

## **RMRC Notes for 10 04 2018**

Host COB

Present: Host COB Dennis Giblin (Chair), Kerrie Anderson, Teri Harroun, Mike Weil, John Head, Michael Nicosia, Jim DeMuth, Greg Yonker (notes).

Excused: Mother Kae, Donald Sutton, Jack Wolfe

**PRAYER** – Dennis opened with a prayer.

**AGENDA AMENDMENT/APPROVAL** – Approved and Greg asked to speak about three items under New Business.

**APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER NOTES** – Moved and seconded.

**FINANCIAL REPORT** – Greg reported that he was unable to prepare an accurate written report. In the process of verifying cell errors as requested by Jim DeMuth last month, a calculating error was discovered. An updated report will be sent out in a few days after re-entering data. Audit was completed and accurate report was emailed on October 9, 2018.

**VICAR'S REPORT** – *see* Appendices A and B

**NEW BUSINESS** – Greg mentioned that the Trade Name (Rocky Mountain Regional Council – Ecumenical Catholic Communion) had expired with the Colorado Secretary of State's Office. Greg will re-register the Trade Name so we are compliant with First Bank identification requirements. The lapel pin project that Fr Don Sutton announced at Synod in Tempe is moving forward. A proof had been received from the Vendor. An iteration is being produced to deepen the flesh-tone on Jesus. Greg reminded of the Appeal request by the ECC National to assist in balancing the budget shortfall. Request donation of \$5 per member (the cost of a coffee or other beverage equivalent).

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**NEXT STEPS IN THE LOCAL BISHOP'S PROCESS** – A brainstorming session began and everyone in attendance offered expressions of important items and areas of concern that should be considered to move forward in the process. Consensus determined that Dennis and Greg would prepare a framework to guide a steering committee to move this forward.

**YOU ARE WELCOME CONFERENCE** – Michael attended today. I was a bit windy. The table he was staffing was outside. Some local students came by and he was able to engage a few. Some transgender students may visit St Paul or Holy Family. Good networking opportunity and holistic healing.

**PROGRESSIVE CONGREGATIONS NETWORK** – Imagine a triangle of three themes, What matters to you, What matters to others, What is the vision beyond. Define your core values. Express the necessity to Vote. The group is comprised of interfaith advocates. Immediate concern is messaging to get out the vote.

**ID CARDS FOR ECC CLERGY OR DEACONS** – Jim DeMuth spoke with Jen Reyes Lay at Synod. There are no id cards being produced. Each priest or deacon should have a letter from ECC national to identify

member clergy's affiliation with the ECC and privileges and responsibilities. Contact Jen Reyes Lay if you require a letter.

### **COMMUNITY REPORTS**

**CHF** – Cynthia will have her first Deacon Service at 10am on October 21. First Mass will be Nov 4<sup>th</sup>. Ordination will be Dec 9th at 10am. 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Mass was observed. Reached agreement to share space with Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church located at Mississippi Avenue and Nome St. Rented office space near the church at Iliff Ave and Peoria St.

**MOM** – Jim DeMuth and Kerrie Anderson reported will sign new two year lease with Trinity Lutheran. Also housed with St Paul Episcopal. St Francis blessing of the animals will be followed with a BBQ.

**STP** – Fr Michael reported a major reflection period regarding suspension of the partnership with Grant Street Reach's Monday hot meal program to feed the homeless. Area residents, businesses and parish members having a conversation on how to best serve the needs of the elderly, poor, hungry and homeless as an outreach to the urban community through St Paul Ministry. Perhaps involve the ECC Region with remote collaboration and frozen baked goods.

**LOC** – Teri reported events to facilitate conversation on gun violence, partnered last Friday with 50 people concerning racial justice. Planning Thanksgiving Service. Seven elementary age First Reconciliations.

**COB** – Dennis reported that October 21 for the annual fundraiser. Upcoming training for members who volunteer to make home visits. Fundraiser to support a family after a member died.

**OTHER** – Regional Newsletter Deadline for articles should be in November. Last newsletter was Aug 10<sup>th</sup>. Fr Teri and Fr Michael suggested pushing to December and adding Christmas Service schedules. Newsletter deadline now Nov 14<sup>th</sup> +/- one week.

Colorado Council of Churches is hosting a Soul Shop Workshop on Nov 13<sup>th</sup> at Montview Presbyterian Church in Denver. Topic is suicidal depression. Michael will check for scholarship and see what literature is available.

The next meeting of the RMRC – ECC will be November 1<sup>st</sup> and will be hosted by CHF.

Dennis Giblin closed the meeting with a prayer.

/gyonker

## Appendix A—Vicar Report for RMRC 10 04 2018

### FORMATION/RECEPTION

**Ordination/Incardination Candidate Evaluations:** At Synod, I called together all those bishops, vicars and evaluators responsible for vetting ordination/incardination candidates to review psychological testing procedures. Direct communication with past ordinaries/supervisors/co-workers is indispensable. Psych evaluators ideally have forensic or human resources backgrounds so as to correctly identify those personality types that can manipulate their answers to portray false positives. All understand the financial burdens upon the candidates, so an effort is being made to facilitate testing in more cost effective ways. One goal would be to train individuals in each region to be evaluators rather than drawing upon anyone who volunteers.

### REGIONAL COLLABORATIONS

Celebrated Mass at MoM 9/16 and Dignity-Denver 9/23.

Prepared materials for **You Are Welcome Here (YAWH) Conference Oct 4 at 9 AM to Oct 5 at 5:30 PM**

<https://welcomeyawh.org/>

Turnhalle Ballroom At The Tivoli, 900 Auraria Pkwy, Denver, Colorado 80204

**NOTE: Table staffing help needed; free registration tickets available through their site.**

Attended **CHF 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** reception after their Mass.

Attended Interfaith Advocate's **Progressive Congregations Network** meeting on 9/27; aside from networking and review of important ballot initiatives, here's a helpful way to address issues succinctly... **Four important skills to be able to talk politics or morals:**

1. Why this issue matters
2. What values guide your decision/this decision
3. Why this matters for the community
4. What would the future look like if this were true

Getting to the point of an issue is VITAL so that people understand why it matters and specifically why this matters to them.

70% of Colorado citizens voted in the last midterm elections – what would our state politics look like if 90% of Coloradans were involved? It is incredibly important, especially as faith leaders, to discuss why your faith has shaped your opinion and why you think it's important to stay civically engaged.

Spoke with Dcn Buddy who relayed a **RC Archdiocesan notice pursuing laicization**, partly due to his association with the ECC. While such actions have no impact on the validity of orders of those incardinated into the ECC, we should all be aware. A copy of the notice to be forward to the OPB. As part of our due diligence, of course, all notices would be reviewed to ensure that sexual misconduct or other ministerial abuses aren't cited as reasons for said action.

**BISHOPS/VICARS CALL** preempted due to Synod

## ADVOCACY

Regularly posted on **Instagram**, **Twitter** and **regional Facebook page** at [www.facebook.com/Coloradoecc/](http://www.facebook.com/Coloradoecc/) .



Forwarded to regional communications pointpersons advocacy education opportunity from Nathan Davis Hunt, Program Director of Economic Justice at Interfaith Alliance of Colorado ([www.interfaithallianceco.org](http://www.interfaithallianceco.org); c. 832/344-6256) who is offering a teach-in with your congregation or community on the Yes on Prop 111 campaign to stop predatory payday loans, and on Amendment A to Abolish Slavery. He would love to coordinate an opportunity to set this up... in person to speak as little as 5 minutes to as long as you want. Please email him back [nathan@interfaithallianceco.org](mailto:nathan@interfaithallianceco.org) with times through October to November 5th that work for your community, and they will coordinate with you to set up a presentation, table an event or service, or facilitate a conversation.

Full **CCC Ballot Guide** sent out to communications point persons.

**CFCU** will be hosting a pre-election panel featuring major civic leaders talking about the **mental health policies and programs** that can help save lives on Wednesday night, Oct. 17. We need to demonstrate that CFCU members are serious about our mission of reducing firearm fatalities and injuries by attending this meeting and bringing other interested members from our congregations. Please post and distribute the flyer (sent out to communications point persons) in your congregation and other communities of interest, because this important meeting is open to the public.

### **COLORADO COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

Attended **CCC Communications Team** 9/10, relayed info re ELCA/ECC gathering. Gave feedback on ELCA document, "Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery."

### **CCC Board meeting notes—see APPENDIX B**

subsequently gave CCC Board feedback on their **Public Policy Statement on Ethical Eating** from an agriculture perspective via Mthr. Kae. It was very well received. Putting the policy on hold pending discussions with impacted farmers.

## **Appendix B—COLORADO COUNCIL OF CHURCHES 09\_19\_2018 Board Meeting**

**ATTENDEES:** Catharyn Baird (Chair), Scott Schiesswohl, Bill Warren, Roland Halpern, Barb Rohrer, Rev. Alycia Erickson, Executive Director Adrian Miller, Tina Yankee (by phone), Rev. Stan Adamson

**ABSENT:** Fr. Michael Nicosia, Olivia Hudson Smith, Tom Wolfe

### **CALL TO ORDER/GATHERING THOUGHTS/UPDATES**

Catharyn – Fall 2-Week Vacation, Reformation in Amsterdam (castles and cathedrals tour)

- 65 people on the Viking Cruise; paid attention to all those who are not seen but who get things done at the cathedrals and castles. Their absence provides a striking contrast between opulence and caring for those who are unseen
- Our work is to continue being a voice for those who don't have a voice – Social Justice

**APPROVE AUGUST 2018 MINUTES *Moved, seconded & unanimously approved***

### **TINA UPDATE**

- Hopes to leave the hospital tomorrow, trying to balance fluid-retention with kidney functions

### **TREASURER'S REPORT – Rev. Alycia Erickson**

- We hired a consultant to help clean up our accounting
- The consultant will teach our bookkeeper how to properly to do accounts receivable (still in process)
  - Quicken in cleaned up
  - Next will migrate to online Quicken which loses some reports but eases access
- Good news of \$6,800 annual contribution from the Mountain Sky Conference of the United Methodist Church
  - Original discussion was to cut donation in half;
  - Scott lobbying for \$8,000, but we're happy with \$6,8000 contribution
- Waiting for \$11,000 Homeless Grant
  - We've received half
- Stan is staying on top of Plains & Peaks donation
- Catharyn working with Episcopalian's
- Momentous year for the Episcopalians
  - McCain Funeral
  - Royal Wedding
- Adrian working with AME

***Moved, seconded & unanimously approved*** Treasurer's Report

### **FUNDRAISING UPDATE - Rev. Tina Yankee**

- Ford Foundation Grant on Income Inequality
  - \$100,000 grant to educate the community about ESOP's and CO-OP's
    - Employ those released from Corrections
    - CCC would coordinate meetings regarding Income Inequality and ESOP's and Co-ops
    - Find out in October
  - Additional Meeting with Ford Foundation

- Vaccination Group Study
  - \$7,500 for us, \$2,500 for operational expenses
  - First draws in early February
  - Second opportunity
  - **Stan asks, “Do our Denominations have a position on vaccines?” Would this connect to Social Principals/Health Care within the Denominations?**
- Soul Shop Workshop on Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>
  - For suicide awareness
  - For clergy & laity

#### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Draft Ballot Guide
  - Reduce font-size of YES
  - Add color to CCC Position
- Initiative 302 – Ten Year Sales Tax; Providing food for children in City and County of Denver

#### PROGRAMMING

- Finalize Ethical Eating Statement
  - Catharyn will do the editing
  - Michael wants to know about including cross-pollination when large-scale GMO fields threaten native and Non-GMO crop/**Use Michael’s added bullet point instead**
  - Adrian will send to the Judicatories

***Moved, seconded & unanimously approved*** Ethical Eating Statement

**[—after subsequent consideration of input referencing an agriculture perspective via ECC Mthr. Kae Madden, the Board decided to put the policy on hold pending discussions with impacted farmers.]**

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 20<sup>th</sup> – New Hope Baptist Church
- September 30<sup>th</sup> – Ballot Initiative Forums
  - 1:00 PM – Campbell Chapel AME Church (tentative)
  - 5:30 PM – North Highlands Presbyterian Church
- October 23<sup>rd</sup> – Presbytery Assembly
- October 25<sup>th</sup> – Luncheon with Zimbabwe
- October 28<sup>th</sup> – Adrian speaking at St. Andrew Presbyterian in Boulder
- Pending – Central
- November 15, 2018 – David Clough, Founder and Co-Director

#### SENDING FORTH

- Go forth to love and serve the Lord!

Next meetings: October 31, 2018; November 28, 2018; December 19, 2018