll get beyond beginner status, I aspire to embody Jesus' way of self-giving, down-to-earth love and service wherever I find myself. Knowing Jesus has led me to encounters with the most wonderful people, from living Christian saints to holy men and women of other faiths. I have learned that God-shaped people and places are full of gratitude, generosity, compassion, justice, and joy. I want to be around them forever.*

I hope you, as Church Council members, will practice answering the questions: Why are you a Christian? What difference has following Jesus made in your life?

I continue with Sunday worship and preaching, pastoral care, committee work, staff supervision, and collaboration with the Child Development Center. It was great to return to preschool chapel this week. My service to both the Southwest California Synod and the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles will increase this year. For the synod, I will continue mentoring a candidate for the diaconate and will also take on supervising a candidate for Word and Sacrament. For the diocese, I am helping to create a system for licensing lay leaders and will be part of the planning team for two discernment gatherings in the spring for Episcopalians interested in serving in lay or ordained leadership roles.

Life and ministry feel very full. Some days I wonder how it all gets done. Some days it does not all get done, but the grace of Christ always charts the course and fills in the gaps. Thanks be to God!

Below is a report from Deacon Cecelia Travick Jackson as she comes close to her one year anniversary serving with us. She is also on staff for the synod. Talk about a full plate! God bless Deacon Cecelia.

## Report Church Council (Excerpts from) ELCA CONSTITUTION As of April 2022

### MINISTRY OF WORD AND SERVICE

*7.54.01. Ministers of Word and Service shall be known as deacons.  
7.61.02. Responsibilities. Consistent with the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, every minister of Word and Service shall: a. be rooted in the Word of God, for proclamation and service; b. advocate a prophetic diakonia that commits itself to risk-taking and innovative service on the frontiers of the Church's outreach, giving particular attention to the suffering places in God's*

*world; c. speak publicly to the world in solidarity with the poor and oppressed, calling for justice and proclaiming God's love for the world, witnessing to the realm of God in the community, the nation, and abroad;...*

Ministers of Word and Service are relatively new to the ELCA; therefore, it is good to be reminded of what a deacon is and their call to service. I have the pleasure of walking and serving in these worlds. It is especially gratifying to experience the connection and interconnectedness of these worlds. I serve in my local church (Mount Cross), I serve in the Southwest California synod as an Assistant to the Bishop, I serve on the Board for California Lutheran Homes (St. John's Manor), Deacon formation committee for the Rostered Ministers' Gathering in 2023, and the Deacon Dialogues book discussion group, and newly added, in October I will bring a monthly worship service to one of our assisted living communities in Camarillo and I also provide pastoral and spiritual guidance to this same residential home. In each of these groups and gatherings I speak publicly and boldly of adult senior citizens and their gifts especially the gifts that through God's Grace only age and experience can bring. I will break down each of these areas and my contributions since my ordination on December 12, 2021.

### **Mount Cross**

**What this report will not include is time spent on sermon preparation, reading, phone calls to congregation members, e-mails, texts, other work-related correspondence.**

**The following are recurring meetings and responsibilities**

- **Weekly Staff Meetings**
- **Weekly Meetings with Pastor Julie for Pastoral care and counseling**
- **Attend Monthly Care team meetings**
- **Attend Monthly Mary Circle Bible Study**
- **Monthly Submission to the Grapevine**
- **Chair Monthly Senior Adult Ministry Committee Meetings**
- **Preside and Preach Monthly Chapel Service**
- **Assist in Sunday Worship Service**
- **Assist Sunday Drive Through Communion**
- **Contact person when Pastor Julie is away**
- **Preach at Mount Cross three times a year**



Following are the tasks related to Diaconal Ministry  
**December 2021**

<b>Mount Cross</b>	<b>Synod</b>	<b>ELCA</b>	<b>Wider Community</b>
12/15-Bible Study and Dinner	12/15-Synod Executive Council		
12/18-Hanging of the Green	12/21-Budget and Finance Committee		
12/19-Christmas Concert			
12/23-Tech rehearsal for New Hope Lutheran			
12/24 Two Christmas Eve Services			
12/26-Guest Preacher-New Hope			
12/30-Funeral			

**January 2022**

<b>Mount Cross</b>	<b>Synod</b>	<b>ELCA</b>	<b>Wider Community</b>
1/6 – Take down Christmas decorations from church	1/4- Planning for Policy & Governance meeting	1/4 -Practice Epiphany for Deacons	1/2-Pastoral call to grieving family in the community
1/9 – Attend new member class	1/5 – Policy and Governance meeting	1/6 – Deacons Epiphany Worship Service	

1/9—Cemetery interment for Mount Cross member	1/14-Policy and Governance meeting		
1/30-Annual meeting	1/18-Budget and Finance meeting		
	1/19-Meeting with Bishop Brenda		
	1/20- Mutual Ministry meeting		
	1/21-Pre-nominating committee meeting		
	1/25-Budget and Finance meeting		
	1/29-Synod Council meeting		

**February 2022**

<b>Mount Cross</b>	<b>Synod</b>	<b>ELCA</b>	<b>Wider Community</b>
2/18- made 3 home communion visits	2/2 Meeting with Bishop Brenda		2/20-pastoral care visit to person just released from hospital
2/26 Funeral for Mount Cross member	2/3 Mutual Ministry		

	2/4, 2/5, 2/9 – Policy and Governance		
	2/7- Meeting with Pastor Toni		
	2/16-Executive Council		

**March 2022**

<b>Mount Cross</b>	<b>Synod</b>	<b>ELCA</b>	<b>Wider Community</b>
3/2- Ash Wednesday service	3/8- Executive Council	3/24- 3/27 Deacon Bridge (formation) Event	
3/4- Funeral for Mount Cross Member	3/9-Mutual Ministry		
3/5-Funeral for Mount Cross Member	3/9-Lenten Service		
3/13-Pastoral care meeting with member of the congregation	3/10-Mutual Ministry Meeting		
3/16-Lenten Service	3/11- Nominating Committee		
3/30-Lenten Service	3/15-Policy and Governance		
	3/19-Council meeting		
	3/30-Meeting with Pastor Toni		

**April 2022**

<b>Mount Cross</b>	<b>Synod</b>	<b>ELCA</b>	<b>Wider Community</b>
4/6-Lenten Service	4/5-Executive Council		
4/7-Channel Island Colloquy	4/12-Meeting with Bishop		
4/9-Help decorate church for Palm Sunday			
4/12-Christm Mass			
4/14 Maundy Thursday Service at St Columba's followed by planning meeting for Good Friday and Holy Saturday			
4/15-Stations of the Cross-St. Columba's			
4/15 Tenebrae service at Mount Cross			
4/16- Great Vigil of Easter-St Columba's			
4/28-Channel Islands			

Conference Assembly			
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**May 2022**

<b>Mount Cross</b>	<b>Synod</b>	<b>ELCA</b>	<b>Wider Community</b>
5/2 Bishop's Colloquy	5/17 Candidacy Cultivation Experience	5/18 Ministers of Word and Service- A Time to Gather	5/16 – 5/20 Festival of Homiletics
5/3 First Call Theological Education	5/25-Synod Assembly Logistics Meeting		
5/4 Channel Island Colloquy			
5/7 Funeral for Mount Cross member	5/31-Have sample sermon completed for Synod Assembly		
5/9 Liturgical Ministry Training			
5/14 Pastoral care Assisted Living Visit			
5/14 Pastoral care Home Visit- Communion			
5/16-5/20-Festival of Homiletics			
5/18- Pastoral Care Assisted Living Visit			
5/22-Confirmation Sunday			

**June 2022**

<b>Mount Cross</b>	<b>Synod</b>	ELCA	Wider Community
6/2 Active Shooter training	6/2 Channel Islands		
6/5-End of Life Issues- Grief	Conference Assembly		
6/7-Pastoral Care hospital visit	6/10 Boundaries Workshop		
6/16-Pastoral Care home communion visit	6/11 Synod Assembly		
6/24-Funeral for Mount Cross member	6/12 Visitation to Simi Valley Lutheran Church		
	6/14 First Call Theological Education		
	6/21 Meeting with Pastor Jaeger		
	6/22 Meeting with the Bishop		
	6/23 Meeting with Pastor Abel		
	6/23 The Haven Stillpoint Religious Presentation		

	6/30 First Call Theological Education- Afternoon Tea		
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**July 2022**

<b>Mount Cross</b>	<b>Synod</b>	<b>ELCA</b>	<b>Wider Community</b>
7/18-Pastoral Care hospital visit	7/1-Zoom tutorial with Claudia		
7/24-End of Life Issues-Palliative and Hospice Care	7/3-St. Luke Lutheran Church (Woodland Hills)		
7/25-Pastoral Care Home Communion Visit	7/6- Meeting with Pastor Abel		
7/28-Adult Senior Dinner and Social	7/8-Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church Bellflower		
	7/20-Meeting with Bishop Brenda		
	7/27- Meeting with Pastor Abel		

**August 2022**

<b>Mount Cross</b>	<b>Synod</b>	<b>ELCA</b>	<b>Wider Community</b>
8/8-8/12- VBS with therapy dog Sunshine	8/3-Meeting with Rev Danielle and Pastor Abel	8/25-Elected to the board of California Lutheran Homes-St John's Manor	
8/13-Pastoral Care visit with congregation member	8/7-St Matthew Lutheran Church North Hollywood		
8/27-Funeral for Congregation Member	8/17 Meeting with Pastor Javier and Pastor Abel		
8/29- 30 First Call Theological Education	8/19-Synod Deacon Gathering event		
	8/20-Synod Council Retreat		
	8/31 Meeting with Pastor Javier and Pastor Abel		

**September 2022**

<b>Mount Cross</b>	<b>Synod</b>	<b>ELCA</b>	<b>Wider Community</b>
9/6- Meeting with local care facility	9/1-Pandemic Pastoring Webinar	9/8- Deacon Pre-Gathering to Rostered Ministers Gathering	
9/11-Channel Islands Fall Conference Assembly	9/21-(scheduled)	9/27-(scheduled) All Region Ministers	



<p>9/13 In-person meeting with local care facility</p> <p>9/13 Pastor care and home communion visit with congregation member</p> <p><i>The remainder of September has yet to be scheduled</i></p>	<p>Meeting with Bishop Brenda</p> <p>9/21- (scheduled) Meeting with Pastor Abel</p> <p>9/24- (scheduled) First presentation on Grief Series with Reverend Danielle</p> <p>9/29 (scheduled) Fe y Esperanza in South Gate</p>	<p>of Word and Service</p>	
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**Joe Zimmerly -September 2022 Report**

At the end of the summer, our middle school girls' camped out in Fillmore. They stayed at a beautiful house overlooking all of Fillmore. The night started with setting up tents and transitioned into a wonderful dinner cooked by Jessica and Joe. We are thankful for opportunities like this that bring our kids together.

In September, our programs restarted with an increase in attendance. We are experimenting with a new schedule as we try to meet the needs of the congregation, especially our families. We expect that there will be more changes along the way as the year continues. The schedule for the night is shown below. All are welcome!

- Fun With Faith / 5:00PM-5:45PM
- Rooted / 5:00PM-5:45PM
- Adult Bible Study / 5:00PM-5:45PM
- Dinner / 5:45PM-6:15PM
- Confirmation / 6:15PM-7:30PM

Another change to our programs is with our confirmation program using “playlists” for the year. As explained by John Roberto of Lifelong Faith, “the idea of a playlist is simple: it is a sequence of activities and resources on a topic designed for individual and/or small group learning, usually available on a digital form. Playlists make faith formation available at any time. They are a way to personalize faith formation around the needs and interests of each life stage and the diversity of people’s spiritual and religious needs. Playlists make the learner of any age the center of faith formation, providing multiple ways to grow in faith. The responsibility for learning and growing in faith shifts from the provider to the person.” Stay tuned for updates of how it is working. Who knows, you might want to have a playlist for your Bible study group too!

The church picnic was full of joy and laughter this past Sunday, September 18th. It was a great place where families could gather with one another. After worship, you could find the kids playing on the playground or making flower crowns. I am so thankful to everyone who showed up and cannot wait until next year.

Our Venmo is set up and has already been in use for our Wednesday night meals. We received over \$300 in Venmo transactions the first week of our meal programs making it easy for families to attend dinner without having to look for cash or run to the bank. In fact, I heard before we had Venmo some families would not attend dinner because they didn’t have cash on them and didn’t want to ask for an “IOU”. I want to say thank you for meeting the needs of our families in this specific area.

**MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES AUGUST 16, 2022, 7:00 PM**

**2022 Elected Church Council Members:** Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Brian Fisher (Endowment Committee), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), Susan Prosser (Property), Rebecca Riley (President, Personnel Committee), Bill Stoll (Secretary, Learning), Evonne Kuchera (Care Team), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President, Service & Missions), Jim Dinges (Adult Education), Kristine Dawson (Fellowship & Welcome), Rick Gardner (Budget & Finance)

**Executive Committee:** Becky Riley (President), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President), Bill Stoll (Secretary), Rick Gardner (Treasurer)

**Representatives:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
Collin Edwards / Sophia Valencia - Youth Group

**Call to order:** The meeting was held virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by President Becky Riley

**Council Members Present:** Barbara Cranfill, Brian Fisher, Kevin Churchill, Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Evonne Kuchera, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, Kristine Dawson, Rick Gardner,

**Representatives Present:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
Collin Edwards – Youth Rep  
Lisa Saner – CDC President  
Amy Vega – CDC Director

**Staff Members Present:** Pastor Julie Morris, Joe Zimmerly

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half)

Number of council members' present 11 of 12

Number of voting representatives present 2

**Devotion:** Led by Becky on "Full Communion Relationships"

**Caring Conversation:** When you think of the coming year at Mount Cross, what would you most like to see happen?

**Approval of Minutes for July 19, 2022;** Motion to approve the minutes made by Yvonne; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rick. **The minutes were approved as amended.**

**Action:** Motion from Property Committee to approve replacement of sand in the playground and Power Point presentation by Amy Vega & Lisa Saner

**Action:** Presentation and Acceptance of the Ad Hoc Committee Report Bill Stoll & Susan Prosser; **Motion** by Kevin to approve the Ad Hoc Facilities Committee report as an advisory

document to be submitted to the Property Committee for further action; Second by Susan;  
**Motion Passed**

**Action:** Request from the Property Committee to refer the Ad Hoc Facilities Improvement Committee Final Report to the Property Committee for review, comment and estimates of costs for those projects -- Susan Prosser

**Motion:** Susan moved and Brian seconded that approval be granted to the CDC for removal of all current playground sand to be replaced with sand and wood chips of a type and depth that meets preschool licensing requirement. The following provisions regarding Mount Cross property are to be honored in the course of this work being completed:

1. The only access to the playground for this project will be through the path cleared in the rear of the Sanctuary building using the newly installed double gate.
2. The curb will be protected by some form of ramp when equipment is crossing over it to prevent damage.
3. The church handicapped access ramps are not to be used for equipment.
4. Any damage to church property as the result of this project will be repaired by the CDC.
5. Responsibility for removal of sand, dirt and any excess materials from site shall also include total removal from Mount Cross property.
6. Before any excavation, the CDC or their contractor shall contact Dig Alert or other underground utility locator to determine if any underground utility improvements exist in the excavation area.
7. Project funding must exist in advance of undertaking work and/or committing to acquisitions or contractors.
8. The motions was amended by Rick amendment seconded by Brian that Cy Johnson, Chair of the Property Committee, or his designee will be present at the commencement of work and will intermittently check on the progress and quality of the work being done. He will report his findings to the property committee.

**Both Motion and amendment passed**

**Action:** All Church Phone Check-in/Invitation to Church Picnic: Becky Riley; Council will make calls to congregation members inviting them back to worship & church picnic. President Becky Riley told the council that she would be sending out an assignment list for calls, dividing the directory into 13 segments of 14 each. Pastor Julie has drafted a script for callers which will be sent out. We request that all of the calls be completed and notes on them be sent to Pastor Julie by Labor Day.

**Information:** Status of new computer purchase – Kevin Churchill; meeting tomorrow

**Information:** Status of Verizon interest in a Cell Tower-- Susan Prosser; No interest from Verizon on this. Issue closed for now.

**Information:** Status of Reconciled in Christ program committee - Bill Stoll; Scheduled meetings with Bishop Bos and Pastor Emily (Holy Trinity).

**Information:** Property Committee action on church stucco-- Susan Prosser: will receive full report from the Prop committee; awaiting bids from contractors.

**Information:** Status of task force regarding church safety --Becky Riley; six on committee; met twice; looking at information from FEMA; next meeting on 8/29.

**Information:** Status of Church Picnic Kris Dawson: Next meeting 8/23; Becky suggested we try to raise \$260 from the Council to fund food; Suggestion from Joe to do a Thrivent grant next year.

Information – **Motion** by Kevin to make masks optional; Allison seconded; After discussion, **both withdrew the motion and second.**

**Motion** by Allison to extend the meeting to 9:15; Second by Barbara; **Passed**

### **Staff Reports**

Written reports from Staff, Pastor Julie, Joe Zimmerly; see below

Julie: see **report** below; Guy still out; Carol will be out the week of the 28<sup>th</sup>

Joe: See report below; Venmo investigation ongoing; Some non-profit issues (might face fees); Venmo beta testing non-profits; Eisley doing well;

### **Reports: Treasurer's Report – 8/16/2022**

Budget Performance (through July 2022):

Gross income for July was \$37,709 (102% of budget versus 100% last month).

YTD gross income was \$279,352 (108% of budget versus 109% last month).

Pledged giving for July was \$29,690 (115% of budget versus 93% last month).

Pledged giving YTD was \$212,610 (118% of budget versus 118% last month).

Expenses for July were \$44,066 (108% of budget versus 103% last month).

Expenses YTD were \$288,681 (101% of budget versus 100% last month).

Net income for July was \$37,709 - \$44,066 = -\$6,357 (compared to budget amount of - \$3,994).

Net income YTD was \$279,352 - \$288,681 = -\$9,329 (compared to budget amount of - \$27,957).

Calculated reserves in July were \$154,262 compared to \$163,682 in June.

Analysis:

1. Net income in July was below budget, primarily due to high insurance payments. Net income year-to-date is negative, as expected, but \$19,000 better than the loss that had been projected.
2. Our insurance payments have been running much higher than budgeted, primarily due to a confluence of events affecting workers comp insurance costs. These include: (1)

prepaying CDC workers comp insurance costs through March 2023 even though CDC now has their own insurance, effective July 2022, (2) a payroll audit retroactively increasing workers comp insurance costs for the previous year, and (3) correcting past overbilling of CDC for their portion of the workers comp insurance costs. The good news is that we expect to receive refunds from the insurance company within the next three weeks totaling more than \$8,000.

3. Reserves continued to decline, more or less in accordance with projections. However, the reserves are still considered in the healthy range.

Respectfully,  
Rick Gardner  
Treasurer

**Reports:**

CDC update Wendy McClary: Would like an accounting of "Facility Fee; Enrollment down, hoping for more.

**Motion** to extend the meeting to 9:30 by Bill; Second by Allison; **Passed**

**Care:** Good response to palliative presentation; looking forward to presentation on End-of-life issues 9/11.

**Senior Ministry:** Dinner was successful (40 people); More social events to come

**Listening:** reinstitute posting of agenda on website in advance; make full use of grape juice cups in communion trays; Fundraiser for outside façade of church; Redo usher greeter training; Can we provide outreach for prior member?

**Stewardship;** Time & talent going out October

**Worship & Music** – Meeting tomorrow

**Information:** [Note assignments for Devotions and Listening Post](#)

**Information:** Next meeting date – Sept. 20, 7:00 pm on [zoom](#); October meeting on [Zoom](#); November meeting [4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday](#), November 22

**Information:** Executive Committee meeting September 1 at 7:00 on [zoom](#)

**For the Good of the Order:**

A motion was made by Brian to adjourn at 9:36; seconded by Allison. **Motion passed.**

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9:36 PM.

Looking ahead:

Next Executive Committee meeting: **September 1, 2022 7:00 p.m. Zoom**

Next Council Meeting: **September 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Zoom**

<b>* DEVOTIONS</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
Bill	Becky	Susan	Bill
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Kevin	Allison	Brian	Kristine
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Barbara	Evonne	Tom	Jim
<b>** COUNCIL LISTENING POST (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Brian	Becky	Susan	Allison
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Wendy	Bill	Kristine	Evonne

### **Pastor's Report for August 2022 Council Meeting**

### **Pastor's Report for August 2022 Council Meeting July 19 – August 16, 2022**

I was on vacation for the first part of this reporting period. I returned July 30, grateful for time away with family and refreshed for a new season at Mount Cross. Thank you to Mount Cross staff and Church Council members for supporting my vacation times and for taking on extra responsibilities in my absence.

As we look towards a new program year while still in uncertain times, I've been reflecting on what is most needed from us as leaders in the Church. This is not a comprehensive list, but these are a few of the qualities I am trying to cultivate in myself:

**Trust in the Good Shepherd:** Jesus is the ultimate leader of his Church. We can trust he is guiding us and forming us to serve in the ways that are most needed. We access divine guidance through prayer, worship, and deliberate conversations with each other. We take sabbath time and encourage each other to do the same.

**Clarity about Purpose:** Now is the time to be very clear about what it means to be the Church. Why are we here? To love God and love others; to grow as disciples of Jesus and make new

disciples of Jesus; to be rooted in God's grace to joyfully witness and serve.

**Discernment:** While there are a lot of things we could do, what is it that we should do here and now? We listen and look for where the Holy Spirit is already at work among us and support that work. We recognize our limitations and wait for God's provisions, knowing if we are called to particular courses of action, God will equip us for those actions.

**Flexibility:** This is a time for being flexible. We may need to experiment with programs and approaches, with a willingness to let go and try something new.

**Patience:** So often patience is what love looks like in any given moment. We need to be patient with each other and ourselves as we do the best we can to meet our own needs and the needs of others.

### **Some recent highlights**

**Vacation Bible School:** VBS was wonderful – great job Joe Zimmerly and all CYFM staff and volunteers!

**Guest Preachers Grant:** I requested and received a \$1500 grant from the Mount Cross Endowment Fund for guest preachers to expand the diversity of preaching voices we hear at Mount Cross. The grant allowed us to bring Pastor Chryll Crews, on staff for the synod as Director of Evangelical Mission, to Mount Cross as our preacher on July 30.

It was an honor for me to help celebrate Mia Fernandez Quinceanera on August 6.

Summer hikes with the Women's Bible Study were enjoyable and meaningful.

### **Looking Ahead**

Thank you to the Church Council for undertaking phone calls to the whole Mount Cross community in the next month.

Worship in the Park on Sunday, September 18.

## **Joe Zimmerly -August 2022 Report**

### August 2022 - Council Report

Montana was a success! We are so thankful for the many donors and prayer warriors that supported us along the way. After spending 8 days with our high school youth, we were able to really get to know each other in ways we didn't already. Following the ELCA National Youth Gathering theme and curriculum "Boundless", we learned about Creation, Forgiveness, Welcoming Others, and a few other topics as well. I am so thankful to the camp staff who spent the week with us putting together an amazing program full of adventures. Kayaking, canoeing, hiking, sailing and trail maintenance are just a few that come to mind. I am even more thankful to our kids who tried something new and trusted that we would get to and from home safely.



Next year's trip will be announced at the end of September, so stay tuned!

Vacation Bible School just finished and we had a very fun week learning about the "Tree of Healing". Our themes were Roots of Creation, Healthy Minds and Bodies, Different Bodies Different Gifts, Healthy Grief, and Bearing Fruit. We had over 65 kids attend and had over 30 volunteers from the church and community. I am so proud to say that we are one of the few churches that can offer a Vacation Bible School that has as many volunteers as we do! It is something to be proud and thankful of. I cannot run the week without them, so my appreciation flows abundantly.

Fall programming begins September 14th. We look forward to the next week where Pastor Julie and I will be re-imagining what Wednesdays might look like and communicate those changes as soon as possible. The good news is, we are not changing much! Stay tuned for more information regarding fall programming.

### **Addendum: August 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Action** on artificial turf added to the playground =

**The Executive Committee moves** to approve the installation of turf as described and designated in the meeting August 27 with representatives of the CDC and the Mount Cross Property Committee. The Executive Committee further moves to approve the expenditure, by Mount Cross, of up to \$3,000 to place padding under said artificial turf if the CDC elects to install padding. Padding is not a requirement of the approval to install the turf.

**Email vote passed.**

**MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES JULY 19, 2022, 7:00 PM**

**2022 Elected Church Council Members:** Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Brian Fisher (Endowment Committee), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), Susan Prosser (Property), Rebecca Riley (President, Personnel Committee), Bill Stoll (Secretary, Learning), Evonne Kuchera (Care Team), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President, Service & Missions), Jim Dinges (Adult Education), Kristine Dawson (Fellowship & Welcome), Rick Gardner (Budget & Finance)

**Executive Committee:** Becky Riley (President), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President), Bill Stoll (Secretary), Rick Gardner (Treasurer)

**Representatives:** ~~Wendy McClary – Child Development Center~~  
~~Collin Edwards / Sophia Valencia – Youth Group~~

**Call to order:** The meeting was held in person and virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Vice President Tom Neuhaus

**Council Members Present:** Barbara Cranfill, Brian Fisher, Kevin Churchill, Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Evonne Kuchera, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, Kristine Dawson, Rick Gardner,

**Representatives Present:** Heather Edwards: Learning Committee  
Joan Brundage – Finance  
Kelli Hernandez – CDC board Treasurer?

**Staff Members Present:** ~~Pastor Julie Morris~~, Joe Zimmerly

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half  
Number of council members' present 12 of 12  
Number of voting representatives present 0

**Devotion:** Led by Kevin on "Follow my example as I follow the example Of Christ."

**Caring Conversation:** Time did not permit

**Approval of Minutes for** June 21, 2022; Motion to approve the minutes made by Rick; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kevin. **The minutes were approved as amended.**

**Action:** Discussion of Vanco and Establishment of Venmo account: Rick Gardner and Heather Edwards; Rick spoke about finance meeting re Venmo and Vanco. Discussion included processing fees, nonprofit vs business accounts, workload for financial secretary, account transfers to the bank account. **Motion:** Create a Venmo account and introduce Venmo on a 3 month test basis (Kevin) 2<sup>nd</sup> (Tom); Motion amended by Jim to "end of year"; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barbara; **New Motion:** Create a Venmo account and Introduce Venmo on a test basis until year end." Bill Called the question. Motion passed 9 for- 1 against- 2 abstained.

**Action:** Kelli Hernandez discussed switching the CDC license name. **Motion:** Motion to approve and authorize changing the name of the facility licensed by the State of California Department of Social Services for the Child Development Center located at 102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, California, from “Mount Cross Lutheran Church” to “Mount Cross Child Development Center”. Motion by Brian; 2nd by Kevin; Motion passed.

**Action: Motion** from the Executive Committee to accept the Prosser’s offer to donate their 2005 van dependent upon a full inspection of the vehicle and that the vehicle is sound. Motion passed

**Action:** Approve minutes of June 21 meeting; Motion by Tom; 2nd by Allison; Motion passed.

**Discussion possible Action:** Capital campaign for purchase of church van (Tabled) by President

**Action: Motion** from Executive Committee to authorize the Tech Committee to direct the purchase of new streaming/video processing computer utilizing Clare Peterson Memorial fund and perpetual funds not to exceed \$6000. Motion passed.

**Information:** Verizon again interested in a cell tower. Possible action to authorize obtaining a quote from an attorney for future negotiations; After brief discussion, sent to Property Committee for investigation.

**Information:** Status of Reconciled in Christ program committee. Bill Stoll; Team will meet tomorrow, 7/19.

**Information:** Property Committee action on church stucco—seeking estimates from contractors; options are being investigated and estimates will be received; including cleaning and stuccoing vs alternative surfacing options.

### **Staff Reports**

Written reports from Staff, Pastor Julie, Joe Zimmerly; see below

**Reports:** Treasurers Report:

Budget Performance (through June 2022):

Gross income for June was \$36,867 (100% of budget versus 87% last month).

YTD gross income was \$241,644 (109% of budget versus 111% last month).

Pledged giving for June was \$24,057 (93% of budget versus 92% last month).

Pledged giving YTD was \$182,920 (118% of budget versus 123% last month).

Expenses for June were \$42,179 (103% of budget versus 110% last month).

Expenses YTD were \$244,227 (100% of budget versus 99% last month).

Net income for June was \$36,867 - \$42,179 = -\$5,312 (compared to budget amount of - \$3,994).

Net income YTD was \$241,644 - \$244,227 = -\$2,583 (compared to budget amount of - \$23,963).

Calculated reserves in June were \$163,682 compared to \$169,021 in May.

Analysis:

9. Net income in June was below budget, primarily due to insurance payments and repairs to the church van. Net income year-to-date is somewhat negative but \$21,000 better than the loss that had been projected.
10. Reserves fell in June due to the loss in net income and higher-than-normal accounts payable. Still, the reserves are higher than had been originally projected for this time of year. Reserves are expected to continue declining in the coming months in keeping with budgeted losses.

Respectfully,  
Rick Gardner  
Treasurer

**Reports:** Committee Liaisons

**Care** – Yvonne: Sunday @ 1:00 Information re: Paliative Care and Hospice

**Senior Ministry** – Susan: Monthly Chapel this Thursday @ 2:30; 7/28 – Social @ 5:30

**Stewardship** – working on new ways to present the budget

**Fellowship** – meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss recruiting new members; Picnic scheduled for September

**Church Security Task Force** – Jim Dinges and Becky Riley agreed to be Council reps

**Information:** [Note assignments for Devotions and Listening Post](#)

**Information:** Next meeting date – August 16, 7:00 pm **in person\***

**Information:** Executive Committee meeting August 4 at 7:00 **zoom**

**For the Good of the Order:**

A motion was made by to adjourn at 9:00; Tom seconded by Allison. **Motion passed.**

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9:00 PM.

**Looking ahead:**

**Next Executive Committee meeting: Aug 4, 2022 7:00 p.m.**

**Next Council Meeting: Aug 16, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**

* DEVOTIONS			
FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
Bill	Becky	Susan	Bill
JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER

Kevin	Allison	Brian	Kristine
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Barbara	Evonne	Tom	Jim
<b>** COUNCIL LISTENING POST (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Brian	Becky	Susan	Allison
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Wendy	Bill	Kristine	Evonne

### **Pastor's Report for July 2022 Council Meeting**

Although we are wearied from constant tragedies in our national news and an increase in COVID cases in our congregation, there is a spirit of perseverance and joy at Mount Cross. It's been nice to get outdoors and into the community a bit more this past month. The informal parking lot party on the 4th of July to view the fireworks brought us together with a lot of our neighbors. The Beach Day on July 10 was a successful and refreshing multi-generational gathering, the Women's Bible study has been going on monthly hikes, and the staff had a retreat afternoon at the Ventura Botanical Gardens. Mount Cross was represented in the Camarillo Interfaith Friendship group. The meetings concluded last week, but hopefully this will be an annual program of Ventura County Interfaith.

I will miss meeting with you this month. I am on vacation July 13-29. We are blessed to have a wonderful staff to fill in the gaps. Please welcome supply pastors the Rev. Melissa Maxwell-Doherty and the Rev. Bill Knutson. In the case of a pastoral emergency, please call Deacon Cecelia. She has access to Pastor Lynn Enloe and Rev. Susan Klein, if needed.

God bless you.

### **Joe Zimmerly - July 2022 Report**

Near the end of June, we sent 5 kids to Summer Camp at Luther Glen Farm due to an issue with the water system at El Camino Pines. Even though it was a different site, the kids still had a great time! Unfortunately, this was the last trip our beautiful church van will ever take. It will soon be gone, but the memories will live on forever.

In July, we had a beach day! With many members of all generations attending, we gathered together at Point Mugu Beach for some fun in the sun. We look forward to our second Play Date Sunday being held in August where we all can gather again.

The Learning Committee met in July and discussed many things along the lines of VBS, programming, etc. However, we also talked about changing our name. The Learning Committee has evolved into a group that focuses on children & youth activities, so we figured that a name change is due. Keep on the lookout for that. We also chatted about Family Worship Service

Teams. These would be a team of families who volunteer to do “everything” on a Sunday morning. This would not be every Sunday, but we would ask these teams to commit to one Sunday every month or every two months, etc.

In the fall, we will be looking at our programs under a microscope. Not entirely looking for change, but under the perspective of freshening up. What does that mean? We want to make sure that our programs are accommodating all families and their needs. All things need to be freshened up over time and we want to make sure that our weekly programming reflects that.

**MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES JUNE 21, 2022, 7:00 PM**

**2022 Elected Church Council Members:** Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Brian Fisher (Endowment Committee), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), Susan Prosser (Property), Rebecca Riley (President, Personnel Committee), Bill Stoll (Secretary, Learning), Evonne Kuchera (Care Team), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President, Service & Missions), Jim Dinges (Adult Education), Kristine Dawson (Fellowship & Welcome), Rick Gardner (Budget & Finance)

**Executive Committee:** Becky Riley (President), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President), Bill Stoll (Secretary), Rick Gardner (Treasurer), Brian Fisher (at large)

**Representatives:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
 Collin Edwards / Sophia Valencia - Youth Group

**Call to order:** The meeting was held in person and virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. by President Rebecca Riley

**Council Members Present:** Barbara Cranfill, Brian Fisher, Allison Johnson, ~~Susan Prosser~~, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Evonne Kuchera, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, Kristine Dawson, Rick Gardner, ~~Kevin Churchill~~

**Representatives Present:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
 Collin Edwards – Youth Group

**Staff Members Present:** Pastor Julie Morris, Joe Zimmerly

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half)  
 Number of council members' present 10 of 12  
 Number of voting representatives present 1

**Devotion:** Led by Allison Johnson.

**Caring Conversation:** Where were you when you felt most connected to God?

**Approval of Minutes for May 17, 2022:** Motion to approve the minutes made by Rick and seconded by Barbara. **The minutes were approved.**

**Action:** Motion from Legacy Giving Committee to approve disbursements for 2022. After a brief discussion, the motion passed.

Description Requested Grant Notes Contact	Requested	Grant	Note	Contact
Guest Preachers	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,200		Pastor Julie

Live Scan Screening for youth volunteers	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	enhanced background checks for 20 volunteers @ \$100 first year funding due to law change	Joe Z
Start a bus fund	\$ 5,000	\$ -	This is a near term expense. Council needs to prepare for this pending expense	Joe Z
Camp Scholarships	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	Move to designated account	Joe Z
Renovate Playground	\$ 20,000	\$ -	Subject to approval of the project by the property committee	Mark S.
Shipping for Lutheran World Relief Kits	\$ 500	\$ 500		Service and Missions
College Scholarship	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	Jaida Jones	Joe Z
College Scholarship	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	Samantha Ebright	Joe Z
Pastor Discretionary	\$ -	\$ 284		
Church Appearance & Playground & Bus	\$ -	\$ 15,500	Held back by endowment pending more information from council, property and ad hoc master plan committee	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 34,700</b>	<b>\$ 25,484</b>		
4.25% available from fund \$22,984		\$ 22,984		
returned from Travis Davis \$2,500		\$ 2,500		
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$ 25,484</b>		
Difference \$		<b>\$ -</b>		

**Action:** Motion from Executive Committee to establish a task force to gather information regarding security and emergency/disaster planning. Becky Riley. Allison asked to broaden the consideration to Emergency preparedness as well as active shooter training. Potential committee members include, Jim Dinges, Becky Riley, Jean Kuchera-Sikoff, Todd Ebright. The motion passed.

**Information:** Rick shared he wants to continue with Heather Edwards and Joan Brundage to gather information on establishing Venmo and Vanco accounts to be presented at the July meeting. Concerns about accounting and confidentiality were raised

**Information:** Status of Reconciled in Christ program committee. Meeting scheduled for next



month

**Information:** Website design and improvement. Kris Dawson. The group of Kris D, Kevin C and Jim P. have been working on improving the website. The goal is to update and improve the site and work with staff to make it happen. Updates to follow each month

**Information and discussion:** Recommendation from CCIA to establish replacement reserves. Rick Gardner-

**Information:** Youth doing Community Service Hours. Pastor Julie. A child from the community, not affiliated with Mount Cross, was looking for service hours. Pastor, Joe and the staff found several projects including the campus work day to utilize his time.

**Reports:** Reports from Staff, Pastor Julie, Joe Zimmerly  
Pastor's Report Summary (full report below)

- Guy, our organist, will be out for a little while
- Jessica Easter is working on a project to the LGBTQ experience in the ELCA church. She is working under the direction of a professor at Cal Lutheran. Data will be shared
- Pastor out for 2 Sundays in July, guest preachers lined up.

Joe's Summary

- 50 kids signed up for VBS, capped at 75
- Eighth Graders confirmed (Reagan Burke, Jeffrey and Marli Saner)
- High School youth hosted midnight madness
- June celebrated graduates
- Joe attended 4 hours of continuing education and applied the lessons to programs
- Hired new Nursery Attendant (Isley Jackson)
- Preschool Graduation
- 5 kids going to El Camino Pines next week
- High School Youth going to Montana in July

**Reports:** Treasurers Report

### **Treasurer's Report – 6/21/2022**

Budget Performance (through May 2022):

Gross income for May was \$32,196 (87% of budget versus 118% last month).  
YTD gross income was \$204,776 (111% of budget versus 117% last month).  
Pledged giving for May was \$23,847 (92% of budget versus 124% last month).  
Pledged giving YTD was \$158,863 (123% of budget versus 131% last month).  
Expenses for May were \$44,903 (110% of budget versus 108% last month).  
Expenses YTD were \$202,021 (99% of budget versus 96% last month).  
Net income for May was \$-12,707 vs \$3994 budgeted  
Net income YTD was \$2756 (compared to budget amount of - \$19,969).  
Calculated reserves in May were \$169,021 compared to \$181,848 in April

#### Analysis and Discussion:

1. Net income in May was well below budget, primarily due to reduced giving and insurance payments. Nevertheless, net income year to date is still in positive territory versus a \$20,000 loss that had been projected
2. Reserves in May fell, matching the loss in net income. Still, the reserves are higher than had been originally projected for this time of year. Reserves are expected to continue declining in the coming months, albeit at a slower rate than experienced in May
3. We currently have \$103,863 in dedicated funds. \$38,925 in perpetual funds and \$22,984 in endowment funds in process. All of these funds are available for expenditure based on their specific restrictions and processes, without impacting the reserve funds.

#### Reports: Committee Liaisons

- Property Committee- Susan
  - Sponsored Church work day to trim landscape and prep for CDC expansion behind sanctuary
  - CDC plans to purchase new shed from Costco continue. Installation date TBD

Motion to extend the meeting by Brian Fisher, seconded by Tom Neuhaus. The motion passed

**Reports:** CDC update Wendy McClary. Summer school 23 enrolled, can take 57. 52 students enrolled for next year. Piano in preschool is not getting used. Can we donate it? Consult with Carol, Property and potentially the congregation before donation.

Budget and Finance along with Stewardship continue to explore the concept of a narrative budget.

Care team- continues to provide meals as needed. Grieving presentation went well, more topics to follow. Please invite all to join.

Senior Adult Ministry has an event on July 28

Learning Committee considering a name change to better reflect the work they are doing.

Fellowship Committee- Fathers Day event in church well received

Service and Missions- No report

Executive Session re personnel matter

Motion to move into Executive Session by Tom, seconded by Brian

**Information:** [Note assignments for Devotions and Listening Post](#)

**Information:** Next meeting date – July 19, 7:00 pm zoom\*

**Information:** Executive Committee meeting July 7 at 7:00 zoom

**For the Good of the Order:**

A motion was made by Brian to adjourn at 9:29; Allison seconded. **Motion passed.**

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9:30 PM.

<b>* DEVOTIONS</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
Bill	Becky	Susan	Bill
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Allison	Kevin	Brian	Kristine
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Barbara	Evonne	Tom	Jim
<b>** COUNCIL LISTENING POST (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Brian	Becky	Susan	Allison
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Wendy	Bill	Kristine	Evonne

**Pastor's Report for June Council Meeting**  
May 18-June 21, 2022

This has been a full month at Mount Cross, as all months seem to be. I am grateful for the caring, wisdom, and generosity continuously displayed in our congregation. In addition to my regular pastoral, administrative, and worship responsibilities, this past month I have been involved in synodical (Lutheran) and diocesan (Episcopal) service, tried to lead faithfully in a time of heart-break from national gun tragedies, and been encouraged by the Mount Cross youth, an ELCA study of "Now is the Time", and participation in local interfaith community.

**Synod Service:** Joe Zimmerly and I were part of the planning team for the Synod Assembly held June 11 in Glendale (and online). Joe was one of the Zoom hosts. I was responsible for working on the "script book" in advance of the Assembly and tracking amendments and new business during the Assembly. My commitment to this project concluded after the Assembly. Thank you to Deacon Cecelia for giving one of the messages at the Assembly, and to our Mount Cross delegates: Melissa Henry, Brian Stouch, and Allison Johnson. Congratulations to Allison Johnson on her election to Synod Council!

**Diocesan Service:** I was asked to serve on a Commission on Ministry committee on lay ministry for the Diocese of LA, beginning this month. I expect the commitment to be about one year, requiring 5-8 hours each month. The purpose is to strengthen lay ministry and determine avenues of education and licensing for people serving and leading in the Episcopal Church through lay ministries.

**Gun Violence:** Christian faith demands that we mourn with those who mourn and renounce the powers of evil that seek to destroy the children of God. Along with several Mount Cross members, including two of our newly Confirmed youth, I attended a prayer vigil at Padre Serra Church on May 22 for the victims of the Buffalo, NY shooting. Just two days after that, the Uvalde, TX shooting occurred. We held a family-oriented prayer vigil at Mount Cross on May 26, around the image of a broken heart. Thank you to Joe Zimmerly, Carol Browning, and Amy Vega for their help with the vigil. Our Peace and Justice Team had a table with action steps to help reduce gun violence after Sunday worship on May 29 and June 5. We observed "Wear Orange" Sunday on June 5, along with Pentecost, to bring awareness to gun violence, and I addressed the tragedies in my preaching. Amy Vega asked the Ventura County Sheriff's Department to bring some active shooter response training to the pre-school teachers and opened the workshop up to church members (June 2). Several Church Council members, worship assistants, and church staff attended. It motivated Jeanne Kuchera-Sikoff to volunteer to help set-up a Security Team at Mount Cross.

**Encouragement:** Even in the midst of tragedy, God provides encouragement. Jeffrey Saner, Marli Saner, and Reagan Burke were Confirmed on May 22. They inspired us with their faith stories and helped us realize what a gift it is to belong to a church with members spanning ten decades. I was also encouraged to learn more about the anti-racist statements and efforts in the ELCA through the 5-part study I completed called "Now is the Time." Locally, the Ventura County Interfaith Community is sponsoring "Interfaith Friendship Groups." I am part of one of those groups, as are a few other members of Mount Cross. Building relationships across differences of any kind feels especially important now, as we need to counteract the divisiveness plaguing our communities, country, and world. I'm finding it to be joyful and refreshing to meet and learn from people of other faiths.

I will be on vacation July 13-29.

The Peace of Christ be with you.

Pastor Julie Morris

**MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES MAY 17, 2022, 7:00 PM**

**2022 Elected Church Council Members:** Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Brian Fisher \* (Endowment Committee), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), Susan Prosser (Property), Rebecca Riley \* (President, Personnel Committee), Bill Stoll \* (Secretary, Learning), Evonne Kuchera (Care Team), Tom Neuhaus \* (Vice President, Service & Missions), Jim Dinges \* (Adult Education), Kristine Dawson (Fellowship & Welcome), Rick Gardner \* (Budget & Finance)

**Executive Committee:** Becky Riley (President), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President), Bill Stoll (Secretary), Rick Gardner (Treasurer)

**Representatives:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
Collin Edwards / Sophia Valencia - Youth Group

**Call to order:** The meeting was held in person and virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by Vice President Tom Neuhaus

**Council Members Present:** ~~Barbara Cranfill, Brian Fisher,~~ Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Evonne Kuchera, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, Kristine Dawson, Rick Gardner, ~~Kevin Churchill~~

**Representatives Present:** ~~Wendy McClary-~~ Child Development Center  
Collin Edwards - Youth Group

**Staff Members Present:** Pastor Julie Morris, ~~Joe Zimmerly~~

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half)

Number of council members' present 9 of 12

Number of voting representatives present 1

**Devotion:** Led by Bill on "Love thy neighbor"

**Caring Conversation:** Name 3 things for which you wish to thank God every day

**Approval of Minutes for** April 19, 2022; Motion to approve the minutes made by Allison and seconded by Rick. **The minutes were approved.**

**Action:** Presentation of the Audit and vote to accept -- Jim Prosser: All numbers added up. No issues. Bill moves to accept the audit. Kris Seconds. The motion passed  
Audit is available to members on request.

**Information:** Recommendation from the Property Committee-- Susan Prosser: playground injury due to tree roots on playground. Need to address. Estimates range from \$300 – \$5500 to make area safe. Cutting roots (\$300) with potential harm to tree will be done. Problems predicted to get worse. Removal of trees would be approximately \$10000.

**Action:** Motion from Executive Committee to amend the budget to include Deacon Cecelia's \$600 phone allowance. **Motion passed**

**Information:** The council celebrates Deacon Cecelia's new appointment with the ELCA SW California synod.

**Action:** Changing signers for Mount Cross checking account to come into compliance with ELCA standards -- Rick Gardner made a Motion that we have two signatures for checks; We will remove Heather Edwards as a signer. The signatories would include Carol Browning, Becky Riley, Tom Neuhaus, Rick Gardner, and Bill Stoll. Allison seconded. **Motion Passed**

**Action:** Motion to approve new nursery staff hire, Isley Jackson, made by Bill. Kris seconded. **Motion Passed**

**Information:** Update Reconciled in Christ program committee. -- Bill Stoll – Members: Becky Gilbertson, Becky Riley, Lyndsay Montour, Henry Moraga, Jim Dinges, Kevin O'Farrel, Bill Stoll

**Discussion:** e-mail regarding the immigration webinar—questions or comments after response from Pastor Julie which was sent to the council. Discussion centered around valuing civil and respectful discourse.

**Information:** Reinstigate Listening Post with notification in the Grapevine that it will not be anonymous. The secretary will assign council members to listening post and devotions each month.

Bill Moved to extend meeting 30 minutes. Allison seconded. **motion passed**

### **Staff Reports**

#### **Pastor**

Pastor Julie submitted her written report (see below); She added need someone to take records to be shredded at community center on Saturday: Becky & Bill volunteered

**Treasurer's Report - Rick Gardner:**

#### **Treasurer's Report – 5/17/2022**

Budget Performance (through April 2022):

Gross income for April was \$43,672 (118% of budget versus 101% last month).

YTD gross income was \$172,580 (117% of budget versus 117% last month).

Pledged giving for April was \$32,079 (124% of budget versus 109% last month).

Pledged giving YTD was \$135,016 (131% of budget versus 133% last month).

Expenses for April were \$44,018 (108% of budget versus 90% last month).

Expenses YTD were \$156,999 (96% of budget versus 93% last month).

Net income for April was \$43,672 - \$44,018 = -\$346 (compared to budget amount of - \$3,994).

Net income YTD was \$172,580 - \$156,999 = \$15,581 (compared to budget amount of - \$15,976).

Calculated reserves were \$181,848 compared to \$181,529 in March.

Analysis:

11. Net income in April was nearly break-even in contrast to budget projections of a \$4,000 loss. This was despite high expenses running 108% of budget, primarily due to three pay periods in the month instead of the usual two. We continue to have a highly positive net income YTD instead of the sizable loss that had been projected.
12. Reserves are about the same as last month. The expected drawdown in reserves has yet to materialize.
13. All but \$2,642 of the memorial funds have been transferred into designated funds and perpetual funds, as agreed at the previous Church Council meeting. The three perpetual funds (account 34000) total \$38,925, which is available for expenditure based on needs identified by committees and congregants with approval by the Church Council.

Respectfully,  
Rick Gardner

### **Committee Liaisons Reports:**

**Facilities Planning** – Bill: On schedule; Met with most committees Have scheduled remaining committees and staff interviews. (4 pages of suggestions).

**Worship** – Allison Johnson: discussed what went well at Easter

**Care** – Yvonne: June 5 presentation will be on end-of-life issues (grieving).

**Senior Ministry** – Susan- Thursday worship at 2:00 followed by hospitality

**Information:** Next meeting date – June 21 at 7:00 pm **in person**

**Information:** Executive Committee meeting June 2 at 7:00 on Zoom

### **For the Good of the Order:**

A motion was made by Becky to adjourn at 9:27; Allison seconded. **Motion passed.**

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 9:30 PM.

### **Looking ahead:**

**Next Executive Committee meeting: June 2, 2022 7:00 p.m.**

**Next Council Meeting: June 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. In person**

<b>* DEVOTIONS</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
Bill	Becky	Susan	Bill
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Kevin	Allison	Brian	Kristine
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Barbara	Evonne	Tom	Jim
<b>** COUNCIL LISTENING POST (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Brian	Becky	Susan	Allison
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Wendy	Bill	Kristine	Evonne

### **Pastor's Report for the May 2022 Church Council Meeting**

As we continue in the Great Fifty Days of Easter, it feels like spring-time at Mount Cross. There are signs of joy and new life on our campus and in our congregation. We baptized the baby sister of one of our preschool students last Sunday and welcomed the family to Mount Cross, our prayer garden is erupting with color, "Spring Training" for worship assistants brought renewed energy and even some new volunteers, and the Church Council is meeting in-person for the first time in over two years!

Trusting the good news of the Gospel, that goodness is stronger than evil and life is stronger than death, helps us meet our struggles and sad days with hope. We commended Linda Frantz to the arms of God when we gathered for her service on May 7, we continue to be a caring community offering practical and spiritual support to many individuals and families enduring times of illness and grief, and we are taking steps to educate ourselves on how to be a church that bears the light of Christ in a world where heart-breaking news does not seem to stop. As we meet this month, we are still reeling from the racially motivated mass shooting in Buffalo and the hate-driven attack on a Taiwanese congregation in Orange County. We need the strength and courage that knowing Christ brings us, and we need each other.

In addition to regular worship, teaching, meetings, and pastoral care responsibilities, some things I've been involved in this past month include:

- Joe and I are serving on the Synod Assembly Planning Team. The Synod Assembly is meeting June 11 at the Lutheran Center in Glendale.
- I attended the Lutheran Bishop's Colloquy in El Camino Pines May 1-2. It was my first time at the camp (loved it), and I appreciated the workshop "Finding Hope in Exhaustion."



- I attended the Episcopal Clergy conference May 2-4 in Riverside. The theme was “Exile, Return, and Renewal.” The presentations focused on leadership in uncertain times.
- The Ventura County Interfaith Community invited me to present on the topic, “Sacred Space” on a Zoom webinar April 26. I talked about hallmarks of Christian sacred space, using Mount Cross as an example. The event included two other presenters. It was recorded. Here is a link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gZORuE1cowU>
- I am participating in a Zoom study on the ELCA’s *Declaration to People of African Descent*. It meets two hours a week for 5 weeks on Zoom. Four others from Mount Cross are also attending this course. Over 90 people, clergy and lay, from across the country registered for the study. My hope is to bring something similar to our congregation. For the declaration, go to [https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Slavery\\_Apology\\_Explanation.pdf](https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Slavery_Apology_Explanation.pdf)

Looking forward, we are blessed that three young people will be confirmed next Sunday, May 22, and we will celebrate graduations for students of all levels, and the conclusion of a successful preschool year, on Sunday, June 5. Don’t forget to wear red that Sunday too for Pentecost!

Thank you, Church Council, for your diligent work on behalf of the congregation.

With you in Christ’s service,  
Pastor Julie

**MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES APRIL 19, 2022, 7:00 PM**

**2022 Elected Church Council Members:** Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Brian Fisher \* (Endowment Committee), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), Susan Prosser (Property), Rebecca Riley \* (President, Personnel Committee), Bill Stoll \* (Secretary, Learning), Evonne Kuchera (Care Team), Tom Neuhaus \* (Vice President, Service & Missions), Jim Dinges \* (Adult Education), Kristine Dawson (Fellowship & Welcome), Rick Gardner \* (Budget & Finance)

**Executive Committee:** Becky Riley (President), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President), Bill Stoll (Secretary), Rick Gardner (Treasurer)

**Representatives:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
Collin Edwards / Sophia Valencia - Youth Group

**Call to order:** The meeting was held virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7 P.M. by President Rebecca Riley

**Council Members Present:** Barbara Cranfill, Brian Fisher, Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, ~~Kristine Dawson~~, Rick Gardner, Kevin Churchill

**Representatives Present:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
~~Collin Edwards~~ - Youth Group

**Staff Members Present:** Pastor Julie Morris, Joe Zimmerly

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half)

Number of council members' present 11 of 12

Number of voting representatives present 0

**Devotion:** Led by Susan on "Want more faith – Do more stuff"

**Caring Conversation:** What about the last month makes you feel good, happy, hopeful—all or any of those things?

**Approval of Minutes for** March 22, 2022\_Motion to approve the minutes made by Tom Neuhaus and seconded by Rick Gardner. **The minutes were approved.**

**Action:** Motion from the Endowment Committee, Brian Fisher  
The Mount Cross Legacy Giving Committee in consultation with the donors and Executive Committee would like to make two motions involving current Memorial Gifts. In the coming months we will work with the Treasurer to further refine our memorial and gift policies to ensure clarity to staff, donors, and the congregation. It is our hope that these motions will help provide financial flexibility to the congregation in a tight budget environment while creating a long-term solution to the challenges involving Memorial Gifts.

Motion One:

The Legacy Giving Committee moves that three perpetual funds be created: Property & Capital Improvements, Worship & Music, Mission & Social Action. Committees and Congregants may request potential uses for these funds which will be approved by a majority vote of the Church Council. The initial funding will be as listed in the chart below:

37140	37140 Bina Norall	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 60.18
37785	37785 Lester, John	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 550.00
37787	37787 Bergh, Gordon	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 2,077.00
37788	37788 White, Roni	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 30.00
37790	37790 Valle, Homer	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 100.00
37791	37791 Myers, Gene	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 250.00
37793	37793 Myers, Betsy Lee	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 130.00
37797	37797 Colby, Janet	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 325.00
37798	37798 Beat, Jan	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 150.00
37799	37799 Sobolik, Jim	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 1,000.00
37800	37800 Lacy, Evelyn	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 375.00
37801	37801 Sheller, Mary	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 100.00
37803	Edell, Bob	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 1,300.00
37805	Fajnor, Vlad & Arlene	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 1,000.00
37806	Wall, Charles & Lenore	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 750.00
37807	Watts, Lois	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 50.00
37809	Wulschleger, Howard	PROPERTY & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 30.00
37515	37515 Marguerite Rowley	WORSHIP & MUSIC PERPETUAL FUND	\$ 50.00
<b>37779</b>	<b>37779 Strand, Marold</b>	<b>WORSHIP &amp; MUSIC PERPETUAL FUND</b>	<b>\$ 1,546.50</b>
<b>37808</b>	<b>Cordell, Ed and Joyce</b>	<b>MISSION &amp; SOCIAL ACTION FUND PERPETUAL FUND</b>	<b>\$ 20,000.00</b>
<b>37808</b>	<b>Cordell, Ed and Joyce</b>	<b>PROPERTY &amp; CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PERPETUAL FUND</b>	<b>\$ 9,000.00</b>
		TOTAL CREATION OF PERPETUAL FUNDS	\$ 38,873.68

Question called by Bill Stoll; **Motion passed.**

#### Motion Two:

The Legacy Giving Committee moves that the following memorial funds be transferred into designated funds as per the chart below.

37786	37786 Altschuler, D.	DESIGNATED FUND 638XX FOR STAFF CONFERENCE & EDUCATION	\$ 1,300.00
37789	37789 Bergh, Karen	DESIGNATED FUND BELL CHOIR 35545	\$ 1,720.00
37795	37795 Peterson, Clair	SPECIAL FUND SOUND ROOM COMPUTER OR #35363	\$ 1,720.00
37405	37405 James Jones	SUMMER TRIP ACCOUNT	\$ 15.00
37784	37784 Dinges, Donette	CATHY CHANNELS SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ 275.00
<b>37779</b>	<b>37779 Strand, Marold</b>	<b>DESIGNATED FUND 35367 PRAYER GARDEN</b>	<b>\$ 1,546.50</b>
<b>37808</b>	<b>Cordell, Ed and Joyce</b>	<b>DESIGNATED FUND ABUNDANT TABLE #61171</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
		TOTAL MOVEMENT OF MEMORIALS TO DESIGNATED FUNDS	\$ 7,576.50

Question called by Bill Stoll; **Motion passed.**

**Action:** Vote on approval of Brian Fisher to fill the remaining term of the endowment committee vacancy. Motion by Legacy committee to approve Brian Fisher; **Motion passed.**

**Action:** Renewal of the Anti-Racism Pledge (see below) Bill; Susan Prosser moved to reaffirm the council's commitment to the Anti-race Pledge; Jim Dinges seconded; **Motion passed.**

**Action:** Discussion & Decision regarding Reconciled in Christ program. Bill; Do we want to investigate this further Susan Prosser made a motion that Council approve an ad hoc committee to gather more information regarding RIC. Tom Neuhaus seconded. **Motion passed.**

#### **Information:** Many Meals – Susan

Susan talked with the representative of Peace Lutheran today and they have decided there are not enough available volunteers or people to lead a Meal Program contingent from their congregation. She will suggest to the Peace Lutheran Church Council that they inform Trinity Presbyterian that Peace will not be participating by sponsoring one of the Thursday night meals. Since the only way Peace has sponsored a meal in the past was in partnership with Mount Cross, their decision also makes it impossible for Mount Cross to sponsor a meal unless some other partner was available.

Susan has made efforts recently to recruit a Mount Cross Meal Program coordinator just in case a decision was made for Mount Cross along with Peace to sponsor either a Thursday night meal or get actively involved with the Monday night dinner at St Mary Magdalene's. She has had no luck in finding someone to take on managing the program although there is interest in serving with a Many Meals type program. The best current recommendation (and surprisingly the same one that will be made at Peace) is that Mount Cross make known the opportunities to serve at both Trinity Presbyterian and St Mary's to our congregation members. Susan will secure information as to the specifics as to how volunteers can volunteer at each location and make that available in various formats of church publications. We know that St Mary's is willing to add names to their regular weekly emails to volunteers with signups. We will have to find out how Trinity might make use of any volunteers not directly associated with their church or any sponsoring a specific night.

## **Staff Reports**

### **Pastor**

Pastor Julie submitted her written report (see below); She added; Thanks to Council for help in getting Lenten speakers. Mike Carpenter was doing well today. She went to Chrism Mass (blessing oils). Conference assembly this Thursday. Thanks to all for help with Holy Week.

**Action** Entertained a motion to accept Balinda Legare's membership to Mount Cross (Tom so moved & Susan seconded; **Motion passed.**)

### **Joe Zimmerly**

Joe submitted his written report (see below)

**Treasurer's Report** - Rick Gardner: Rick is very encouraged by our current financial condition.

#### **Treasurer's Report – 4/19/2022**

Budget Performance (through March 2022):

Gross income for March was \$37,364 (101% of budget versus 88% last month).

YTD gross income was \$128,909 (117% of budget versus 124% last month).

Pledged giving for March was \$28,253 (109% of budget versus 88% last month).

Pledged giving YTD was \$102,937 (133% of budget versus 145% last month).

Expenses for March were \$36,826 (90% of budget versus 95% last month).

Expenses YTD were \$113,547 (93% of budget versus 94% last month).

Net income for March was \$37,364 - \$36,826 = \$538 (compared to budget amount of - \$3,994).

Net income YTD was \$128,909 - \$113,547 = \$15,362 (compared to budget amount of - \$11,982).

Calculated reserves were \$181,529 compared to \$180,888 in February.

Analysis:

14. Net income in March was positive in contrast to budget projections of a \$4,000 loss. We continue to have a strongly positive net income YTD instead of the sizable loss that had been projected.
15. Expenses YTD are running at 93% of budget. The gas bill is running over twice the budgeted amount, probably due to extensive use of the heaters in the pavilion cover area. The bill should decline dramatically as we enter the summer months.

16. Reserves are slightly higher than last month. The expected drawdown in reserves has yet to materialize.
17. Our Balance Sheet for March shows cash assets totaling \$992,701, yet a new all-time high. Most of this money is in restricted accounts (\$755,333 or 76% of cash assets).
18. Expenditure of funds in restricted accounts will not impact net reserves.

Respectfully,  
Rick Gardner  
Treasurer

### **Committee Liaisons Reports:**

**Facilities Planning** – Bill: Bolts removed; met 4 times; discussed our mission of devising a master plan long range capital improvements and large-scale maintenance projects; Plan to interview committees, Pastor, Joe, Deacon Cecelia, Carol, & CDC, have informal discussions with members, and employ a suggestion box; Timeline is to complete interviews by June and complete our process by end of September.

**Legacy** – Brian: Requests for endowment due by April 30

**Worship** – Allison Johnson: May 15 worship asst. refresher (Spring Training)

**Care** – Yvonne: educational sessions; in June “Aspects of Grieving”, in August “Health and Healing Sunday”

**Property** – Susan

**Information: Sign Up for Devotions** – Kevin volunteered for May

**Information:** Next meeting date – May 17 at 7:00 pm in person

**Information:** Executive Committee meeting May 5 at 7:00

### **For the Good of the Order:**

**Senior Ministry** services on 3rd Thursday @ 2:00

**A motion was made by** Bill Stoll to adjourn at 8:53; Allyson Johnson seconded. **Motion passed.**

Adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer at 8:58 PM.

**Looking ahead:**

Next Executive Committee meeting: May 7, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Next Council Meeting: May 17, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. (please note this will be in-person in the PLC)

* DEVOTIONS			
FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
Bill Stoll	Becky	Susan	Kevin
JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY 2023
Barbara			
** COUNCIL LISTENING POST (1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)			
FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY 2023

### Pastor's Report for April 19, 2022 Church Council Meeting

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Holy Week was a graced time. We celebrated the Great Three Days (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil) with St. Columba's Episcopal Church. On Easter Sunday at Mount Cross we had a **full sanctuary** for the first time since the pandemic began. 181 people attended our in-person Easter worship service and we had 35 "Peak Live Viewers" on Facebook. Thank you to all who helped us offer reverent and Spirit-filled Holy Week and Easter services, including the choir, musicians, Carol Browning, many, many worship assistants, the Altar Guild, Jim and Susan Prosser for the flower cross, Todd Ebright for hanging the banners, Bill Dawson and his Tech Team, Deacon Cecelia, Joe Zimmerly and the youth for a wonderful Easter Breakfast, and the Learning Committee for a fun Egg Hunt.

### April 2022 Report – Joe Zimmerly

We give thanks to all who supported our youth in various ways this past month! Whether it was dining at Presto Pasta or our Easter Breakfast, where we raised over \$1000 towards our high school summer trip. I want to give a big thanks to everyone in this generous congregation who always put the youth at the forefront. We are excited that we keep inching closer and closer to our goal of raising enough money for our trip to Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp in Montana. We will be sending out more information regarding what we will be doing as well as ways to help us in the coming weeks.

Easter Sunday was a great day! We enjoyed gathering together in many ways. Whether it was for worship, Easter Breakfast or for our Egg Hunt, we were happy to have the most normal-like Easter of the past in comparison to the past few years. We are so thankful for all who participated and volunteered their time to make this day meaningful for all.



## Mount Cross Pledge of Anti-Racism

We the Church Council of Mount Cross Lutheran Church, in our position of leadership of our congregation, do hereby resolve to:

- Commit to study, prayer and action to become an anti-racist congregation in a wider anti-racist church and share our participation on social media using [#ELCA4justice](#).
- Work to dismantle racial injustice by [listening](#) to voices, experiences and the expertise of people of color. We will learn about the [ELCA ethnic-specific associations](#) and their [strategies](#).
- Learn the history of systemic racism in this country and the ways racism and white supremacy impact every aspect of our life together.
- Join, support or attend our synod's anti-racism team or work with our synod leadership to start one in our congregation. We will study the ELCA social statement "[Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture](#)" and the "[Explanation of the Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent](#)."
- Explore and use on "God's work. Our hands." Sunday the forthcoming ELCA Advocacy resources on a "Just Society Supporting the Health of All," which are focused on advancing racially equitable public policies, and by engaging in [ELCAvotes](#) to encourage and ensure voting rights for all.
- Start where we are by joining community organizations working for racial justice.
- Reach out to build or [deepen relationships with Historic Black Churches](#). We will consider using the congregational resource "[Understanding One Another](#)," co-authored by the ELCA and the African Methodist Episcopal Church, or our [Joint Statement of Mission](#) with the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church as a way to get started.
- Explore and use the [anti-racism resources of our ecumenical partners](#) through the [A.C.T. Now to End Racism initiative](#) of the National Council of Churches.

**MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES MARCH 22, 2022, 7:00 PM**

**2022 Elected Church Council Members:** Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Brian Fisher \* (Endowment Committee), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), Susan Prosser (Property), Rebecca Riley \* (President, Personnel Committee), Bill Stoll \* (Secretary, Learning), Evonne Kuchera (Care Team), Tom Neuhaus \* (Vice President, Service & Missions), Jim Dinges \* (Adult Education), Kristine Dawson (Fellowship & Welcome), Rick Gardner \* (Budget & Finance)

**Executive Committee:** Becky Riley (President), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President), Bill Stoll (Secretary), Rick Gardner (Treasurer)

**Representatives:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
Collin Edwards / Sophia Valencia - Youth Group

**Call to order:** The meeting was held virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7 P.M. by President Rebecca Riley

**Council Members Present:** Barbara Cranfill, Brian Fisher, Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, Kristine Dawson, Rick Gardner, Kevin Churchill

**Representatives Present:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
Collin Edwards - Youth Group

**Staff Members Present:** Pastor Julie Morris, Joe Zimmerly

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half)

Number of council members' present      11 of 12

Number of voting representatives present 2

**Devotion:** Led by Becky on Importance of Self-Love

**Caring Conversation:** What have you done this past month to care for yourself?

**Information:** CDC Mural proposal-- CDC considering a temporary Ukraine mural

**Approval of Minutes for** February 15, 2022\_Motion to approve the minutes made by Rick Gardner and seconded by Brian Fisher. The minutes were approved.

**Information:** Council Handbook update and the process  
Becky & Barbara are working on this. Will send out to committee chairs this week for input.

**Information:** Meal for the Leadership Retreat  
John Colby will prepare the meal. Becky requested donations up to \$250 total to cover his costs.



**Action:** April Council meeting; Due to the likelihood that the President will only be available via zoom, Becky asked to change this meeting from in person. Bill Stoll moved to change the April meeting to Zoom and make the May meeting in-person. Motion seconded by Barbara Cranfill; Motion passed.

**Information:** Facility Use Request from Movement Church--Pastor Julie  
This action did not make it out of Executive committee. No action taken.

**Action: Property Committee motion – Susan Prosser**

Mount Cross Lutheran Church Camarillo Property Committee's Motion\* Re: Child Development Center's Request to Expand Usable Playground Area Behind the Sanctuary Building for Educational Purposes  
Presented to Mount Cross Church Council Tuesday March 22, 2022

The Property Committee recommends approval of the Child Development Center's request to expand the current playground by removing three existing juniper bushes that grow next to the rear of the sanctuary building, several additional small plants near the chain link fence at the top of the slope above Earl Joseph Street, and associated overgrown plant roots; covering the area with decomposed granite, and installing a new chain link fence and gate to enclose the extended area at the point it meets the existing Prayer Garden; with the following conditions:

- When all plants and roots are removed, the Property Committee will be notified to grade the soil to reduce current and future drainage issues for the Sanctuary building before further work in the area proceeds.
- This new area will be equipped with children's picnic tables and planter boxes that support educational programming. CDC students will make use of the space when supervised by staff with the gates at both ends of the space closed. Significant change to the use of this space requires the approval of Mount Cross.
- The expanded space for use by the CDC will border the Mount Cross Prayer Garden and both the CDC and Mount Cross appreciate that the Prayer Garden is available for use on any day at any time. For this reason, the following specific conditions apply:
  1. There will be a 30" wide space left between the prayer garden path and the playground fence to allow a foliage screen to be planted.
  2. The gate between the prayer garden and the newly developed space be near the south end of the fence so that it opens to the existing prayer garden path.
  3. The water tap mounted on the wall of the Sanctuary building within the newly expanded CDC space will at minimum remain accessible for Prayer Garden use. If Mount Cross chooses at any point in time to modify the water tap to create a direct water connection to the Prayer Garden from the existing water tap, it shall be done with no loss in access to water for the CDC uses.
  4. If CDC students are making use of this new space while someone is observed praying in the Prayer Garden, CDC staff will give recognition to the fact in their supervision of students.

\*This motion has been reviewed by the Director and President of the CDC and received their concurrence.

Committee motion; no second necessary; Allison called the question; Motion passed.  
Information: Becky Riley is looking into an appropriate trophy for Rick Mann

## **Staff Reports**

### **Pastor**

Pastor Julie submitted her written report (see below); discussed Leadership materials and received RSVPs from Council members.

### **Joe Zimmerly**

Joe submitted his written report (see below); Announced Lots of fundraisers and events coming our way. May need "trip buddies"

### **Treasurer's Report - Rick Gardner**

Budget Performance (through February 2022):

Gross income for February was \$32,513 (88% of budget versus 160% last month).

YTD gross income was \$91,544 (124% of budget versus 160% last month).

Pledged giving for February was \$22,842 (88% of budget versus 201% last month).

Pledged giving YTD was \$74,684 (145% of budget versus 201% last month).

Expenses for February were \$38,943 (95% of budget versus 93% last month).

Expenses YTD were \$76,823 (94% of budget versus 93% last month).

Net income for February was \$32,513 - \$38,943 = - \$6,430 (compared to budget amount of - \$4,115).

Net income YTD was \$91,544 - \$76,823 = \$14,721 (compared to budget amount of - \$8,231).

Calculated reserves were \$180,888 compared to \$176,564 in January.

Analysis:

19. As expected, the net income in February was negative, even more so than the budgeted loss. However, huge revenues experienced the previous month have resulted in a strongly positive net income YTD.
20. Reserves unexpectedly attained a new high point, even with the substantial net income loss experienced in February. This can be partially explained by a reduction in current liabilities compared to January. However, we can expect a reduction in reserves in coming months in accordance with the approved budget drawdown.
21. Our Balance Sheet for February shows cash assets totaling \$991,821, yet a new all-time high. Most of this money is in restricted accounts (\$754,230 or 76% of cash assets).
22. The memorial funds are sharply up thanks to a gift of \$30,000 from the Cordell family.

## **Committee Liaisons Reports:**

**Facilities Planning** – Bill Stoll: Added Susan Prosser to the committee; clarify facilities only; Will interview staff and committee chairs re: facility needs; Planning to present at leadership (hope to get committees to start thinking about their facility needs).

Bolt removal in sanctuary; Kevin Churchill moved to cut the bolts; Bill Stoll seconded; Motion passed.

**Legacy** – Brian Fisher: committee working to honor memorial donor intent. 49K in memorials available for deferred maintenance, tech, etc.

**Worship** – Allison Johnson: Need assistants; asking for sign-ups

**Technology** – Kevin Churchill: We are about 3K in the hole. Looking to do a tri-tip fundraiser. Discussed other funding sources including budget if funds become available.

**SAM** – Tom Neuhaus: Leaders leaving on road trip; Monthly Coffee Sale may go away

**Stewardship** – Barbara Cranfill: Trying to keep it in the forefront of members' minds.

**CDC update** - Wendy McClary: Thanks to Property Committee for input & motion; Planning on replacing leaking shed. Mark Saner volunteered to build a new one.

**Information:** Professional Liability Insurance for Council members - Rick Gardner: We now have 1M insurance for professional liability.

**Information** – Susan: 20+ members to Thursday Worship & Fellowship with Deacon Cecelia

**Information: Sign Up for Devotions** – Susan Prosser signed up for April

**Care** – Susan: some new things to be looking forward to

**Information:** Next meeting date – April 19 at 7:00 pm

**Information:** Executive Committee meeting April 7 at 7:00

**Information:** Reopening Committee will not be meeting again unless necessary.

**Information:** Leadership Retreat, March 27, 12:00 PM at Mount Cross

**A motion was made by** Allison to adjourn at 8:55; Brian Fisher seconded. **Motion passed.**

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:58 PM.

**Looking ahead:**

**Next Executive Committee meeting: April 7, 2022 7:00 p.m.**

**Next Council Meeting: April 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. (please note the change from in person to Zoom)**

<b>* DEVOTIONS</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
Bill Stoll	Becky	Susan	
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Barbara			
<b>** COUNCIL LISTENING POST</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)			

<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>

### **Pastor's Report for March 22, 2022 Council Meeting**

It has been a very busy month. In times like this the challenge is not to lose sight of what church is all about: experiencing and sharing the grace of Christ. One thing that keeps me going is the real experience here at Mount Cross of being a community sharing in God's work together. Thank you for being present, engaged, creative, and willing to roll up your sleeves and get things done.

Our combined Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m. on March 2 with St. Columba's was well-attended. A good number of Mount Cross people also attended the noon Ash Wednesday service at St. Columba's indicating, I think, the need to offer daytime services on our holy days for those who do not drive at night. We are partnering with St. Columba's for Holy Week services and have made sure there are daytime options. See the schedule below.

We had three memorial services in eight days. We commended Howard Wullschleger, Mary O'Donnell, and Don Stevenson to the mercy of God. Many thanks to our musicians, worship assistants, altar guild, and Helping Hands for their caring ministries during times of grief.

Wednesday night Lenten programs are off to a good start. About 20 people are attending the "Embracing an Adult Faith" class on Wednesdays at 5p.m. We cancelled the Thursday Zoom repeat of the class because too few were attending. The soup suppers are delicious and it's nice to eat together before Holden Evening Prayer. The theme of the Holden messages is "Word of God, Word of Life." We are hearing from different people about their favorite Bible passages. Thank you to the Saner family, Miriam Hoffman, Allison Johnson, Matt Fisher, and Jim and Susan Prosser for sharing with us.

Joe Zimmerly and I have been asked to serve on the Synod Assembly planning team.

I'm looking forward to our Leadership Retreat on Sunday, March 27 from Noon-5p.m. Thank you for attending.

#### **Holy Week and Easter Schedule**

Palm Sunday, April 10

9:30 a.m. worship at Mount Cross with a palm procession and the reading of the Passion. (Also livestreamed)

Maundy Thursday, April 14

Noon at St. Columba's for those who need a daytime service.

\*7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship at Mount Cross. We remember the last supper, hear Christ's commandment to love one another, celebrate the gift of Holy Communion, and strip the altar in preparation for Good Friday. (Also livestreamed)

Good Friday, April 15

Noon Stations of the Cross outdoors at St. Columba's Episcopal Church.

\*7 p.m. Service of Tenebrae (Latin for "darkness") at Mount Cross. Candles are gradually extinguished as we read the Passion, interspersed with hymns and musical interludes to aid our contemplation of the suffering and death of Christ. There will be an opportunity to reverence the cross. (Also livestreamed)

The Great Vigil of Easter, Saturday April 16

7 p.m. at St. Columba's Episcopal Church. Meet at the outdoor fire pit for the lighting of the new fire of Easter. We will process into the church to hear the foundational stories of our faith, proclaim the Easter Gospel, and celebrate Holy Communion on this night when Jesus passed over from death into life.

Easter Sunday, April 17

9:30 a.m. Easter Sunday worship at Mount Cross followed by an Easter breakfast. (Also livestreamed).

### **March 2022 Report – Joe Zimmerly**

We went to camp! Near the end of February and in March, our youth and families attended winter camp at El Camino Pines. Focused on the theme “Refresh” , our attendees learned ways in which we can refresh ourselves physically, mentally and spiritually. Plus, a few snowballs thrown at you will really freshen someone up!

Soup Suppers made a return as we entered the season of Lent. Cooked by our very own John Colby each week, people are welcomed to participate in offering a favorite soup of theirs as well. Our confirmands have enjoyed participating in Holden Evening Prayer as acolytes, ushers/greeters, and specifically leading the Lord's Prayer.

We are gearing up for a busy Spring, we look forward to these events on our radar:

- Parents Night Out / March 25th / 6:00PM-10:00PM
- Presto Pasta Fundraiser / April 4th
- Food Share Service Day / April 7th / 6:00PM - 8:00PM
- Easter Breakfast / April 17th / After Service
- Movie Night / April 29th / 6:00PM-7:30PM

This summer our high school youth will be attending Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp for their summer trip. Attending with Grace Lutheran of Palo Alto and Price of Peace Lutheran in Saratoga, we are excited to experience this with our kids and grow in our faith alongside each other.

**MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES FEBRUARY 15, 2022, 7:00 PM**

**2022 Elected Church Council Members:** Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Brian Fisher \* (Endowment Committee), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), Susan Prosser (Property), Rebecca Riley \* (President, Personnel Committee), Bill Stoll \* (Secretary, Learning), Evonne Kuchera (Care Team), Tom Neuhaus \* (Vice President, Service & Missions), Jim Dinges \* (Adult Education), Kristine Dawson (Fellowship & Welcome), Rick Gardner \* (Budget & Finance)

**Executive Committee:** Becky Riley (President), Tom Neuhaus (Vice President), Bill Stoll (Secretary), Rick Gardner (Treasurer)

**Representatives:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
Colin Edwards / Sophia Valencia - Youth Group

**Call to order:** The meeting was held virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7 P.M. by President Rebecca Riley

**Council Members Present:** Barbara Cranfill, Brian Fisher, Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Evonne Kuchera, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, Kristine Dawson, Rick Gardner

**Representatives Present:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
Sophia Valencia - Youth Group

**Staff Members Present:** Pastor Julie Morris, Joe Zimmerly

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half)

Number of council members' present 11 of 12

Number of voting representatives present 1

**Devotion:** Led by Bill Stoll on "Change".

**Welcome to new members by Becky**

**Approval of Minutes for January 18, 2022** Motion to approve the minutes made by Evonne Kuchera with second by Tom Neuhaus. **The minutes were approved.**

**Approval of Minutes for January 30, 2022 Special Council Meeting:** Motion to approve the minutes made by Susan Prosser with second by Barbara Cranfill. **The minutes were approved.**

Becky announced that John Marroquin resigned from Council. Council voted to accept his resignation.

**Susan Prosser moved to appoint Barbara Cranfill as Assistant Financial Secretary.** Second by Wendy McClary. **Motion passed.**

**Caring Conversation: Goals-** update bylaws; picture directory; handbook/manual; good financial management; listen; pews & chairs in sanctuary; kids get a say; council members

known & recognized; look forward & plan budget accordingly; Listen & learn; Facilities roadmap - tie into mission; Story catchers - where is the spirit leading us; Break down walls of creativity

**A joint motion came from the Executive Committee, Worship and Music Committee, and Personnel Committee to remove “interim” from Carol Browning’s Music Director position.** (Jim Prosser has agreed to create the necessary documentation); Tom Neuhaus called the question. **Motion passed.**

### **Leadership Retreat**

The date of March 27 was set for the Leadership Retreat; Pastor Julie, Becky Riley, Bill Stoll, and Tom Neuhaus volunteered to plan. Randy Churchill will be asked about the availability of Las Posas CC for the event.

**Becky announced** Rick Mann and Stan Patschek resigned from the Property Committee; Craig Blois, Cy Johnson, Marilyn Gardner stepped up, and possibly John Colby

### **Committee Liaison Selections**

Budget & Finance -Rick Gardner  
Care – Yvonne Kuchera  
CDC – Wendy McClary  
Endowment – Brian Fisher  
Fellowship - Kris Dawson  
Learning – Bill Stoll  
Adult Ed. – Jim Dinges  
Personnel – Becky Riley  
Property - Susan Prosser.  
SAM – Tom Neuhaus  
Stewardship - Barbara Cranfill  
Worship & Music – Allison Johnson  
Make Bake – Brian Fisher  
Tech – Kevin Churchill  
Welcome – Kris Dawson

### **Planning Committee**

Discussed formation of a Planning Committee to work with the Property Committee to set overall priorities for maintenance and property improvements – Randy Churchill (Chair), Jim Prosser, Gayle Johnson, Bill Stoll (Council liaison)

**Brian Fisher made a motion to create an ad-hoc facilities advisory committee for a period of one year to establish a road map for future facilities use and improvements.** Tom Neuhaus seconded. **Motion passed.**

### **Staff Reports**

#### **Pastor Julie**

**Susan Prosser made a motion to receive new members** (receive through transfer from another Lutheran congregation Lyndsay, Amanda, and Owen Montour and Dave and Becky Gilbertson (as Associate Members); baptize Brendan Jr. and Jordan Garrett and receive their parents, Brendan Sr. and Jennifer Garrett, as members; Patricia Lewis and Cheryl Wolfe will join the congregation by affirming their baptism; Jeanne Kuchera

Sikoff will renew her membership through the affirmation of baptism; Jeanne Eby will be baptized at one of the Easter services; Doug Wilde will be received by transfer.) on 2/27 and Easter Sunday. Tom Neuhaus seconded. **Motion passed.**

Pastor discussed faith stories and Council renewing the antiracism pledge.

### **Joe Zimmerly**

Will announce new summer trip this week; Dinner fundraiser @ presto pasta April 4; Food share opportunity - April 7; MC Fantasy football won by Landon Stouch

### **Rick Gardner Treasurer's Report**

Budget Performance (through January 2022):

Gross income for January was \$59,031 (160% of budget amount of \$36,868).

Pledged giving for January was \$51,842 (201% of budget amount of \$25,814).

Expenses for January were \$37,875 (93% of budget).

Net income was \$59,031 - \$37,875 = \$21,156 (compared to budget amount of - \$3,944).

Calculated reserves were \$176,564 compared to \$134,909 in December.

Analysis:

23. Pledged giving was far higher than projected. This is likely due to prepayment of annual pledges.
24. Reserves are at a high point, partly due to transfer of \$24,000 in salaries & benefits from a dedicated account to reserves. We can expect a reduction in reserves in coming months in accordance with the approved budget drawdown of \$47,327 for the year (\$3,944 per month).
25. Our Balance Sheet for January shows cash assets totaling \$975,335, an all-time high. Most of this money is in restricted accounts (\$740,499 or 76% of cash assets).



**Committee Liaisons:**

**Care** - motivated; looking for volunteers; guide available 2nd Sunday

**Senior Ministry Program** - Thursday pm monthly senior chapel

**Property** - Planning to do something special for Rick Mann's 20 years of service

**Learning Report** – name change coming

**Bill Stoll made a motion** to extend the meeting until 9:30. Barbara Cranfill seconded.

**Motion passed**

**CDC update. Wendy McClary**

Fire extinguishers are up to date; The removal of junipers and fence in play yard will be taken to the Property Committee; CDC president wants to talk to congregation & host patio hospitality on March 6.

**Information:** Status of the financial operations guidebook - Rick Gardner;

Nothing to report. He will bring items for change as needed.

**Information:** Professional Liability Insurance for Council members - Rick Gardner;

Rick will have a Zoom meeting with insurance rep on Friday, Feb. 18 @ 11:00 and will report next month.

**Information:** Re-opening committee update—Becky reporting for Kevin Churchill;

No change until March 3. Looking into updates regarding singing.

Council voted on how to meet in March (Zoom or in person). Zoom won.

**Kris Dawson made a motion** the Council meet in person quarterly beginning the second quarter (April meeting) (intent being one monthly meeting every quarter to be in person). Allison Johnson seconded. **Motion passed.**

**A motion was made by Susan Prosser** to adjourn to executive session for personnel matters. Seconded by Tom Neuhaus. **Motion passed.**

**Tom Neuhaus made a motion** to come out of closed session. Brian Fisher seconded. **Motion passed.** Regular session reconvened.

**Information:** Next meeting date – March 22 at 7:00 pm

**Information:** Executive Committee meeting March 3 at 7:30 pm

**Information:** Reopening Committee meeting March 3 at 7:00 pm

**Miscellaneous Business**

**Allison Johnson made a motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 PM. Wendy McClary seconded. **The motion passed.**

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:16 PM.

**Looking ahead:**

**Next Executive Committee meeting: March 3, 2022 7:00 p.m.**

Next Council Meeting: **March 22, 2022** at 7:00 p.m. (please note the change from the usual 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday)

### Ongoing Action/Discussion Items

<b>Task</b>	<b>Committee and Liaison</b>	<b>Follow up and/or Outcome</b>
Establish a road map for future facilities use and improvements	ad-hoc facilities advisory committee	
Faith story temple talks	Pastor Julie, Becky Riley, Allison Johnson, Bill Stoll	
Website Update	Ad hoc committee	

	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Meeting Time</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Council Liaison</b>
1.	Adult Education	To be re-established in the future		Jim Dinges
2.	Budget & Finance	As needed		Rick Gardner
3.	Care Team	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs 2 pm	Susan Prosser	Evonne Kuchera
4.	Child Development Center	1 <sup>st</sup> Tues 6 pm		Wendy McClary
6.	Endowment	No fixed time	Lisa Higginbotham	Brian Fisher
7..	Fellowship	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs 7 pm	Henry Moraga	Kris Dawson
8.	Learning	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon 7 pm	Tracy Blois	Bill Stoll
9.	Make Bake Celebrate (MBC)		Patti Stouch	Brian Fisher
10.	Nominating Committee	To be determined	To be determined	To be determined
11.	Personnel	As needed	Jim Prosser	Becky Riley
12.	Property	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon 7 pm	Rick Mann	Susan Prosser
13.	Service & Missions	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon 6 pm	Gordon Henry	Tom Neuhaus
14.	Stewardship	No fixed time		Barbara Cranfill
15.	Worship & Music	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed 9 am (as needed)	Randy Churchill	Allison Johnson
16.	Tech Committee	TBD	Gil Valencia	Kevin Churchill
17.	Welcome Committee			Kris Dawson

18.	Audit	TBD	TBD	TBD
19	Facilities Advisory committee (ad-hoc)	TBD	Randy Churchill	Bill Stoll

<b>* DEVOTIONS</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
Bill Stoll	Becky		
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>
Barbara			
<b>** COUNCIL LISTENING POST (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2023</b>

**MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES JANUARY 30, 2022 6:00 PM**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**

**2022 Elected Church Council Members:** Barbara Cranfill, Kevin Churchill, Brian Fisher, Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Evonne Kuchera, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, Kristine Dawson, Rick Gardner, John Marroquin

**Representatives:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center

**Call to order:** the meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Past President Becky Riley

**Council Members Present:** Kevin Churchill, Brian Fisher, Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, Rebecca Riley, Bill Stoll, Evonne Kuchera, Rick Gardner, Brian Fisher, Tom Neuhaus, Jim Dinges, Barbara Cranfill

**Staff Members Present:** Pastor Julie Morris, Joe Zimmerly

**Representatives Present:**

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half)

Number of council members present      12 of 12

Number of voting representatives present

**Election of Council Officers**

Becky Riley nominated Tom Neuhaus as Vice President and Bill Stoll as Recording Secretary. Bill Stoll nominated Becky Riley for President. Brian Fisher seconded all of the above. Bill Stoll moved that nominations be closed. Brian Fisher seconded and moved to vote in bloc. The slate was elected unanimously.

Becky reported that Rick had agreed to step into the position of treasurer and asked for approval and confirmed with Barbara Cranfill that Joan was willing to continue as financial secretary and asked for approval. Council so approved

The next regularly scheduled Council meeting was set for February 15 at 7:00 PM.

Allison Johnson moved to adjourn at 6:20; Second by Brian Fisher. Motion passed

Adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 6:20 pm.

**Looking ahead:**

**Next Council Meeting: - February 15, 2022**

**Devotions: Bill Stoll**

Bill Stoll  
Secretary/Recorder

**MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES JANUARY 18, 2022 AT 7:00 PM**

**2021 Elected Church Council Members:** Craig Blois, Barbara Cranfill, Kevin Churchill, Kristine Dawson, Brian Fisher, Herb Holler, Allison Johnson, John Marroquin, Susan Prosser, Rebecca Riley, Keith Selbrede, Bill Stoll, Evonne Kuchera

**Representatives:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center  
Tiana Stouch and Collin Edwards - Youth Group

**Light of Christ & Call to order:** The meeting was held virtually utilizing Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Rebecca Riley

**Council Members Present:** : Craig Blois, Kristine Dawson, Brian Fisher, Herb Holler, Allison Johnson, Susan Prosser, Rebecca Riley, Keith Selbrede, Bill Stoll, Evonne Kuchera, Barbara Cranfill.

**Representatives Present:** Wendy McClary- Child Development Center

**Staff Members Present:** Pastor Julie and Joe Zimmerly

**Visitor Present:** None

**Determination of Quorum- Six council members plus the Pastor**

(C12.06) majority of members of the council-majority is defined as one over one-half  
Number of council members' present 11 of 13  
Number of voting representatives present 2

**Devotions were led by Evonne Kuchera**

- **Action:** Approve minutes of December 21 meeting  
A motion was made by Barbara Cranfill and seconded by Keith Selbrade. The motion passed.
  
- **Information/Discussion:** Audit Committee  
The council will nominate the committee members pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution.
  
  
  
  
  
- **Information/Discussion:** A Council Meeting will be held on Zoom following the Annual Church Meeting on January 30, 2022. The election of council officers for 2022 will be held at that time. The Leadership Retreat will also be discussed.

- **Reports:** Reports from Staff. Pastor Julie, Joe Zimmerly,

Pastor Julie submitted a written report. A new procedure will be used for notifying worship assistants. The volunteer coordinators will begin to assign worship assistants and post a two month schedule.

- Joe Zimmerly Report – Reported on how well the Wednesday night dinners at church are attended.

- **Treasurer's Report – 1/18/2022**

Budget Performance (through December 2021):

Gross income for December was 125.6% of budget versus 91.4% last month.

YTD gross income was 95.2% of budget versus 93.1% last month.

Pledge giving for December was 104.4% of budget versus 101.7% last month.

Pledge giving YTD was 99.4% of budget versus 98.9% last month.

Expenses for December were 98.8% of budget versus 102.2% last month.

Expenses YTD were 97.1% of budget versus 96.7% last month.

Calculated reserves were \$135,360 compared to \$125,747 in November and a peak of \$177,586 back in March.

Keith Selbrede  
Treasurer

- **Budget**

The 2022 budget was updated with the latest changes. A motion was made by Brian Fisher and seconded by Craig Blois to accept the latest budget as the recommended budget to present to the congregation at the annual meeting. The motion passed. Craig Blois volunteered to put together a spreadsheet and explanation of the cuts that were made by the council in order to reach a balanced budget.

- **Committee Reports**

- Wendy McClary (CDC Representative)

The storage shed fell apart. A new shed will be financed by the CDC.

The CDC would like to remove several juniper trees to give the CDC more room for outside activities.

- **The Service and Missions Committee** Bill Stoll reported that the committee will meet Quarterly.
- **Re-Opening Committee** – Kevin Churchill reported no change to present policy.
- A motion was made by Bill Stoll to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Allison Johnson. The motion passed

- The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:30PM.

**Looking ahead:**

**Next Council Meeting: After Annual Church Meeting on January 30, 2022.**

**Ongoing Action/Discussion Items**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Committee and Liaison</b>	<b>Follow up and/or Outcome</b>
Review Membership Roster	Committee Pastor Julie	
Work out the process for annual reviews and perform the reviews	Executive Committee, Personnel Committee, Pastor Julie & Becky Riley	
Light on the cross/tree trimming	Property Committee?	
Church Pamphlet	Welcome Team	
Monthly review of the Church Calendar	Executive Committee	
Website Update	Tech Committee	

**2021 Church Council Members:** Craig Blois\* ( Past President, Learning), Kevin Churchill (Tech Committee), Barbara Cranfill (Stewardship Team), Kristine Dawson (Welcome Team), Brian Fisher\* (Vice-President, Endowment), Herb Holler\* (Secretary, Budget & Finance), Allison Johnson (Worship & Music), Evonne Kuchera ( Care Team), John Marroquin (Property) Susan Prosser (Fellowship), Becky Riley\* (President, Personnel), Keith Selbrede\* (Treasurer, Budget & finance), Bill Stoll (Service & Missions, Peace & Justice Team), \*Executive Committee

Wendy McClary (CDC Rep)  
Julie Morris (Pastor)

	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Meeting Time</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Council Liaison</b>
1.	Adult Education	To be re-established in the future		
2.	Budget & Finance	As needed	Keith Selbrede	
3.	Care Team	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday @ 10 am	Susan Prosser	Evonne Kuchera
4.	Child Development Center	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 6PM		Wendy McClary
6.	Endowment	No fixed time	Lisa Higginbotham	Brian Fisher
7..	Fellowship	3rd Thursday 7:00	Henry Mirage	Susan Prosser
8.	Learning	1st Monday 7:00	Tracy Blois	Craig Blois
9.	Make Bake Celebrate (MBC)		Patti Stouch	Brian Fisher and Craig Blois
10.	Nominating Committee	To be determined	To be determined	To be determined
11.	Personnel	As needed	Jim Prosser	Becky Riley
12.	Property	Last Tuesday 7:00	Rick Mann	John Marroquin
13.	Service & Missions	1st Monday 6:30	Gordon Henry	Bill Stoll
14.	Stewardship	No fixed time	Barbara Cranfill	
15.	Worship & Music	Tuesday 9:00 a.m. (every other month)	Randy Churchill	Allison Johnson
16.	Tech Committee	TBD	Gil Valencia	Kevin Churchill
17.	Welcome Committee			Kris Dawson
18.	Audit	TBD	TBD	TBD

<b>* DEVOTIONS</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
Bill Stoll	Becky	Kevin	Evonne
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
Susan	Barbara	Becky	Craig
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2021</b>
Bill	Keith	Susan	Evonne Kuchera
<b>** COUNCIL LISTENING POST (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month (unless otherwise indicated), on the patio, between services)</b>			
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>
	Keith		
<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY 2021</b>



