

Rocky Mountain Region of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes for July 6, 2024, 10 AM, via ZOOM

Host: St Paul ECC Facilitator – Don Scribe – Michael

Attending: +Kae, Don, Michael, Chuck, Rosean, Tom, Greg, Dennis—no quorum
Excused: Jane, Anne, Alice, Liz

Opening Prayer/Regional Prayer

Holy One,
Enlivening Spirit,
In the wilderness of new,
Root the body of Christ
Fully into our “Yes”
Blooming in your Holy Season.
Together, Amen!

Regular Business

1. **Welcome Visitors**—none
2. **Agenda approval/additions**
3. **Review and approval of May and June minutes**—approved
4. **Financial report**—reviewed/accepted; CCC checks yet to clear (Michael to verify receipt)
5. **Bishop’s report**—see Appendix A.
 - a. **Certificates for continuing ed to be sent to Rosean**
(Kae will send out form incl. details about what counts).
 - b. **Certificates for Ethics training to be sent to Rosean.**
 - c. MidAmerica-departure process review report details what happened and why, incl. lack of procedures; recruiting next team to address clarification of processes to avoid gaps in future. Scope of project will be discussed at Synod; extraordinary meetings btwn synods possible involving community discussions with their delegates; clarity about Leadership Council and Houses needed; recommitment to Synodal process and our covenant together.
 - d. Christie’s ordination hopefully Aug. 3. (Note: Kae on 2 discernment teams given her role as pastor, not bishop.)
 - e. Thanks to Michael for work during Pride month around the region.
 - f. Rep of Council of Bishops visitation next year? +Paul a possibility for communities other than COB.
6. **Vicar’s report**—see Appendix B.
 - a. **NEW WEBSITE BLURB: copy and paste on individual sites encouraging remote participation in liturgies:**
virtual participation may be your first step to starting a church in your vicinity!
Many people from other parts of Colorado have asked if we have a church near them. If we don't have one near you, we encourage you to contact us to explore remote

participation.

Gather friends and family in your home to join worship via Zoom or Facebook Live, and if you would consider starting a home church, we'll see if one of our priests can travel to do in-person Masses on an occasional or regular basis!

- b. **Feedback on CCC Islamophobia presentation:** disjointed given presenter's bad internet connection, so Powerpoint helpful. Poor attendance surprising. Individual communities sharing series in different ways.
7. **Leadership Council Report**
- a. transportation updates from Jack to Kelly: need drivers (including rides with our delegates)
 - b. ask individuals (especially delegates) to offer host out-of-town arrivals for a day or so before synod to help lowlanders acclimate, then drive them to YMCA (**Tom to talk to Kelly about suggestion**)

Old Business

1. **Holy Synod** Oct 11-14, 2024 planning and support
 - a. remind delegates to register
2. **Report on Pentecost(ish) ECC offering and Mary Magdalene Society appeal**—underway
3. **Accountability Calendar** – Nothing shown for June. July indicates MMS appeal.
4. **Marketing Discussion** Follow-up on Liz's call to Aaron Baily—has not responded, so **LOC to follow up.**

New Business

1. **Mary Magdalene Society's Christmas in July** appeal. **Each community should publicize it.** (LOC Youp Grouth received MMS funds for Pine Ridge mission trip, so will be writing up a report.)
2. Don's proposal: Agenda template with Zoom link, future meeting line-up and Consensus model which **Michael will produce and post on website under Documents**, to be periodically adjusted. Include reminder to review prior meeting minutes for current agenda items and action items.
3. Community updates
 - a. MoM pride event great visibility at Ranch Events Center; young adult confirmation in Sept; 2 members' newly published books to be presented.
 - b. STP invited to participate in 100 Anniversary celebrations of 6thAveUCC.
4. **Synod Liturgy Team encourages liturgical use of "Our Prayer for Synod"** (Appendix C).

Closing Prayer – Fr Michael prayed +Kedda's prayer. See Appendix C.

Meeting closed at 11:30am

Lead Rotation of Remaining 2024 RMRC Meetings:

Aug 1-MoM, Sept 5-COB; Oct 5-CHF leads; in person at LoC; Nov 7-LOC; Dec 5-STP

2025:

Jan 2-MoM; Feb 6-COB; Mar 6 (day after Ash Wed)-CHF; Apr 3-LOC; May 1-STP; Jun 5-MoM; Jul 3-COB

Appendix A—Bishop Notes: Activity in June 2024

+Kae

Personal: Our grandson, Aiden, is getting married on July 15, so Greg and I will be on vacation July 11-18.

Listening and Relationship building

Administration

Follow up pending:

- Clergy Ethics/Safety Training:
- Continuing Education

Advocacy/Presence/Consultation

Attended CCC Islamophobia presentation on June 11

Clergy support:

Praying with many...

Clergy meetings and phone calls

Weekly Friday gatherings:

Community support:

Pride: Denver Pride Apr 22/23. Supported Adams County Pride on June 8th. Thank you Michael for attending. Helped staff the Denver booth on Saturday afternoon. Thank you Michael for carrying the load for the region.

Liturgies/Sacraments

Scheduled tentatively for “**bishop visit**” to StP on July 20th

Scheduled to preside at CHF on July 21st

Ordination: Worked on finalizing Christy’s application for ordination, three evaluators, almost finished, **tentatively Christy’s diaconate ordination is August 3rd at 5 p.m. at Church of the Beloved. Hooray!** Will be planning the liturgy on the fast track :)

Formation

Continuing discernment with candidates Mike and Christy and Jim.

Christy meeting on June 19 and Discernment team meeting June 27

Mike meeting on June 26, July 3 and Discernment team meeting July 7.

ECC

Regional Delegate meetings: A reminder to send in our delegate names and contact information to the House leadership.

Enjoyed the **regional picnic** on June 9.

??? Question about scheduling an “outside” bishop visit” during or following Synod?

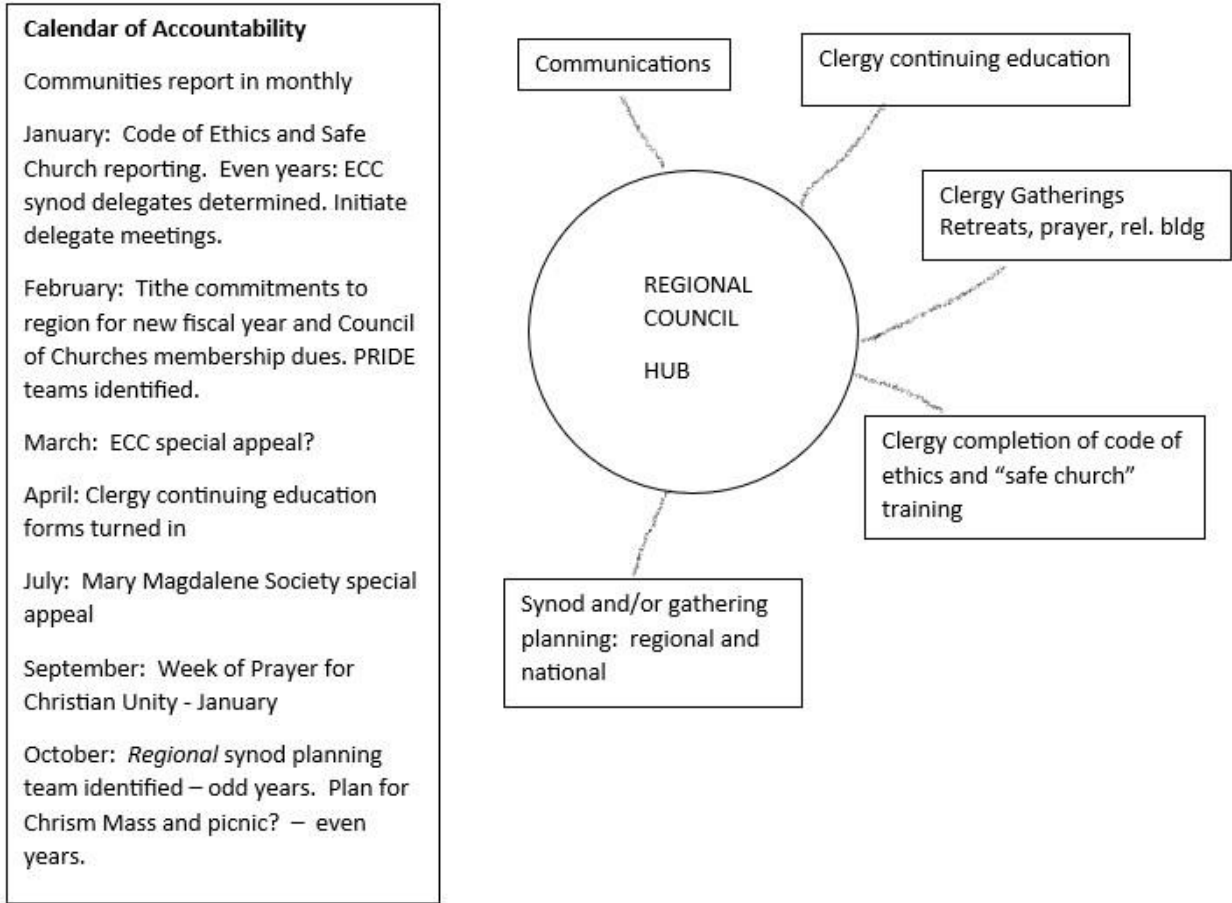
Council of Bishops

- Meetings on June 10, July 1st.

- Process review for the MidAmerica division is complete. Now shifting attention to the next phase which is forming a team for the analysis of the issues identified and recommendations for how to address the issues.

Consulting with Pablo: Phone calls and meetings to discuss the current climate and functioning of the ECC, perspectives.

Brainstorming model of administration of the region....



Appendix B—Ecumenical Engagement Report for RMRC 07 06 2024

submitted 7/4/2024 by Fr. Michael Nicosia

KEY POINTS and ACTION ITEMS in red below

UP-COMING:

StP offering blessings/prayers on the anniversary of the Aurora Theater Shooting at 7/20 Foundation’s “ Day of Resilience” Wellness and Healing Fair, JULY 20. Aurora Low-water landscape garden at City Hall.

REGIONAL & NATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

Attended Pride Fests in Longmont with LOC, Adams CO with COB, and coordinated Regional Booth at Denver PrideFest. Worked with Cara Thompson to get enough rosaries for Pride booth. Published NEW Gender-Inclusive Rosary on website – was very appealing to PrideFest attendees.

Presided at StP 6/8+29, MoM 6/16, Dignity 6/30.

Attended 6/11 CCC webinar on Islamophobia with +Kae and Denise.

Continued participation in Inclusive Catholic's Coffee Chats and Happy Hours.

Submitted reflection to *Extraordinary Catholics! Magazine*, July-August issue.

Continued work on Synod Liturgy and Music Teams.

Visited YMCA of the Rockies to scope out venue; as a result, helped with total revamp of Chaplains' healing service for Synod.

Participated in weekly regional pastor prayer/sharing.

Circulated advocacy and event updates, incl. CCC posts.

Updated website with events incl. encouragement to participate in our liturgies remotely:

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COLORADO COUNCIL OF CHURCHES –

SUMMER BREAK until August 28 to address national election and prep for #RedRocksEaster

Webinar series posted on our RMR-ECC website including the last on Islamophobia.

Appendix C—

Regular liturgical use of the prayer below is encouraged, to be prayed at Masses, local council and delegate meetings, and other communal gatherings.

OUR PRAYER FOR SYNOD

God on High, the mountains are radiant with your glory.

Through your Christ the dawn from on high
has broken upon us and lights our way.

✠ Bless our preparations for our Holy Synod,
that we may be better bearers of the fire
that gives light to the world.

This we ask and can do, empowered by your Spirit,
in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Synod Liturgy Team also appreciates the more encompassing themes of the following prayer composed by Bishop Kedda, for use in newsletters and bulletins as a meditation resource.

MEDITATION IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ECC HOLY SYNOD

Source of all, our God, we lift up our beloved Ecumenical Catholic Communion as it prepares to gather for our Holy Synod.

We do so knowing that all who gather have one primary responsibility – to discern the movement of the Holy Spirit among us, your will for us, your desire to reveal to us how it is we best honor our commitments to see the future you envision for us.

At our Holy Synod, through our prayers together, our worship together, our dialogue together, our play together, our hearing of each other, and our silence in the times required for us to discern, deepen our love for each other and strengthen our commitments to build a just world for all.

Let our laughter be rich, our love deep, and our joy without bound.

Unravel whatever it is that keeps us from hearing you and clear space in our hearts for your wisdom.

Out of the work of this holy gathering may we live out more fully our call to be proclaimers of your love in the world and agents of your justice for all.

We come to you through Christ Jesus who is alive with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, now and forever. Amen.