

**PROTESTANT PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

12 September 2023

1700 hours

Frontier Chapel, Rm 158, Fort Leavenworth, KS

**Attendees**

David Hunter-Chester, President	Rose McConnell-PWOC
Chris Quinlan-Vice-President	Tom Ward – MOC
CH(MAJ) Josh Grimes – 0830 Pastor	Keith Purvis – Children’s Church
Carl Tillery – DRE	Samantha Odle – Youth, YFC, Absent
Kathy Kem – Secretary/Parish Coordinator	Senior Saints (Vacant)
Charles Gray-1100 Ushers, Absent	Jim Harbridge – Lay Ministry
Bill Reindl – 0830 Music, Absent	CH (MAJ) Dan King – Absent
CH Andrew Muilenburg	CH Chris Weinrich

**1. Opening Prayer and Devotion** – Chris Quinlan led the devotion this evening. The devotion is in remembrance of 9/11. Psalm 39:4, James 4:14, Psalm 90, Eph 5:14-16. Don’t crowd out the important with the urgent. Are you right with the Lord?

**2. Review of Aug Meeting Minutes (attached).** Motion by Jim seconded by Keith to approve . Unanimous.

**3. Financial Updates**

-Current Tracker. None available.

**4. Ministry Reports (Including updates on budget execution and planning)**

-Senior Saints. Vacant.

-PWOC. PWOC has been meeting for 3 weeks, we are averaging just over 100 women (and many children in watchcare and homeschool room) for the morning group, and a little over 10 for the evening study. We have seven morning studies and one evening study.

The Planting Roots event was not approved by central funding. Since we are within the 90-day window, we will be unable to resubmit and have this event.

Our next Program, ‘Encourage through Comfort’ will be on October 24

Our December Program, ‘Equipped with the Hope for Salvation’ will be December 12

Bible Studies will run from August 29 through December 5.

Question for Parish Council – the Mercy Ministry (including Community Meals) is listed as part of the ministries in the chapel booklet, yet I have not seen any other announcements or anything that connects it to the chapel services. Linda Farwell reached out to PWOC to announce it there, and she had to clarify that it was a chapel ministry because I was unclear on that point. Is there are reason we don’t equally announce all that the chapel is doing? Is there any way we can help support this outreach?

Kathy & Josh both said that Mercy Ministries can be added to the bulletin, but we need the details. Rose will ask Linda to send details for the bulletin. David mentioned that they have also provided food in the past rather than volunteering for the event.

-Lay Ministry (Neighborhood Bible Studies, OCF Discipleship Breakfast, etc.)

DTB is averaging 35 each week. We have a large number of students this year, to include representation from every service but the Navy. They are active and participate in discussion. Really cool. Additionally, we have had several other people besides me lead discussion. I think that change in delivery and perspective from just mine is great for the group.

NBS: Studies have started, and every volunteer who agreed to try and start one has gotten one going. It is off to a good start. Pastoral Care provided by the Purath's will encourage these leaders.

Mentoring: We have two one-on-one mentoring relationships so far, but more will develop as the year goes on.

Kick Start: is a weekly devotional and prayer time led by Michael Purath and Chris Quinlan every Monday before class in Lewis & Clark Hall. They have a regular attendance of 4 students. It is a great program that will grow each year.

Holy Smokes: COL Kris Howell leads this at his house. We are using "Every Man a Warrior" as the base for discussion. It is a good mix of CGSC, MCT, and retirees. This is a program that we have tried for a couple years, and now he has it rolling exactly as envisioned when we first tried. The average attendance is about 9.

BBQ Bonanza is 29-30 SEP, and we currently have 13 people signed up. I anticipate that will be about 15-16 by the time we start the event.

-MOC

**Meetings:** Every Thursday, 0600-0700 in Pioneer Chapel Activity Room (06, 13, 20, and 27 JUL)

**Activity:** Prayer praises and concerns, Bible & Book study, fellowship

**Average attendance:** Averaging 9. The 3 or 4 who are remotely located and attend via ZOOM link have been unable to attend since the internet service to Frontier Chapel was interrupted. The breakout book study group that meets in ZOOM has also evaporated.

**Recent activity:**

- a. Bible study group well into 2 Samuel (Chap 11).
- b. Book study group (not meeting; no initial internet connection to establish a breakout group)

**Notes:**

WiFi connection through the router in the activity room is working, but we can't connect to the internet. This means we can't connect remote attendees, either. This appears to be a building-wide problem.

**Agenda items:**

1. Thanks for the clock, Kathy! We now have TWO!
2. The internet interruption needs to be fixed. This is not just a MOC issue. It is affecting MANY chapel events and initiatives. We've applied personal band-aids and work arounds, but they are far from satisfactory. Is the POST and NEC giving the Chapel the attention it should?

Carl asked Tom to please send the attendance each week to him for his reporting.

-DRE

Sunday school started last Sunday and went well still in need of one more teacher and several assistant teachers

Awana and Financial Peace start Sept 20<sup>th</sup>.

Children's church was exciting last Sunday because we had 32 @ the 0830 service and 48 @ 1100. One more person would be helpful for children's church at 0830.

Youth of the Chapel

We kicked off our regular weekly meetings in August with our Water Wars Kickoff event on August 16<sup>th</sup>. The event was very successful; we had a great turnout of 44 students and 12 adults. The two favorite activities among the students were Human Battleship with water balloons and Slip & Slide Kickball. In total, we held 3 Clubs in August and will continue to meet weekly throughout the school year. Also in August, I assisted in VBS Prep and teaching to serve younger children, meet students who were also volunteering, and work alongside families in the community. Additionally, I attended the homeschool resource fair on post and PAIR day to get the word out about our military youth ministry here at Fort Leavenworth and meet some students and parents.

September will be busy as we start to get more into a routine of weekly Club and kicking off the bi-weekly Bible studies, starting September 17<sup>th</sup>. I will either be going through "Christianity Explored" or "What is the Gospel?" for the Bible studies this fall. Middle school and high school will have separate studies, but will share dinner together between the two. I will also be holding an outdoor movie night on post, showing Jesus Revolution; the location is to be determined at this point.

**Total Participation:**

Cumulative Jr High

Attendance: 107

Cumulative Sr High

Attendance: 20 Total

Volunteer Staff: 28

**Financial Report:**

Youth For Christ Funds: \$0

Appropriated Funds: \$0

Non-appropriated Funds: \$2,352.32

-Music.

-Worship (Ushers, etc.)

-Others

**5. Review of other old business**

- Posting Minutes. Kathy posted the last approved minutes outside her office, but it disappeared. It was asked if we can post them digitally. She will also put them on the website.

- Name Change. There were 4 potential names presented

CrossRoads Protestant Community

CrossRoads Family/Community Chapel

CrossRoads Protestant Family

CrossRoads Protestant Chapel

Josh explained that there are already several CrossRoads around the military, and it seems the most similar to what we represent here. Seems to fit us from many aspects, geographical, professional, etc. Much discussion ensued. The chapel will be making a recommendation to the pastor/Garrison Chaplain. David handed out ballots for the vote. There was a motion to vote by secret ballot. Motion passed. There were 4 votes for CrossRoad Protestant Community and two votes for CrossRoads Protestant Chapel. The recommendation to the chaplain is CrossRoads Protestant Community.

- Opening prayer and devotion for upcoming meetings:

OCT – Keith

NOV – Carl

DEC – Tom

**6. Pastoral Guidance.** Josh shared 3 items.

Appreciate your prayers for my humility in this role and subtlety in the growth of this community and believing in my heart and mind of the things we have put in place and yet it's easy for me for his flesh to believe otherwise.

Continue to pray for the 0830/1100 unity. Seems to still have some quiet tribalism between the services. Please continue to talk and share for the unity.

Two series this summer, gospel centrality, building up a community of grace, in two weeks will start in the book of Jonah for 5 weeks. Interesting parallels with Luke 15 (where we have been). What does it mean to build up for the purpose of sending out? A picture of what Gods intention that is a mirror on us and the call on our life. Chaplain Muilenburg will be preaching this week and Chaplain McLean will preaching in one of the breaks as well as CH Weinrich on another Sunday. Pray for the congregation that they are receptive to change as we go through Jonah.

**7. New Business**

- FY 24 Designated offerings.

Samaritan's Purse – 19 November (turn in day). Motion by Rose seconded by Jim to move forward

OCF- April

Gideon's – August

Planting Roots – October, voted for the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October.

YFC needs to change – Will remain on CMRP as TBD.

Jim made a motion and Carl seconded the motion to recommended changing the CMRP to TBD.

- Maui
- Youth
- Others?

- WiFi in Pioneer needs repair. Chaplain King has been talking with the NEC, but no further information is available.

- Cabling during choir practice – thanks to Chaplain M for straightening it out before the next choir practice, but we have two requests that sort of work not be done starting at 0800 on Sundays. Chaplain Muilenburg has taped and is no longer a hazard. Tom mentioned that we need to end the 0830 service on time to allow the gospel service time to set up. Ch McLean will get a status on the wifi and likely will move this item from Chaplain King to the operations chaplain.

- Holiday Season planning. Will move to next month.

Rose mentioned that her husband received an announcement that we would be having a fall festival, then received another email that it was canceled. CH McLean explained that it was indeed cancelled for a variety of reasons, to include the management of funds that is no longer local. He also mentioned that after talking with people that even though it was a great event (\$30,000), the event did not necessarily present as a chapel event. He said that he has also asked the pastors what they really would like to do.

**8. Upcoming calendar**

16 August	Youth (Campus Life) resumes
19 August	PAIR Day. Well represented.
22 Aug	PWOC Fall Kickoff
13-14 Oct	Planting Roots – Cancelled

**9. Next Meeting:** 16 Oct 23

**10. Closing Prayer.** Tom closed in prayer