

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

October 17, 2017

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan, Wyoming convened a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at 7:01 p.m. in Westminster Fellowship Hall. Pastor Paul Hayden, Transition Pastor, moderated the meeting.

QUORUM

Ex Officio: Pastor Paul Hayden, Financial Secretary Dennis Heizer, and CJ Clem, Minister to Youth and Children

Elders present: Jerry Saunders, Carla White, Jeri Joy, Doug Moore, John Lundberg, Janis DeVore, Loren Ruttinger, Dennis Schreffler, Linda Luegge, Teresa Williams, Kim Kozel, Peggy Blaha, and Tina Anderson

Elders absent: Aaron Gray, Jon Botten, Mary Ludemann, Beth Bailey, Sam Herring

Guests present: Terri Hayden

WORSHIP

Pastor Paul opened the meeting with prayer.

INTRODUCTION

Pastor Paul asked Terri Hayden to relate the circumstances from her job in the community that led to an anonymous, negative message being left on the voice mail system at the church. This led to a good discussion on how we as Christians should respond to those who criticize with limited information and no conversation. No session action was required.

AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk's report and minutes of the last session meeting were approved. The motion to approve was made by Teresa Williams, seconded by Dennis Schreffler and carried. The clerk also asked for the following action to be taken:

1. Accept the resignation of Bryan Luedtke from session. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the resignation.

The clerk also noted this is Pastor Appreciation month, and expressed our appreciation to Pastor Paul. The clerk offered a prayer for Pastor Paul, his wife and family.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial reports were received. Dennis Heizer presented and explained them. A motion was made and seconded to receive and accept them, and the motion carried. The September Balance Sheet reflects the following:

Total assets:	\$3,791,902.08
Total liabilities:	\$ 53,658.38
Reserves (Retained Earnings):	76,044.41

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

September Income:	\$27,491.28
September Expense:	\$30,660.38
September Net Loss:	- \$ 3,169.10
YTD Net Loss:	- \$24,834.68

Dennis reported that he will give a tally of the budget for next year at the next meeting. He asked for all committees to get theirs in promptly.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget Finance & Stewardship October 10, 2017

An oral and written report were presented. Session action requested:

1. Accept financial reports as presented. They were accepted by session and evidence is in the Treasurer's report above.

Counters and ushers were reminded that only loose cash need be counted in the collection plates. No envelopes should be counted. Additionally, a Stewardship letter is being prepared and will soon go out.

Personnel October 10, 2017

The written report presented by Jerry Saunders reflected no action requested by committee. He reported they are receiving back evaluation forms from employees as required, and tabled discussion of the annual evaluations until next committee meeting. He reported the vacant Nursery Supervisor position will not be filled at this time.

Fellowship October 10, 2017

Dennis Schreffler reported. Please refer to the written committee report for detail on activities. Dennis passed around a signup sheet for cookies to be provided on the 5th Sunday of November. Session members provide cookies on each 5th Sunday of any month. Pastor Paul acknowledged

that the committee has offered excellent fellowship activities throughout the year and commended the committee.

Properties October 10, 2017

Doug Moore reported. The following session action was requested:

1. Properties committee makes a motion to sell the church van. The committee feels it has limited use and cost outweighs the benefits of ownership. Much discussion took place, and ultimately, the motion was tabled until further information as it relates to value, usage, insurance costs and mileage can be obtained. The **motion to table** was made by Dennis Schreffler, seconded by Linda Luegge and carried.

CJ Clem also addressed some of the problems we have with the kitchen oven and its heating and temperature disparities.

Membership and Evangelism October 10, 2017

Linda Luegge reported and referred to the written report. Session action was requested as follows:

1. Remove Betty Frey from the church rolls, as she has entered the Church Triumphant. Jerry Saunders seconded it, motion carried.

Mission and Outreach October 10, 2017

Peggy Blaha reported and referred to the written report. The committee requested no session action. She reported committee action taken for donating \$300 for Community Dinner turkeys, \$250 to Legacy Pregnancy Center and \$275 to a Big Horn family for their daughter's medication.

Worship October 10, 2017

Loren Ruttinger reported. The following session action was requested:

1. Allow children to help serve Communion on Dec. 3rd, with the assistance of elders. The committee motion was made and carried.
2. Motion to session that the 8am service on Dec. 17th be cancelled to encourage the congregation to enjoy the special adult choir presentation on Dec. 17th. A motion was made to say no to the requested action and carried. We will survey the people who attend this service to gather consensus as to what they want.
3. Motion to have a 7pm and 9pm (candlelight) service on Sunday, Dec. 24th. There would also be an 8am and 10am service on this day as well, for a total of four services. The 8am attendees will be polled about having a service that day and time. The choir will be present at the 10 am and 9pm services.
4. Motion to serve Communion at the 9pm service. The committee motion carried.

Christian Education October 10, 2017

Janis DeVore reported. No action was requested from session. She reported notebook packets have been prepared for use and will be given to children at worship since Sunday School is not being offered at this time. October 8th was 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 mission and organization structure, 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. At this time we have over 100 people signed up for the studies. Janis reported a disappointing turnout for the Soul Shop workshop held recently.

Presbyterian Women October 2017

No report was presented.

C.J. Clem, Minister to Youth and Children Report September 2017

C.J. presented an oral and written report. She detailed many upcoming activities including the annual Senior High Retreat and upcoming Christmas Program. Currently the youth are collecting items to assemble hygiene kits during the retreat.

Pastor Paul's Report September 2017

Pastor Paul presented an oral report as well as a written report with numbers. He listed many events in which he participated this month. These included 17 visits, 19 church related events, 11 community events, Presbytery, 5 Worships, 9 classes, 4 Logos, 3 counseling and one wedding. Additionally, he attended a Soul Shop workshop. Pastor Paul officiated at the wedding of Heidi Huermann and Kurt Smith.

Other Business

Pastor Paul asked if we would be interested in hosting an evening presentation in the sanctuary by Dr. Mary Neal. Dr. Neal is a surgeon living in Jackson who died in an accident and came back to life. She has just written her second book. It was agreed we would host her on Nov. 10th.

CAMP STORY DISCUSSION

It was reported that the Chapel work is nearing completion. It has been insulated and blue pine wood installed as a finish product on the walls. Dick Birkholz, Elwyn Maloy and Brooke Holstedt will begin work on the lodge in early November. That work will include insulation and wall finishing similar to the Chapel.

REFLECTION

WORSHIP

Pastor Paul asked that we end our meeting by going into the sanctuary and be seated in a circular discussion group. The purpose of the discussion exercise was to examine local church websites along with our own. The discussion centered on how new persons searching for a

church might examine us through our website. Paul also told of a company which has offered to update our website. He will provide us more information about the company and product in the next few weeks. Pastor Paul Hayden closed the meeting in prayer. Prior to the closing prayer, he asked that we lift up Jim Lytle, Renee Botten and Carol Maloy in prayer, as they have had experienced recent wellness concerns.

SESSION ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at 9:05.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carla J. White".

Carla J. White, Clerk of Session