

## Desert Cross Lutheran Church

<u>Council</u>	<u>Chamber</u>	<u>Pastor</u>
Carolyn Perkins	Leslie DeMarco (Communications) -> Kerry Wilson	Thaddeus Book
Angela Nannenga -> Vicki English	Tracey Landa (Altar Guild)	
Mari Johnson	Rosemary Schlechty (Education)	
Anna Sion	Joe Weingartz (Facilities)	
Tony Tainter	Dana Hargis (Hospitality)	
	Gary Balliet (Finance/Stewardship)	
	Jean O'Donnell (Mission Outreach) -> Joy Petroff	

### Gilbert Chamber Meeting - via Zoom May 13, 2025

**Absent:** Jean O'Donnell, Rosemary Schlechty, Joe Weingartz

**Devotions:** Pastor Thadd

**Approval of Minutes (April):**

Motion to approve meeting minutes by Mari Johnson, and seconded by Gary Balliet. Motion carries.

**Approval of Agenda (May):**

Motion to approve agenda by Mari Johnson and seconded by Gary Balliet. Motion carries.

**A warm welcome to our new members: Tony Tainter as Council Gilbert-at-Large, Kerry Wilson as Communications, and Joy Petroff as Outreach. Our deep appreciation goes to Jean O'Donnell, Leslie DeMarco, and Carolyn Perkins for the wonderful work they have done on the Gilbert Chamber!**

## OLD BUSINESS

- LEAD Action Item - Broaden Signage Efforts (Carolyn Perkins): The price tag for the improved signage will be \$14,000, along with the improvements to the outside of the building, which will be included in the Refresh project.
- LEAD Action Item - Youth Committee (Pastor Thadd): Nothing new to add at this time, as we are letting Tessa get settled in. More to come during the summer months.
- LEAD Action Item: Reach Out to Adults (Pastor Thadd): Carolyn Perkins is putting together a team to address this topic.
- Parking Lot Update (Carolyn Perkins): The repaving of the parking lot will begin on May 30, and should be completed in one weekend. On June 1 they will paint to define the parking spaces.
- Refresh Update (Dana Hargis): The Refresh team is presenting to the Council for project approval on May 19.
- Ministry Spotlights for June, July, and August (Mari Johnson): June 8 = Tessa presenting the Youth programs, July = Gary Balliet presenting Finance, and August = Glen Stadler presenting iHelp. Also, in September = (possibly) Joy Petroff presenting Mission Outreach, and October = Dana Hargis presenting Hospitality.
- Pastor's Bible Class (Pastor Thadd): The first class was well-attended with approximately 35 attendees. Plus, the food was good, the conversation was good... all are looking forward to the next class.

- Memorial Fund Update (Carolyn Perkins): Carolyn is meeting with Lola and Vicki to see what Tempe would need for this funding effort.

## **REPORTS**

### **Finance (Gary Balliet):**

- The church is under a category 501-C3, which designates us as a non-profit, so it is unlikely that we would be audited. Nevertheless, we are gearing up for a church audit for 2024.
- We are hoping that the overflow dollars that were raised for the Parking Lot project will go toward the Gilbert Refresh. We are awaiting approval by the Council - they will need to see exactly how much is available, which we will not know until we receive the final invoice for the parking lot.
- Revenue exceeded expectations in April, partly due to the large endowment that was received in December and is being applied on a month-to-month basis (for both campuses). We are approximately \$25,000 ahead of last year, this time.
- Over 200 people attended the Easter service, and 137 attended the Mother's Day service.
- The Golf Tournament is awaiting approval from Council. Gary will distribute the informative flyer to Carolyn, Vicki English, and Mari Johnson. The proceeds will go toward the Refresh project. Gary will make sure that the proper paperwork is filled out to ensure the funds go where desired - Carolyn had included on the Hymn Sing flyer that the funds were to go specifically toward the Parking Lot project, with any overage to go toward the Refresh.

### **Pastor's Report (Pastor Thadd):**

- Faith formation has ended for the year. We had both a High School group AND a confirmation class at the same time.

- VBS is fast approaching - less than one month away. There is lots of energy and excitement for this year's VBS!
- DCLC Gilbert has about five kids between 3rd - 12th grade who will be attending Camp Aloma, in Prescott.
- There were approximately 75 attendees (5 years and older) at the Feed my Starving Children event. It's located in Tempe now, and operates in a shorter timeframe.
- There have been a lot of birthdays in church lately - what a good way to celebrate our community!
- Note: Tempe will be holding only one service on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. from Memorial Day to Labor Day.
- Pastor Thadd and Joni received endowment approval for a new computer for Gilbert, and iPads for both campuses. All are Apple products, and will enhance worship life.
- The left projector was shorting out due to dust buildup, but has been fixed now.
- John Hughes passed away. His funeral service was very well-attended by the DCLC community.

## **Committee Reports**

### **ALTAR GUILD (Tracey Landa):**

- The back room is finally finished - all clean and organized!
- The desk from Gary is greatly appreciated.
- There needs to be a discussion regarding when to give communion to the musical performers so that the process is better streamlined. It is suggested that they come up with the communion assistants.

### **MISSION OUTREACH (Joy Petroff)**

- iHelp Gilbert has a need for women's underwear (sizes 6, 7, 8), and men's t-shirt and shorts. It was suggested - and well received - that the Birthday group make this a drive for next month. Also, a box could be placed in Fellowship Hall, along with the toiletries. Tuesday, June 24, is iHelp day for the Gilbert Chamber. Please bring food and a

birthday cake - Mari Johnson will organize.

MAINTENANCE (Joe Weingartz, absent):

- Some of the chairs in the church are getting rickety and in need of upholstery repair and/or staining. Tony will talk to Donna about the upholstery repair.

HOSPITALITY (Dana Hargis):

- Hospitality is looking for more volunteers!

### **Council Report (Carolyn Perkins):**

- Tempe received a notice from the city that they want to purchase 16,000 square feet of their dirt lot. Tempe has immanent domain, but they want to work with the church. They are offering \$234,000 and Doug is making a counter offer of \$244,000. This is the same area that Family Promise was hoping to use for homeless housing. This will be on Council's December agenda.
- The Endowment Fund has spent much on capital improvements lately. Currently, DCLC Gilbert is requesting software and microphones.
- Soon, the Stewardship Letter will be sent out from Pastors Andrea and Thadd to remind the congregation to continue their giving online through the summer.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- There will be a Parking Lot Party to celebrate its completion (June 1st). Tempe will be invited, including all those that helped to make it happen. It is too hot in the summer to celebrate outside, so combining it with "Rally Day" the second weekend in September is being considered. There will be food (hot dogs, BBQ, a cake). Carolyn will take the lead on this, and Gary, Tracey, Dana, and Tony will help.

Since the timing is tricky, this discussion is being deferred to June's Chamber meeting.

- There is a suggestion to grow the church through the use of business cards that could be easily handed out. There are business cards for DCLC Gilbert, but they may not have Sunday's service time or other pertinent information on them. Perhaps both churches' information could be added (utilizing the front and back of the card), with Pastors' information and, possibly, a meaningful passage (as well as the website, etc.). Pastor Thadd will talk to Wendy.
- Denise is working on new/updated safety signs for the Gilbert campus.
- It has been mentioned that some more contemporary praise music during the church service would be appreciated, and appealing to younger families and new visitors/members. Pastor Thadd will discuss this further with Tony.

## **CLOSING**

### Prayer Requests:

- Continued prayers for Ron & Cheryl Diegle.
- Pastor Thadd's father, Mike, went to the hospital because he was short of breath, dizzy, and had neck pain. Testing has yielded no diagnosis, so far.
- Gary needs to pass a critical eye test tomorrow morning so he can continue to drive.
- Mari's co-worker, Tia, has been in the hospital for a week with liver issues.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

## **DISTRIBUTION**

### **Council:**

Carolyn Perkins  
Mari Johnson  
Tony Tainter  
Vicki English  
Anna Sion

### **Chamber:**

Gary Balliet  
Kerry Wilson  
Dana Hargis  
Tracey Landa  
Joy Petroff  
Rosemary Schlechty  
Joe Weingartz

### **Pastors:**

Andrea Cain  
Thaddeus Book

### **Staff:**

Doug Bjotvedt

Meeting minutes submitted by Leslie DeMarco  
May 15, 2025.