



First Presbyterian  
Church of Sheridan

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

February 19, 2019

---

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan, Wyoming convened a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 7:01 p.m. in the Westminster Fellowship Hall. Pastor Hayden, Interim Pastor, moderated the meeting.

#### QUORUM

**Moderator:** Pastor Paul Hayden

**Ex Officio:** Dennis Heizer, Financial Manager

**Elders present:** Jeri Joy, Tod Windsor, Doug Moore, Carol Davis, Beth Bailey, Linnet McGoodwin, Teresa Williams, Jean Morgan, Judy Garber, Brett Burtis, Beth Lenz, Howie Fitzpatrick, Jerilea Phillips, Shelley Cundiff, Cheryl Kelsey, Jim Lyon, and Kim Wells

**Elders absent:** Tina Anderson, Chris Smith, Howie Fitzpatrick, Doug Beagle and Kathy Lundberg,

**Others present:** Carla White, Clerk of Session, pro tem

#### WORSHIP

Pastor Paul opened the meeting with prayer. He led a discussion on "How to Keep the Fire Burning," and he cited the Gospel of Mark, Chapter 1. He spoke of how evil can hide out in churches. He said we must pray for the sick who come into us to be healed, even though they may be bad to us at the time. We exist because there are others who need to hear Jesus. The church is a hospital for sinners, not a museum for saints. A second prayer was offered by Pastor Paul after discussion.

#### INTRODUCTION and ELECTION

Pastor Paul stated that Susan Smith has agreed to become new Clerk of Session. She was officially nominated, and the motion was made, seconded and carried to elect her as clerk. At the same time and with the same motion, Carla White was elected Clerk of Session pro tem for this meeting only.

#### AGENDA

The agenda was presented and accepted. A motion and a second was made and it carried.

### **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk's report and minutes of the last Session meeting were approved as corrected. A motion was made and carried to accept them. The Congregational Meeting Minutes were presented for the meeting held January 27, 2019. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve them. It was reported the Church Statistical Report for 2018 has been submitted and there is a question on it that will be researched. If there is a correction to be made, the correction will be submitted. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the submission.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Dennis Heizer, financial manager, presented the financial reports and explained them. The January Balance Sheet reflects the following:

Total assets:	\$3,354,400.51
Total liabilities:	100,967.83
Reserves (Retained Earnings):	56,365.30

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

January Income:	27,815.14
January Expense:	27,857.07
January Net Loss:	- 41.93
YTD Net Loss:	- 41.93

The financial reports were approved during the Budget and Finance Committee report below.

### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN REPORT**

Sherry Laughton presented an oral quarterly report for PW. She reported she and Sharon Browne are Co-Moderators for 2019. She reported coffee and fellowship time is now being done by congregation members, rather than PW women, as it has been for so many years. You can follow the activities of PW each month by reading the newsletter. Sherry reported there are about 50 active women in our PW women group. Big events are coming later in spring and summer and we will learn more later. The PW Spring Gathering for women of Presbytery will be held in Sheridan this spring. The dates are May 3, 4, and 5<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Mary Neal will be a guest speaker. Kathy Lindberg is moderator of Presbytery. The August meeting will be a Synod meeting, which is a first time event here. There will be about 100 women attending for the Rocky Mountain Synod meeting.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## **Budget Finance & Stewardship** February 12, 2019

Oral and written reports were presented by Beth Bailey.

1. Committee motion to accept financial reports as presented. The motion carried and the reports were accepted.
2. Recommend drawing 3% or \$9,867.88 from account #1830.08, the Permanent Endowment Fund. Funds can be withdrawn if account #1830.08, with a balance of \$328,929.39, is greater than 10% of the building value based on the insurance value of \$3,147,000. Per the by-laws, ½ of the funds are given to Missions and ½ to Properties for improvements of the building and properties.

## **Personnel** February 12, 2019

Teresa Williams reported with an oral and written report. No Session action was requested. She reported there have been minor wording changes to the Coordinator of Family and Student Programs job description.

## **Technical and Communications** February 12, 2019

Tod Windsor presented an oral and written report. No Session action was requested. The committee has recently researched all software use and the annual costs. They have found some can be replaced by free software or lower cost software from Tech Soup. This is true for Quick Books, as we can upgrade to Quick Books Premier. He reported on Online Giving. The church wiring is nearing completion for complete networking throughout.

## **Fellowship** February 13, 2019

Jeri Joy reported. No Session action was requested. Please refer to the written committee report for detail on activities. Jeri reported on registration for FEAST, as the deadline is coming up February 24<sup>th</sup>. She reported good response for fellowship and coffee sign up. The Fellowship Committee has decided the first Sunday of every month, post service fellowship hour will be called "Holey Donut Day" and will be funded by donations. The Holey Donut Day donation box will be located in the Fellowship Hall.

## **Properties** February 7, 2019

Doug Moore gave an oral and written report. No Session action was requested. He reported Pat Gallagher has been hired on an hourly basis to do walk throughs periodically at the church to identify any maintenance issues. He will also make checklists of routine maintenance items to be addressed, once a maintenance person for seasonal work is hired.

## **Membership and Evangelism** February 13, 2019

Jean Morgan reported. The following Session action was requested:

1. Committee motion to remove the following names from the church rolls, as each member has entered the Church Triumphant:
  - Berneice Jennings (1/20/2019)
  - Wilma Browne (2/1/2019)

Paul mentioned the many contributions of these wonderful women to FPC and their community.

Additionally, a transfer certificate was received from Ted and Caroline Meline. They will transfer their membership to Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian in Casper, WY. She also discussed the ideas and challenge of adding new members in 2019.

### **Mission and Outreach** February 12, 2019

Jerilea Phillips reported and referred to the written report. The following session action was requested:

1. Approval of Legacy Pregnancy Center bottle fund program. Janis DeVore will coordinate the program. The motion carried.

Jerilea discussed the food bag program. We will provide food bags for those who request assistance, rather than giving cash cards. They will contain about \$20 in food and are available in the office. Our objective is to reduce abuse by giving food instead of cash. She also discussed Community Connections where individuals can be sent to assess their needs.

### **Worship** February 12, 2019

Linnett McGoodwin reported. No Session action was requested. Linnett reported Ash Wednesday services will be March 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday is April 14<sup>th</sup>. Easter Sunday will have Sunrise, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services. She reported the new keyboard has arrived and is up and running well.

### **Christian Education** February 12, 2019

Judy Garber reported for the committee. No Session action was requested. She reported the committee approved giving to the confirmation class, copies of the "Go-Anywhere Think Line Bible." She also requested that ushers help hand out children's bulletins, which have been a big hit with kids. A church wide Lenten study, "From Membership to Discipleship: From the Club to the Cross", will begin in March and end April 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **C.J. Clem, Coordinator of Family and Youth Programs** January 2019/February

A written report was submitted by CJ. Confirmation Sunday is May 5<sup>th</sup>. Confirmands are Stevie Baxter, Eli Clem, Vivian Tarver, Zachary Thurow, Maggie Turpin, Jenna Wilson, Jesse Wilson and Avery Quarterman.

Senior Sunday will be May 19<sup>th</sup>, and we will be honoring seniors Brenden Clem, Jacob St. Pierre, Carter Wells, Isaac Grimes and Bailee Wilson.

She reported Triennium will be held July 15<sup>th</sup>- 21<sup>st</sup>. The following kids are going: Brenden Clem, Joslyn Williamson, Carly Motsick, Izabel Clem, Aiden Milne, Nathan Fitzpatrick, Jack McMahan, Carter Steidley and the chaperones.

**Pastor Paul's Report** January 13<sup>th</sup> to February 18<sup>th</sup>

Pastor Paul presented an oral and written report. He reported a memorial service for Wilma Browne was held and his written report reflected a very busy month with many calls, classes, counseling sessions, and other events and services.

**Other Business**

An organizational chart of the church showing committees and personnel was passed out to all elders.

Pastor Paul asked for elders who were willing to serve on the Nominating Committee. Jeri Joy volunteered. We will need one more member from session to complete the committee.

Pastor Paul reported on Harvey Johnson, who recently suffered a stroke. He is currently in Casper at Elkhorn Rehab undergoing rehab and has taken about 40 steps recently.

**REFLECTION and WORSHIP**

Pastor Paul closed with prayer, and asked for guidance and wisdom for the Pastor Nominating Committee as they continue work to hire a permanent pastor. The session meeting adjourned and members went into the sanctuary for a worship and inspirational time of discussion. Pastor Paul spoke about growth and asked us to reflect on whether we want to grow the church membership younger. He talked about mentoring relationships, focus group work and other ideas to attract young adults. The group talked about "Heartseekers." These are members who would be assigned to greet and get to know visitors and all new members.

**SESSION ADJOURNED**

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

**ATTEST:**



Carla J. White, Clerk of Session pro tem