

# **The Rocky Mountain Region of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion Board of Directors Meeting of July 7, 2022 6:00PM**

Host: Church of the Beloved; Facilitator: Alice Bradley; Notes: Christy Chady

Present:

Kae Madden (Regional Bishop)  
Michael Nicosia (Vicar for Ecumenical Engagement)  
Jack Wolfe (Light of Christ)  
Alice Bradley, Christy Chady (Church of the Beloved)  
Rosean Amaral (Mary of Magdala)  
Greg Yonker (St. Paul, Denver)  
Christine Casillas, Mike Weil (Church of the Holy Family)

Opening Prayer/Regional Prayer (Alice started the meeting at 6:03pm)

## Regular Business:

1. Welcome any guests
  - Christine Casillas joined the meeting as a new Board member from CHF
2. Agenda approvals/additions
  - Additions were made to agenda: Colorado Springs mission community, Regional Constitution/By-laws
  - Agenda was approved
3. Review and approval of June notes
  - June notes were approved; May notes were also approved
4. Financial Report
  - June tithing income and expenses (Bp stipend, Vicar housing, Quickbooks online subscription, and bank fee)
5. Bishop Notes and Vicar Report
  - Bishop Notes: Kae will update and send amended Bishop notes to reflect that the 6/8 Liturgy meeting was canceled; no questions about report
  - Vicar reports: Michael shared idea for next year's Pride to anoint hands of caregivers; no questions about report
6. Leadership Council Report - Mike, Kae
  - Information coming soon about Synod details, how to submit legislation, table available for each community to share information, 4 meetings scheduled with Paul Burson (7p in each time zone)-please share with all community members, not just synod delegates.
  - ECC budget: Sts. Clare and Francis community has been covering some of the national ECC expenses (i.e., zoom account), will be sent to Finance Council to add into ECC budget
7. Personal Connections - What aspect of nature is particularly compelling to you this summer?

Mike Weil joined the meeting to say farewell as he will be stepping down from the Board for now to pursue his study and discernment for call to priesthood.

## Old Business:

1. Website update
  - Look over information Michael sent out in email (history, church contacts), let him know of any changes by August meeting

- Board will vote to approve the overall information at the August meeting
  - Communities send information needed to Michael by September Board meeting
2. Regional picnic 10 July 2022
- Currently 59 RSVPs (several cancellations due to COVID illness/exposure)
  - Synod delegate names
  - Heat concerns addressed (shade, spray bottles, personal umbrellas)
  - Send out information to those who RSVP'd yes to remind people of what to bring
  - Indemnification for picnic
    - Board approved to indemnify Jack, who signed the contract with the City of Longmont to reserve the park
    - For other activities in the future that are not on church grounds, Board will need to look into insurance to cover indemnification, as a rider from one of the church communities
3. Synod Oct 9-12 in St Louis
- a. Presiding Bishop Nominations
    - No floor nominees; Paul Burson is the only candidate forwarded
    - Background documents and information sent out this evening via email
  - b. Legislation: ECC Deacons, Behavior/Consequences
    - Region will fund Kae, STP will fund Michael

New Business:

1. Community Updates

- COB: hybrid Masses, experiencing technology difficulties, differing participation than previously
- Jack raised a question as to whether it may be a HIPAA violation for others to know who's attending Mass virtually? Post meeting comment from Alice: People attend virtually due to a wide range of reasons including physical location out of state, convenience, etc. I believe it would only present a HIPPA violation if attendees were asked to personally disclose their reason for attending virtually rather than in-person.
- STP: new members of community council, Synod delegates TBD (due to too many volunteers), morning prayer 6 days a week, signed up with AmazonSmile and King Soopers, 12-20 people attend each Saturday
- LOC: COVID precautions include physical distancing, masks, and no meals
- MoM: electronic signage for all 3 communities coming soon, 7/24 patron saint Mass, 3 new leadership council members, will participate at FoCo Pride 7/16, 6/26 Pride and Immaculate Heart of Mary celebrated together at Mass

2. Colorado Springs mission community

- Feedback at Denver Pride from people in Colorado Springs about interest in having a community there
- Michael will attend Pikes Peak Pride at end of July and see about interest
- Discernment about mission will be needed within all regional communities
- Perhaps it could be a mission of STP community?
- See Constitution Article 3 Section 4 for requirements

3. Regional Constitution/By-laws

- Each community will have 1 clergy and 1 lay representative on the Board, "where practical"

Closing Prayer - Alice (meeting ended at 7:59pm)

Next Meeting Host Communities: Aug 4, CHF; Sept 1, LOC; Oct 6, STP; Nov 4, MoM

## **Appendix A—Bishop Notes: Activity in June 2022**

+Kae

**Personal:** Thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy and condolences on the death of my mother in mid-June. I have taken considerable time off and I appreciate your understanding.

**Vicar Michael: Thank you to Michael** for coordinating and staffing the Denver PRIDE booth for the region.

**Planning for Regional Picnic:** The planning team has coordinated the picnic collaboratively. We are saving receipts to submit when all is said and done. For Mass, I ordered the prepared Communion kits: some Gluten free, some with juice, and many regular wine and bread. The schedule is 10 a.m. set up, 11:00 gather, 12:00 lunch, 12:30 thank yous/celebration, 1 p.m. Mass. My recommendation would be for a quick email to go out to all those committed to participating to remind them to bring: a dish to share, and their own chair, plate, napkins, flatware, beverage plus plenty of water. We could include the map again, too. More discussion during the meeting.

### **Listening and Relationship building**

Lots of phone calls and emails communicating prayer requests, and news among the region's clergy via email.

### **Discernment and ordination**

Ongoing conversations with Mike W and Christy Chady, a candidate from Church of the Beloved. Both have enrolled in classes through Bishop Kemper School of Ministry : )

Formation: I think we'll wait until after synod to form our region's education and formation team so that we don't have to double back. Any in your communities who may be interested in being part of the team, please let me know.

### **Liturgies**

Celebrated with St. Paul on June 25<sup>th</sup>. I have an idea for interaction during receptions: bishop speed dating! We'll just ask each table to hold a spot for me and I'll bring my plate and move table to table every 5 minutes : )

### **ECC**

The final **liturgy town hall** was on June 8<sup>th</sup> was cancelled due to Bishop Francis's trip to Poland.

### **Council of Bishops**

The June 13<sup>th</sup> meeting was not an "official meeting" because we were missing +Frank. Much of the meeting focused on gun violence and any pastoral letters from each region/diocese. Bishop Rafe is retiring as bishop of the Mid-America diocese and there are some challenges to accomplishing an election process prior to synod for confirmation.

I met with the LC on June 7<sup>th</sup> to represent the Presiding Bishop who was on vacation. The principle topics were related to budget planning for the ECC to submit to the Finance Council, especially including services that may have been utilized that actually are funded by St. Clare and Francis and may need to be independently purchased going forward.

**Synod:** Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. I've been asked to coordinate the Wednesday morning closing liturgy planning, with option for consecration of the new Presiding Bishop. I'll be gathering a team for that endeavor. I have not seen actual registration information. Have you all?

**Consultation:** continued interaction with CHF in discerning their model of church.

## **Appendix B—Ecumenical Engagement Report for RMRC 07 07 2022**

submitted 7/6/2022 by Fr. Michael Nicosia

### **KEY POINTS and ACTION ITEMS**

PrideFest: Great idea to remember for next year. Thinking about how to engage passers-by, I wanted to do hand blessings for caregivers who stop at our booth— walking to the event I dropped my bag and broke my vial of oil.

Flier printing: **\$107.12** (300 double-sided half sheets; approx. 110 passed out).

Colorado Council of Churches: I've been asked to serve on the Advisory Board for their Advance Directives education initiative in conjunction with UCHHealth; no details yet.

Check out the July/August issue of *Extraordinary Catholics* magazine is now available! You can find it online at: [https://www.flipsnack.com/extraordinarycatholics/extraordinary-catholics-july-august-2022.html?fbclid=IwAR30z3Z5i8pmMRssM2Ee\\_r7gygy5SsGMBflwvOOZQWdP8qvHvjgoMliolBo](https://www.flipsnack.com/extraordinarycatholics/extraordinary-catholics-july-august-2022.html?fbclid=IwAR30z3Z5i8pmMRssM2Ee_r7gygy5SsGMBflwvOOZQWdP8qvHvjgoMliolBo)

### **REGIONAL & NATIONAL COLLABORATIONS**

Attended ECUSA/ELCA/UMC service at St. John's Cathedral and marched with them to the March For Our Lives rally at Civic Park 6/11.

Represented Region at Interfaith Pride Service 6/23 and coordinated our Denver PrideFest Booth on 6/25-26—thanks posted on Facebook to Greg, Fr. Frank, Chanti, Sandi and Naya, Steve, Michael, and Cara and the CHF Rosary Guild for the 100 rosaries we passed out!

Attended CO Ceasefire anniversary celebration representing the Region on 6/30.

Participated in Independent Catholic 6/6 Hive Mind on correcting proliferation of bishops in the movement.

Participated in weekly regional pastor prayer/sharing.

ECC Chaplains email correspondences re: time of monthly meetings and request of Bishop Francis to host a healing ceremony at Synod. (This month's meeting cancelled due to scheduling conflicts.)

Presided at St. Paul 6/4, MoM 6/19 (remotely), Dignity 7/3.

Circulated advocacy updates, incl. CFCU Rapid Response, and CCC posts.

Complied Regional info for website development, **3 hours 20 minutes**.

Conversations with RCRC webmaster re: transition to new server.

Will be meeting with Rev. Lance Swearingin, pastor of Conifer Community Church, again in July; this time to discuss the Bible and human sexuality.

**COLORADO COUNCIL OF CHURCHES** Board Meeting 5/25 notes from video.

(Thanks to +Kae for being my stand-in)

Hiring a professional accountant to manage QuickBooks.

Easter Sunrise debrief: in the RED due to unexpected venue charges, but not as much if they had charged projected rental fee. Cash donations way down, but electronic donations up. May do Judicatory appeal to make up deficit.

Voices For Justice winding up their work. Volunteer point persons processing bills as they are announced and go to Governor's desk; end of term summary to follow. Working on resistance of team to testify on our behalf; training in late Fall.

CASTE Book Study initiatives:

Dinner dialogues to resume in Fall.

Hope to collaborate with League of Women Voters' voter registration drives.

Black pastors still not interested in partnering/dialogue with White churches, but not giving up.

Adrian shared impact of Multi-faith Leader Forum Trip to Legacy Museum and National Monument of Peace and Justice—compelling, potent. Looking into trip for CO Leaders, would need grant for coordination.

Such a shared experience might build Black/White pastor relationships.

Parliament of World Religions in Chicago: approached CCC to be fiscal agent for regional trip.

Congregational Land Survey: CO Health Org grant for using church land for affordable housing may materialize.

Possible Iliff intern may be able to coordinate CCC Spring internship with one at Sen. Bennet's D.C. office during Fall Semester. (Appreciations of Haley!)

Prayers for Adrian's aunt Joyce entering hospice; he may need to go to Chattanooga to care-give.

Summer break—June/July. May need August meeting to address ballot initiatives.

+Kae closed meeting with meditative song.