

**First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan, Wyoming**

**Minutes of Annual Congregational Meeting**

**Sunday, January 22, 2017**

**MEETING**

The Congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan, Wyoming convened a special meeting on **Sunday, January 22, 2017** at 11:25 A.M. in Westminster Hall. Pastor Doug Melius moderated.

**QUORUM**

Pastor Doug opened the meeting with **prayer**.

Pastor Doug declared there was a quorum.

**DOCKET**

The docket was **approved**. The minutes of the last congregational meeting were approved by session one year ago. Pastor Doug remarked that our church is 113 years old this year.

**CLERK OF SESSION REPORT**

Active Members as of 01/01/16	338
New Members Joining in 2016	14
Deaths and Dropped from the Rolls	17
Active Members as of 12/31/15	335

**MEMORIALS FOR 2016**

Donald DeLapp	Feb. 14, 2016
Harold Siebinaler	March 14, 2016
Margaret Ellenwood	March 18, 2016
Mildred Briggs	March 27, 2016
Gary Gold	May 20, 2016
Jerry Browne	June 16, 2016
Janet Moffat	July 4, 2016
Farren Johnson	August 13, 2016
Peggy Campbell	October 13, 2016
Virginia Demond	Nov. 20, 2016

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's Report was given by Financial Secretary Dennis Heizer. Dennis summarized the amounts in the Balance Sheet. As of December 31, 2016 cash is \$139,853.43 plus \$91,620.76

in reserves. Special funds are \$51,579.78. We have a gold coin donation listed as an asset currently in the amount of \$14,691.60. The Budget and Finance Committee will decide when to sell the asset, and once sold, the money will be taken into income. There was a net income of \$8,344.51 for 2016.

Financial Secretary Dennis Heizer reviewed the budget for 2017. Tithes and Offerings are estimated to be \$338,548.00 for 2017 projecting a balanced budget.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Budget & Finance:** Dick Birkholz reported and referred to the written report, and repeated the figures and information stated in the Treasurers report shown above. He reported that Camp Story money and accounts are kept separately and explained to members to make out checks payable to the Camp to meet matching grant requirements.

**Worship:** Peggy Blaha reported for Tracey Burke, chairman. She referred to the written report. Peggy issued a request that fresh flowers of any type from congregation members would be appreciated for services. For some reason, we are using artificial ones more than in the past. She noted our appreciation for our musicians and that we often do not express our appreciation enough.

**Fellowship:** Dennis Schreffler referred to the written report. The Fellowship Committee has encouraged participation in the many activities offered each year. Additionally he asked for suggestions from our membership. The committee is very willing to commit to offering new activities to foster fellowship.

**Properties:** Doug Melius reported, and referred to the written report. He explained that the parking lot has been resurfaced this past year, chimney repairs done and water/gutter repairs have been done to redirect water around the building and walking areas. A new audio visual system was installed in the church, and was the biggest project completed. Memorial money was used for payment of it.

**Christian Education:** C. J. Clem reported and referred to the written report. She reported this is a very busy committee. Attendance at Sunday School averaged about 13-16 per day, and participation in LOGOS has been good. Adult studies have good attendance as well.

**Mission:** Jerry Saunders referred to the written report. Additionally he explained that the committee has worked very hard doing many things this year. Many checks were issued to organizations this year. He explained that we are a tithing church, and that we tithe 10% to glorify God as our commitment.

**Membership & Evangelism:** Linda Luegge referred to the written report. She reported the numbers of new and removed members, and they are the same numbers shown in the Clerk of Session report above.

**Personnel:** Carol Maloy referred to the written report. She reported that the departure of Pastor Doug required the committee to make C. J. Clem the director of staff during the period of transition. Jon Botten will become the new chair of this committee. He explained the

process of finding an Interim Pastor and that a committee is in place. Our presbytery provides the possible candidates for the committee review. He asked for prayers for the process.

**Presbyterian Women:** Kathy Beagle reported. Nancy Cook is the current moderator. PW will have three luncheons this year and two ABC Sales. Training will be held for communion setup and is open to the entire congregation. This will be a new process and procedure this year.

**LOGOS:** CJ Clem referred to the written report. LOGOS is celebrating their 18<sup>th</sup> year. She asked us to keep them in our prayers as they go forward.

**Choir Director:** Kathy Lundberg reported. She reported on the success of the mass choir event last January. There have been some great new songs added this year, as well as several new members. Our church is greatly blessed with much musical talent in our choir director, pianist and organist, as well as the many people who make up the choir, hand bells and participate in events. Special recognition and thanks were given to Thayer Shafer and John Trohkimoinen who are retiring from the choir. Robin Melius encouraged choir involvement and gave an emotional and powerful testimony of the benefit she gained by being a member.

**Homebound Communion:** Pastor Doug reported for Nancy Rains. Nancy recently fell on ice and injured herself. Peggy Campbell organized the communion program and it has been very successful. Communion is delivered to homes or care centers.

**Minister of Youth:** C.J. Clem referred to the written report. She reported many activities and a busy schedule for the youth of the church. CJ will be on the ROCCS committee this year at the state level.

**Pastor Doug's Report:** Pastor Doug referred to the written report. Doug further explained the pastoral transition process and explained the help of Presbytery and our presbyter as we go forward. Discussion also centered on our mission committee contribution change to Presbytery, with a larger percentage of our money going to missions, rather than administration. This is a change from previous years.

**Camp Story:** Dick Birkholz reported. The Camp Story Commission is the governing body of Camp Story. Our interim pastor will take the place of Pastor Doug on the commission. Brochures are out and available for the upcoming camping season. Children from any congregation are welcome. Camps run for 4-5 weeks from the second week in June through July, with the rest of the summer time available for rental usage. We have raised \$34 thousand dollars toward a \$75 thousand dollar grant from presbytery. The grant must be used for capital improvements. Many renovations have taken place over the fall and winter months including cabin insulations, finishing bathrooms, and wall treatment. A one hundred year celebration will take place Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>. Activities may include a mystery dinner, period costume dance, and Sunday worship and potluck. The date of the actual deed signing was Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>, one hundred years ago. The Wolfe sisters donated the camp and were a part of Dr. Long's bible study. The same group also donated one of the church's stained glass windows.

**Nominating Committee:** The following were appointed from the congregation: Lorrie Ledgerwood, Jim Blaha and Sandy Birkholz. Two session members will be appointed at the next session meeting.

**Election of Trustees:** The following were elected: President – Esther McKenzie; Vice President – Carla White; Secretary – Carol Maloy, Treasurer – Linnet McGoodwin

**Approval of Pastor’s Call:**

Pastor Doug and his family left Westminster Hall at 12:21 PM and Jon Botten moderated this part of the meeting for approving the Terms of Call for the pastor for the period, Jan. 1, 2017 to April 16, 2017. The terms for Pastor Doug were unanimously approved as follows: Annual Salary - \$15,552.00; Annual Housing/Utilities Allowance - \$7,252.00; Pension/Medical Dues \$8,323.00; Professional Development - \$1,016.00. Pastor Doug and his family returned to the meeting at 12:30 P.M. More details of the terms can be found in the Congregational Meeting Annual Report 2017.

For the record, the following persons will serve as session members, and the date of expiration of their term follows their name:

- Tina Anderson 2019
- Beth Bailey 2019
- Peggy Blaha- 2018
- Jon Botten- 2017
- Janis DeVore-2018
- Aaron Gray-2017
- Sam Herring-2017
- Jeri Joy 2019
- Kim Kozel-2018
- Mary Ludemann- 2017
- Bryan Ludtke-2017
- Linda Luegge- 2017
- John Lundberg-2017
- Doug Moore 2019
- Chad Quarterman 2019
- Loren Ruttinger 2018
- Jerry Saunders- 2017
- Dennis Schreffler- 2017
- Carla White- 2018
- Teresa Williams- 2018

Pastor Doug closed the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 12:37. Prayer was offered by Robin Melius.

**ATTEST:**



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Carla J. White, Clerk of Session

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Doug Melius, Pastor