

Board of Elders  
Crown of Life Lutheran Church  
Meeting Minutes  
May 4, 2021

The meeting opened at 8:27 AM with a prayer by Pastor Phill. Pastor Gary and all the Elders except Al Stoudemire, Lowell Janssen and Duane Rawson were present.

**Prior Meeting Minutes** – The minutes from the April 6, 2021 Elders meeting were approved as published.

**Bible Study:**

Called to Believe, Teach and Confess: An Introduction to Doctrinal Theology, by Stephen Mueller, Chapter 19 “Prayer”, The Christian in Society was discussed by all.

- Next meetings discussion will be determined at a later date.

**Pastor’s Report:**

Pastor attended a local church leader meeting and reported the following:

- Palm West church is starting a contemporary Service with paid musicians.
- The local Methodist church just opened after severe COVID 19 restriction over the past year. With the upcoming split for the Methodist church the local church is not sure which way they will swing.
- The ELCA experienced severe problems with COVID 19 with some members dying
- The Recent voter’s assembly only took 57 minutes

- Both Pastors have been making communion calls with hospitals allowing 1 visit per day.
- Last year the Church Council approved a new Member At-Large. Prior to the Spring Voters assembly Tom Leshney held that position. Due to his appointment to Vice President a new At-Large Church council member will be chosen at their May meeting.
- Summer soloists are being chosen and will be scheduled for two weekends a month.
- Sun City West has a Community Fund service available to all Sun City West residents. They have approximately \$150,000 per year to help needy citizens through individual requests. They can help with rent, utilities and food when necessary. It was suggested that potentially this would be a good place to put some of COL Missions funds and help a local cause. Tom Mertins will suggest it to the Mission Board.
- As a reminder, COL has a Helping Hands Fund available to church members in need.
- Pastor Phill discussed an article about “Translation Abuse” whereby the editors of the NIV Bible are making editorial changes (removal of He for God reference, supposed scripture allowance of abortions in the Old Testament (not true) and other misleading references. Pastor will present to the church body a warning about being careful to only use the NIV version with specific publishing dates.
- **Starting June 1<sup>st</sup>**, social distancing will not be required. Individual decisions can be made as to appropriate separation. Wiping of pews will stop. Distribution of the attendance and communion roster will also begin.
- **Starting July 1<sup>st</sup>** Communion will be distributed at the Communion rail.
- With the recent past funeral service for a Christian held at COL, the Holy Spirit has enabled the grand children of the deceased to wish to be

baptized into Christian faith. This wonderful event will take place later in June. Hallelujah

- As indicated in the Spring Voters Assembly year-round 9:00 AM Sunday services will continue. The Elders concurred with the decision. As usual, 10:30 AM Sunday services will commence in January thru April.

**Elder Zone reports:**

- Ron Mara will be substituting for Joel Block on Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM.
- Due to Ed Michel’s absence in early June, Dave Sawyer volunteered to take care of the collection and delivery of food collected the first full weekend in June (June 5 & 6).
- Tom Mertins is substituting as Duty Elder for Duane Rawson in May, 2021
- Zone Elder reports were succinct with only pertinent issues discussed. Due to COVID 19 no attendance or communion reports were available.
- **JUNE 2021 Duty Elder: Al Stoudemire**

Jun. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	4:00 PM	Al S. & Duane
Jun. 13 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	9:00 AM	Al S. & Paul
Jun. 19 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	4:00 PM	Al S. & Henry
Jun. 27 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday	9:00 AM	Al S. & <del>Joel</del> <b>Ron Mara</b>

- ~~Elder’s meeting June 1<sup>st</sup> via Zoom @ 8:30 AM~~

**Council report:**

- Council report was given at the Spring Voters Assembly on May 3. Following is a summary of the Financial Statement through March 31, 2021:
  - Budget Receipts    \$207,328    Actual Receipts    \$222,409
  - Budget Expenses    \$204,754    Actual Expenses    \$184,745
  - Total Assets        \$3,587,646    Total Liabilities    \$3,587,646

**Old Business:**

- A new updated Elder Duty Schedule will be forwarded to all Elders to include the most recent changes.

**New Business:**

- Elder duty substitutions: Because of various absences, Tom Mertins requested that any substitutions be handled through him. This will facilitate a smooth operation.
- Elders' meetings summer schedule – It was discussed and agreed that the Elders would **NOT** meet in-person June through September, 2021. The next scheduled in-person meeting will be October 5, 2021

**Group notices:** Tom Mertins (13<sup>th</sup>), Dianne Mertins (16<sup>th</sup>), Ron Mara (16<sup>th</sup>); Henry and Dene anniversary on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and Al and Lucy's anniversary is the 29<sup>th</sup>.

**May Closing Prayer:** Ed Michel

**Next in-person meeting: October 5, 2021**

**October Closing prayer** – Duane Rawson (September's Duty Elder)

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 AM

Respectfully submitted:

*Chris Beck*

Elder Secretary