

MN Lutheran Via De Cristo State Council Minutes – Rev. 1
July 1, 2024

Convener Greg Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members Present: Carol Hellen, Janine Schimmelman, Greg Thompson, Loren Van Pelt, Veronica Van Pelt, Chris Van Hofwegen, Monica Voss, and Rosanna Chambliss

Absent: Kirstin Gonzales (U)

Guest: Pastor Mark Marxhausen

Opening Prayer: Greg

Motion: **To accept June minutes as amended.** (M:CVH/MV; Motion carried)

Pastor Mark Marxhausen Concerns: Pastor Mark had requested the opportunity to speak to the MN State VdC council to express the following concerns.

- 1) Some weekend team members don't attend church anywhere on a regular basis. This does not set a good precedent for weekenders.
- 2) The same team members are supporting the VdC weekends over and over. This is not healthy and is not raising the next generation of leaders. New 4th Day community members should be responsible to support VdC weekends.
- 3) The essentials called out in the VdC manuals are the main focus of what needs to be covered during the weekend, not just how to make the weekend fun. The rector is also expected to lead; not be laissez-faire because "God has this in control."
- 4) The 4th Day needs to be motivated to get people to weekends. Pastor Mark mentioned an evangelism phrase, "Each one, bring one." He also mentioned a lack of communication on VdC activities.

The MIN VdC State Board agreed with Pastor Mark on these concerns. The board has been coming back after the Covid-19 period, and we now have a Communications person, a Newsletter Editor, and emails are now being sent out regularly.

- Janine will check back with Pastor Mark on whether VdC communications to him might have been going to his spam as he was confirmed to be on the VdC mailing list.
- Veronica is using Facebook to try to get people to confirm if they are getting VdC emails. Some 4th Day have indicated that they are not interested in VdC, but it's not clear if they're not interested in VdC at all, or just not in being on team to support a weekend.
- Another concern identified is that sponsor follow-up with new 4th day members has been lacking. The VdC method says that a sponsor should make sure that after the weekend the weekender is in a church and in a renewal group that is meeting at least monthly.
- Monica will be adding the "Each One, Bring One" theme into the newsletter.
- Mark Todd has offered to help clean up the VdC database, which will help in communications to the 4th Day community.

REPORTS

Assistant Convenor (Chris)

- No report.

Admin & Finance (Janine):

- The Kitchen Palanca List has been posted on the website, and a message related to this was sent out on Facebook. An email asking for Palanca and for additional table leaders for the weekend will also be sent out.
- VdC has a folding machine that it no longer needs. Greg is looking for someplace where the folding machine may be given.

Operations (Loren)

- No report.

Convenor (Greg)

- Captured in other sections.

Metro – Director (Carol)

- The June meeting of the Metro Council had the best attendance so far.
- Upcoming activities:
 - o Aug 15 - 18 Coed weekend
 - o Aug 17 - Ultreya at the Marty's farm in Wisconsin
 - o Oct 12 - Ultreya for 4th day community
 - o Jan 18 – 4th Day Community Service Project at Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)
 - o Feb 20 – 23, 2025. Men's weekend
 - o Feb 27 – Mar 1 , 2025 – Women's weekend
- Carol met with Joe Remley, the Metro liaison chair, to discuss what we want liaisons to do. Joe will be taking a sample survey of 5 liaisons 1) to obtain their input on how those liaisons are currently operating in their churches; and 2) to seek opinions regarding perceptions of liaison "shoulds" and subsequent liaison recommendations for going into the future.
- Site selection: Loren provided the heads-up that St. Stephen's Lutheran Church probably will not be able to host VdC for the next 3 years due to remodeling.

Communications – (Veronica)

- Veronica is scheduling posts on Facebook for the next couple months
- Janine and the August weekend rectors will be featured in the next "Get to Know"s.
- The verse of the day is currently being put on Facebook only, with emails the next focus, then Instagram. Rosanna is available to help with this.

Newsletter – (Monica)

- Working on the next newsletter.

Next meeting: Mon, Aug.5, starting at 7pm.

Motion: To adjourn at 8:15 pm (M:CVH;VVP; Motion carried)

Closing Prayer: Pastor Bill