



Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
April 17, 2023

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

**I. Call to Order**

Sam Carter called the meeting of the Holy Cross Lutheran Church (HCLC) Council to order at 7:02 p.m. Members met in person in the Fellowship Hall at Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

**II. Devotions**

Joe Baggett led devotions and the opening prayer.

**III. Draft Agenda**

- Call to Order
- Devotions – Cheryl Smith
- Approval of the Minutes
- Treasurer’s Report and Approval
- Director of Music and Liturgy Report
- Pastor’s Report
- Reading of correspondence
- Reports of ministry teams
- VP/Finance Committee Report
- Unfinished Business
  1. Reminder to be thinking about nominations for your replacements
  2. New Website patterned after Vanco Demo Site:
    - a. <https://www.holycrossherndon.org>
    - b. <https://www.vancovalleychurch.com>
- New Business
  1. FEMA Grant
    - a. Assessment
    - b. Recommendations
    - c. Priorities
- Closing prayer
- Adjournment

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

Philip Isaiah made the motion to approve the minutes from the February 13, 2023 meeting. The minutes were approved. Gene Bain seconded approval. All voted in favor of approval.

#### **V. Treasurer's Report**

Joe Baggett submitted his report prior to the meeting. It has not been a good month. We have a deficit of over \$6,000 for February and we're down over \$5,000 for the past two months. There are 53 Sundays in 2023 and we need to bring in \$8,762.40/month. This is something we need to monitor closely. Gene Bain mentioned that we need to follow expenditures closely, but we need to pay staff and the mortgage, and be cautious of additional items. San Carter will list this as a topic in his Quest article. Joe said we need to look at large items like insurance premiums and the alarm system repair. Gene Bain made the motion to approve the report and was seconded by Gary Wolfe. All voted in favor of approval.

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

Jeremy Shoop submitted a written report. He highlighted Prayer Ground, Music Sunday on June 11<sup>th</sup> and Lent/Holy Week liturgy.

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

Pastor Martin submitted a written report. He mentioned that they are trying to move towards leadership development within the Lunch for the Soul group. Pastor continues to attend the Virginia Conference of the DC Synod. It is a way to connect with the rest of the Synod and network. He met with Smith-Cobbs, the youth leader at UMUC today to exchange ideas. He said kids are looking for things to put on their resumes so he will speak with Chris Nelson for ideas. Helping at LINK may be a possibility. Pastor will be attending the Bishop's Convocation in Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands from April 27 through May 1. He will also participate in a continuing education session from May 15 to May 22.

#### **VIII. Correspondence**

No report.

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

**Education** – Chip Edwards provided updates on the child protection oversight policy (CPP). He created a set of pdf forms for new applicants; created a checklist for new applicants and sent initial set of forms to new candidates to complete. We should have something that says how these documents will be stored. They should come back electronically. Chip provided a lesson list for the Spring Sunday school.

**Evangelism** - Karen Faulkner provided a written report. She received news that that the grant from Thrivent's Action Team fund was approved and thanks Roy Geiger for his help with that. It will cover the cost of the registration fee again this year and she will use some of the money to purchase treats and candy for the day of the event.

**Fellowship** – Anne Geiger submitted a written report. Anne noted that Joel Flegal will be coming home in the next week or so. On Easter Sunday, a brunch will be held between services to feed the choir and whoever else would like to visit. Let Anne know if you can make something. The Easter egg hunt will be held at the same time.

**Outreach** – Vivian Jefferson submitted a written report. She attended the Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County as a representative of Holy Cross. Holy Cross is a named sponsor of the award and we have contributed for several years. She will include an article in Quest outlining the ceremony.

**Personnel** – Gene Bain submitted a written report. He reported that one ELL nursery attendant has been hired and began working during February. A second ELL attendant has been identified and is undergoing processing. Chip is doing the background check and procedures. Thank you to Chip. Gene said he will be happy when we get liability insurance. Joe Baggett asked if parents could volunteer to watch the children.

**Property** – Gary Wolfe submitted a written report. The spring workday is scheduled for Saturday April 1. He said there are six different things to get done. Lopez Studios have asked to rent on May 6, May 13, week of July 10-14 and week of July 17-21. They are asking for reduced rates. After some discussion, it was decided to charge them \$4,000 plus \$100 for cleaning. Gary said he will be purchasing air purifiers for three rooms in the church. Some payment should come from the ELL budget, but need to find an equitable way to do the financing. I&D plus some combo with ELL? Anne Geiger asked Gary if there is some money to have the chairs cleaned in the Fellowship Hall and in the narthex. Would probably cost about \$1200 and is a nice to have, but not a need to have. Gary said that the “H” that is missing from the sign will be fixed.

**Stewardship** – Chris said that he will be starting Temple Talks the month after Easter based on the theme of “Gratitude”. He will approach others who don’t normally speak up to ask them to present. On the youth side, he is looking at service projects and a camp out later this summer.

**Worship** – Carol Shaffer submitted a written report. She wants to thank Gary Wolfe and Sam Carter for installing the sanctuary lamp. Gary spent two half-days with the electrician.

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

Sam Carter welcomed Philip Isaiah to Council. Philip said that the wheels are beginning to turn in terms of starting a finance committee. He has reached out to two people about rejoining. He said he will be starting from scratch and if you know any qualified individuals, please let him know. It was mentioned that Finance and Audit are separate committees and should not include the same people. Philip is looking at getting some new people.

#### **Adjourn**

Pastor Martin led the closing prayer. Philip Isaiah made a motion to adjourn at 8:12 p.m. The motion was seconded by Karen Faulkner. All approved.

#### **REMINDERS:**

##### Devotions

April – Cheryl Smith  
May – To be assigned

##### Meetings

April 17 – 7 p.m. (via Zoom)  
May 20 – 7 p.m. (via Zoom)