

Rocky Mountain Region of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion

Board of Directors Meeting

August 1, 2024, 6 PM, via ZOOM

Host: Mary of Magdala; Facilitator: Rosean, Scribe: Tom

Present:

Kae Madden (Regional Bishop)
Michael Nicosia (Vicar for Ecumenical Engagement)
Chuck Howard (LOC)
Rosean Amaral, Tom Moos (MoM)
Alice Bradley, (COB)
Jane Reina, Anne Grant (CHF)
Liz Begalla (St. Paul)

Zoom Details

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81677152445?pwd=ejhNZOMySFBzc2J5bElvdUNaZHJNdz09>

Meeting ID: 816 7715 2445

Passcode: 10500

Rosean opened the meeting at 6:05 with our opening prayer.

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:** none
3. **Review and approval of July notes:** Amended notes (rev 2) approved.
4. **Financial report**
Kae briefly shared the financial report - no modifications required. Rosean noted that the CD matures in August and asked whether it can be renewed or the amount deposited should be changed. **Consensus was to renew the full \$10K.**

5. **Bishop's report:** see Appendix A.
Christy Chady's ordination is a "go" on Saturday, Aug 3. The Process Review is currently stalled. Kae will update us as more information becomes available. July was a month of fun events.
6. **Vicar's report:** see Appendix B
Michael built templates for our RMRC meeting agendas and minutes and distributed them via e-mail along with July's notes on 7/6/24. He was asked to provide a link to the LGBTQ Discrimination in the Workplace guide on our regional webpage but felt that sharing this information on social media might be more appropriate and get the information to a broader audience. Alice thanked Michael for posting information about Christy's upcoming ordination to the regional website. A brief discussion ensued on how long articles should be retained on the RMR website home page. Alice suggested **a reordering of the articles to ensure that links to timely, relevant and quality recordings appeared first.**
7. **Leadership Council Report**
Chuck reported that Teri has been away and there is no Leadership Council report this month. (As a sidebar, Teri's health has been improving and she is working with doctors to wean her off oxygen especially at night.)

Old Business

1. **Holy Synod Oct 11-14, 2024 planning and support**
Drivers for delegates from DIA to LOC (or YMCA) remains an urgent need. Each community should try to recruit additional help. Tom provided a brief summary of the planning meeting held on July 23. The committees are all actively making progress. Jane reported the Truth and Reconciliation commission will have a table at Synod. Folks not staying at the Y overnight but who wish to purchase meals can do so for \$9/meal. Kae is coordinating hosting of bishops who will remain until Wed after Synod for a short retreat. RMRC Synod scholarships: 2 for delegates (1 full, 1 partial) and 2 for non-delegates (both partial) have been granted. Some funds remain for Synod scholarships. RMR delegate registration is well underway.
2. **Accountability Calendar** – Nothing shown for August. Kae asked about community support for the Mary Magdalene Society. Each community seems to have supported the campaign either by a community donation from leadership, by individual donations, or both.
3. **Marketing Discussion** Follow-up on Liz's communications with Aaron Bailly
Chuck contacted LOC marketing folks who spoke to Aaron about responding to Liz. Aaron has also been unsuccessful reaching her. Some brief discussion about whether the scope of work for a region falls outside of Aaron's expertise. **Chuck will try one more time to initiate email communications between Liz and Aaron.** Michael noted that Aaron will need some sort of understanding about the diversity in our regional communities and defining that would be beneficial for our respective websites also.
4. **Certificates for Ethics Training:** Rosean reminded all clergy to **send copies of certificates for training to her.** Overall, the continuing education expectation is 10 hrs for priests, 5 hrs for deacons.
5. **Christy Chady's Ordination:** A quick reminder and invitation for all to attend this Saturday at 9:00 am. Kae has distributed information via e-mail.

New Business

1. Community Updates

- COB: has an ordination. Individuals have been supporting a refugee family of 4. Will do annual rice and beans on Oct 5 at 3:30. Invite youth from other parishes.
- CHF: Janes shared stories of a Venezuelan her son hired and an encounter with a woman with 3 kids from Ukraine. Such a struggle for refugees and asylum seekers – face-to-face “welcoming” really counts. Liturgy committee discussion around inclusive language.
- MoM: Jared Orsi and Ruth Alexander will present their respective books Aug 29 – the books include emphasis on Social Justice. Rosean has been diagnosed with invasive cancer, requests prayers, and notes some changes necessary for the MoM community especially during radiation treatments. The parish Leadership Council will have a retreat on Aug 17.
- SP: Celebrating host church’s 100th anniv. Invited by their host church on Aug 17 to a discussion about the building’s future and emerging uses. It is good to be included in giving voice to defining that vision.
- LOC: Kids coming back from Pine Ridge writing up experiences which someone from National ECC is documenting. Kids will be giving the homily on their trip this weekend.

Closing Prayer – Rosean closed meeting with a prayer at 6:48.

Lead Rotation of RMRC Meetings:

2024: 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; Aug 7-CHF; Sep 4-LOC; Oct 2-STP leads in-person at LoC; Nov 6 – MoM; Dec 4-COB

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Moos, Mary of Magdala

Appendix A—Bishop Notes: Activity in June 2024

+Kae

Personal: Aiden’s wedding was a great family gathering. May they grow closer in covenant every day.

I had a particularly time-consuming pastoral care situation that affected my real-time understanding of poverty as well as many hours in resource research expended. Exhausting and eye-opening on many levels.

Listening and Relationship building

Administration

Follow up pending:

- Clergy Ethics/Safety Training: Bonnie and Scott are going to participate in different trainings and report back to me.
- Continuing Education: I’m grateful for ‘deadlines and notes’ as I sent out the continuing education recommendations to clergy July 30th. I can’t possibly “actively manage” this effort, so will meet with clergy to see what ideas they have for reporting and sharing their learning.

Advocacy/Presence/Consultation

Clergy support:

Praying with many...
Clergy meetings and phone calls
Weekly Friday gatherings:

Community support:

Liturgies/Sacraments

Presided at StP on July 20th "bishop visit"
Presided at CHF on July 21st

Ordination: Finalized Christy’s application for ordination, three evaluators, Council of Bishops approval and moved forward with her **diaconate ordination on August 3rd at 9 a.m. at Church of the Beloved. Hooray!** Lots of time in liturgy planning (thank you, Michael, for the template) and worship aid creation, etc. Reception planning. It is a bit unnerving when I have on the pastor and bishop hats on at the same time :)

Formation

Continuing discernment with candidates Mike and Christy and Jim. Christy meeting on July 9 and 18th. Mike meeting on July 21st.

ECC

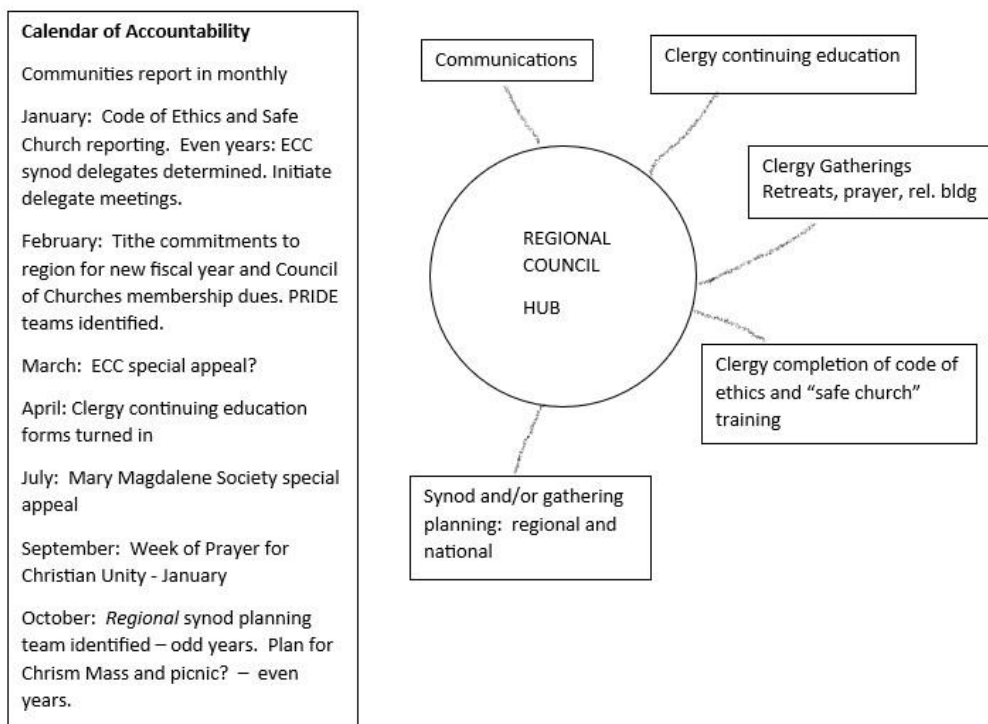
Regional Delegate meetings:

Council of Bishops

- Meetings
- 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 08 01 2024

submitted 7/31/2024 by Fr. Michael Nicosia

KEY POINTS and ACTION ITEMS in red below

REGIONAL & NATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

Sent out July Minutes for approval on 7/6.

Sent out templates for Meeting Agenda and Minutes on 7/6.

Attended Aurora Theater shooting Vigil and staffed booth at 7/20 Foundation “Day of Resilience” Wellness and Healing Fair with members of StP offering prayers/blessings for those impacted by gun violence.

7/9 received request to add a link to a LGBTQ Discrimination in the Workplace guide on our website (employeejustice.com/lgbtq-discrimination-in-the-workplace/). I responded that, while we support their work, our website is not the appropriate venue for the link. Told them we’d be happy to **share it as a resource in social media** as that might expose it to a broader audience.

Supplied +Kae with template for Christie’s ordination liturgy.

Shared house exorcism rituals with regional clergy, beginning a convo about ECC adaptation.

Shared input on inclusive liturgical language with member of CHF per her request. Also shared *Convergent Catholic Guidance for Gender Inclusive Terminology* with Region Council.

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

Continued work on Synod Planning, Liturgy and Music Teams.

Began participation in reinstated Ecumenism Study Group with + Kedda, + Francis and our Dennis G.

Finalized plans for Chaplains’ healing service for Synod at our monthly meeting.

Presided at StP 7/13, MoM 7/14.

Participated in weekly regional pastor prayer/sharing.

Circulated advocacy and event updates, incl. Christie’s ordination announcement.

Updated website with news of another woman being ordained!

Site visits were down in July, but average length of stay increased to 6.5 minutes.

COLORADO COUNCIL OF CHURCHES –

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

Attended Adrian Miller’s preaching at StP’s host church 6thAveUCC on 7/28; he recognized me as the Board Chair.