

First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan, Wyoming  
Minutes of Regular Session Meeting

August 22, 2017

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan, Wyoming convened a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 6:59 p.m. in Westminster Fellowship Hall. Pastor Paul Hayden, Transition Pastor, moderated the meeting.

**QUORUM**

**Ex Officio:** Financial Secretary, Dennis Heizer, CJ Clem, Minister to Youth and Children

**Elders present:** Jon Botten, Jerry Saunders, Carla White, Jeri Joy, Doug Moore, John Lundberg, Tina Anderson, Mary Ludemann, Janis DeVore, Loren Ruttinger, Beth Bailey and Dennis Schreffler, Linda Luegge, Teresa Williams

**Elders absent:** Aaron Gray, Bryan Luedtke, Sam Herring, Kim Kozel, Peggy Blaha

**New Members:** Jae and Jennifer Satterle, Terri Hayden, Amanda Tilden, Nancy Hefner

**WORSHIP**

Pastor Paul opened the meeting with prayer.

**INTRODUCTION**

Pastor Paul led a discussion on information in Mark, chapter 3, and the call of Jesus. After the discussion, four questions of faith were asked new members and elders, and words of affirmation were given. A motion was received and seconded to accept the new members into membership. The motion carried.

**AGENDA**

The agenda was approved.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk's report and minutes of the last meeting were approved as corrected.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The financial reports were received. A motion was made and seconded to accept them, and the motion carried. Dennis Heizer presented and explained them. All committees have been asked to submit requests for undesignated memorial fund use. The total of the memorials is around \$6300.00. It has been requested that Dick Birkholz get approval from families of undesignated/ and perhaps some designated funds for approved use of the money. Some possible uses for the money include kitchen flooring, lights, maintenance, organ maintenance, music (bells), laptop or church software. Dennis reminded us we will need to begin preparation for budget. Additionally, we will invite a rep from the Presbyterian Foundation to discuss electronic gifting

and other services to enhance stewardship of the church. Ruzki, Marshall, Newbrough, CPA's will present results from our financial audit in September. Dennis reported a loss for June through July of \$2,857.71 and a YTD loss of \$6,309.56. The June through July 2017 Balance Sheet reflects the following:

Total assets:	\$3,812,583.84
Total liabilities:	\$ 54,638.67
Reserves (Retained Earnings):	76,220.76

The Treasurer's Monthly Report was also received and reflected the following:

June thru July 2017 Income:	\$47,300.71
June thru July 2017 Expense:	\$50,158.42
June thru July Net Loss:	- \$ 2,857.71
YTD Net Loss:	- \$ 6,309.56

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Budget Finance & Stewardship** August 15, 2017

Beth Bailey reported and referred to the written report. Beth has requested from committee a list of undesignated memorials, and decisions be made by committee and session, as to how to best use the funds. Dick Birkholz has agreed to peruse those accounts and contact family members if necessary, in order to perhaps consolidate them into other church accounts for more immediate use. Further, all committees have been asked to submit expenses which might be paid from memorials.

### **Personnel** August 8, 2017

The written report presented by Jon Botten reflected no action taken or requested by committee. He reported a large number of new members are now on the committee. He reported a new choir director is needed, given the recent resignation of Kathy Lundberg.

### **Fellowship** August 8, 2017

Dennis Schreffler reported. Please refer to the written committee report for detail on activities. He reported Pastor Paul will start small study groups on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, and with the groups there may be progressive dinners as well. There will be an upcoming Soul Shop, suicide prevention training in September. It was noted that there needs to be more members on the Fellowship committee.

### **Properties** August 8, 2017

Doug Moore reported. He reported we have two maintenance bills received for payment of air condition and plumbing payment pump repairs. The discussion centered on which accounts

payment would come from. It was agreed to take them from Building Maintenance line budget account rather than Reserves. Therefore the account may become overdrawn, however, it is a true reflection of cost and spending in that regard. Additionally, the payments and postings are a better reflection of aging building needs and upkeep. Session approval was not needed for this. It was also reported that sanctuary lights, office blinds, kitchen flooring work have all been completed. Doug reported that he meets with the church maintenance man weekly for work scheduling.

### **Membership and Evangelism** August 8, 2017

Mary Ludemann reported and referred to the written report. The following action request by way of motion came from committee:

1. Remove JoAnne Kemper from our membership church rolls as she has entered the church triumphant. The motion carried.
2. Remove Rob Milne from church rolls as he and his family have transferred to Trinity Lutheran Church. Their oldest son, Aiden Milne will remain with our church as a member, however.
3. Request vote on new members: Terri Hayden, Amanda Tilden, Jae and Jennifer Satterlee and Nancy Hefner. The vote actually was taken at the beginning of the meeting and is reflected in these minutes above. Mary will talk with new members about evaluating the new member classes they received.

### **Mission and Outreach** August 8, 2017

John Lundberg reported and referred to the written report. The committee requested no session action. It was reported that Darcy Lyon and CJ Clem will coordinate the Little Red Schoolhouse project.

### **Worship** August 8, 2017

Loren Ruttinger reported. Suggested session actions included;

1. Suggested that \$3,000 of memorial funds be applied to bell and chime servicing.
2. Suggested that \$2,300 of memorial funds be applied to a dedicated Worship laptop with MediaShoutChurch Software installed.  
Neither of the above suggestions resulted in any action taken.
3. Action was taken for worship schedule times starting on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Elders are responsible for and must determine how we will worship God. A pastor cannot do so. The recent survey received back from congregation members gave information to elders to assist in arriving at decisions. Therefore, beginning Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, two worship services will be held, one at 8:00 and one at 10:00. Beginning Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, the first Sunday of each month will be communion Sunday, and this will be the only communion each month. There will only be a 10:00 service the first Sunday of each month. This will provide an opportunity for attendees at different services to come together as one family to receive communion. A motion was made by John Lundberg, seconded by Doug Moore and carried to accept this schedule.

## **Christian Education** August 8, 2017

CJ Clem reported. No action was requested or taken. Surveys have been sent to parents of Sunday School kids and Logos to help determine program offerings and structure of them. A meeting was held on Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>, with no parents attending other than CJ and her husband. Perhaps packets will be given to children during children's time at worship if Sunday School is not offered. Pastor Paul and CJ will work on this. LOGOs will go forward and will be held on Wednesday nights at various times for the ages attending. October 8<sup>th</sup> is the kick off of the church wide small group study entitled "What do Presbyterians Believe?" It will last six weeks and will cover 10 core beliefs the first two weeks, then will address church leaders, then two weeks on spiritual gifts, and conclude with a yet to be determined topic. All bible study groups will become small groups of around 12 persons.

## **Presbyterian Women** August 2017

No report was presented.

## **C.J. Clem, Minister to Youth and Children Report** July and August 2017

C.J. presented a written report. She detailed many activities, meetings, and discussed the upcoming Soul Shop. She also presented plans for a Senior High trip next summer to Scotland with possible mission work. She proposed the church pay 1/3 of each person's cost, 1/3 to come from parents and the other third from fundraising. Discussion from elders included suggestions that the church may not be in the best financial position at this point, due to costs of changes we will be experiencing in the next couple of years. No action was taken.

## **Pastor Paul's Report** July and August 2017

Pastor Paul presented a written report and oral report. He listed 61 events in July and 79 in August in which he participated this month. These included visits, church related events, community events, Presbytery, Worship, classes, counsel and a wedding and funeral. Additional other activities were not counted but included a communion at Camp Story.

## **Other Business**

None

## **CAMP STORY DISCUSSION**

No report was presented, but a complete report should be given next month.

## **REFLECTION**

## **WORSHIP**

Pastor Paul asked that we end our meeting by going into the sanctuary and be seated in a circular formation. We discussed what worship means to each of us. Several mentioned it was

a time of renewal, recharging, peace, and a “not about me” time. It was here that we further discussed worship times, Sunday School and Logos and the recent Survey Monkey results, and what their meaning is to us. We were reminded that we are one heart, one mind in decision making. Pastor Paul Hayden closed the meeting in prayer.

**SESSION ADJOURNED**

The meeting adjourned at 9:15.

**ATTEST:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carla J. White". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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Carla J. White, Clerk of Session