

Session Meeting
 First Presbyterian Church
 Davenport, Iowa
 November 18, 2019

The regular meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa was held in Von Maur Hall on Monday, November 18, 2019.

Moderator Rev. Mark Galbraith called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and Diane Roebuck opened

	Class of 2019		Class of 2020		Class 2021
P	Stephanie Arp <i>Finance</i>	P	Samantha Crow <i>Worship & Music</i>	p	Paula Burnett <i>Hospitality & Welcome</i>
A	Peter Bawden <i>Buildings & Grounds</i>	P	Barbara Ehrmann <i>Adult Christian Education</i>	E	Jeffrey Gomez <i>Congregational Development and Fellowship</i>
P	Marty Bowles Edwards <i>Clerk of Session</i>	P	Michael Ferris <i>Worship & Music</i>	P	Merlyn Pete Madden <i>Buildings & Grounds</i>
P	Sarah Greim <i>Christian Ed. & Fellowship for Youth</i>	E	Dick Koos <i>Personnel</i>	p	Diane Roebuck <i>Christian Education & Fellowship for Youth</i>
E	Matt Kabel <i>Buildings & Grounds</i>	P	Pamela Paulsen <i>Finance</i>	p	Karla Ruiter <i>Congregational Development and Fellowship</i>
P	Jane Magnusson <i>Christian Ed. & Fellowship for Youth; Worship & Music</i>	P	RuthAnn Tobey-Brown <i>Personnel</i>	p	Don Wood <i>Worship & Music</i>
P	Kristine Oswald <i>Worship & Music</i>	P	James Woods <i>Hospitality & Welcoming</i>		
P	Jeanne Sherwood <i>Hospitality & Welcoming; Nominating</i>				

prayer.

The Elders Roll (P=Present; E=Excused; A=Absent)

A quorum was present.

Staff members:

P	Rev Mark Galbraith <i>Interim Head of Staff, Moderator</i>	E	Rev Katie Styr <i>Associate Pastor</i>	P	Sarah Greim <i>Interim Youth Fellowship Director</i>
P	Matthew Bishop <i>Director of Music</i>	P	Kristine Olson <i>Finance Manager</i>	p	Darren Long <i>Facilities & Custodial Supervisor</i>

Deacons' Representative:

P	Ted Brown <i>Deacons' Moderator</i>
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Guests:

P	Anita Burnett <i>Administrative Commission</i>	p	Pat Halverson <i>Administrative Commission</i>
E	Sam Massey <i>Administrative Commission</i>	E	Jeff Charis-Carlson <i>Administrative Commission</i>

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On motion, the agenda was unanimously approved as amended.

On motion, the following CONSENT AGENDA items were approved as presented electronically:

- The minutes of the regular Session Meeting held October 21, 2019.
- **The REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION** (A full copy of the October 2019 Clerk’s report presented to the Session at the November 18, 2019 Session Meeting can be found in the Appendix of the official 2019 Session minutes.)

I. REQUESTS FOR ACTION:

Requests Resulting in the Reduction of the Active Roll

Eric Dresing	Transfer to Our Savior Lutheran Church, Bettendorf, IA
Erin Dresing	Transfer to Our Savior Lutheran Church, Bettendorf, IA
Gwendolyn Hudson	Transfer to Christ Methodist Church, Davenport, IA
Bryan Kress	Transfer to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport, IA
Darcie Kress	Transfer to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport, IA
Lauren Kress	Transfer to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport, IA
Carolyn Kress	Transfer to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport, IA
Betsy Yount	Transfer to Dardenne Presbyterian Church, Dardenne Prairie, MO
David Yount	Transfer to Dardenne Presbyterian Church, Dardenne Prairie, MO

Baptism Approval

Thalia Jean Chambers
 Daughter of Aislinn (D'Auben) Chambers and
 Michael Chambers
 Date of Birth: January 14, 2019

Date
 January 19, 2020

Place of Birth: Ankeny, IA

II. CHANGES TO THE REGISTERS:

Weddings:

Christina Burken* and John Ellis*

Date:
 October 12, 2019

Officiated By:
 Rev. Katie Styr

Baptisms Performed:

Luke Frazier Downing
 Son of Kristena Annette (Easter) Downing and
 Patrick Gary Downing
 Date of Birth: June 20, 2019

Date:
 October 6, 2019

 Place of Birth: Davenport, Iowa

Officiated By:
 Rev. Katie Styr

Dillon Richard Carlson*
 Son of Rachel Elizabeth Carlson* and
 Ross Carlson*
 Date of Birth: March 5, 2018

October 6, 2019

 Place of Birth: Davenport, Iowa

Rev. Katie Styr

Deaths:

Rev. Jack Krch*
 Robin Ciccotelli
 Don Dyer

Date:
 October 4, 2019
 October 17, 2019
 October 20, 2019

Rev. Mary Arnold
 Weert’s Funeral Home

*Non-members

III. COMMUNION RECORD:

In Church Communion

On Sunday, October 6, communion was served to 132 people at the 9:00 AM service. Elders/Deacons serving were: Don Wood, Sianna Darland, Ruth Ann Tobey-Brown, Stephanie Arp, Dan Breinich, Anna Putman, Traci Cracraft, Kristine Oswald, Cathy Pratscher-Woods, Glenwood Roebuck, Jeff Gomez, and Jeanne Sherwood. Communion was served to 58 people at the 11:00 AM service. Elders/Deacons serving were: Don Wood, Dianna Darland, and Traci Cracraft.

Farthest Pew Communion

Communion was served to 9 people on Monday morning, October 7, by Rev. Katie Styr and Deacon Colleen Duenas.
 Communion was served to 8 people on Monday afternoon, October 7, by Rev. Katie Styr and Deacon Bev Koos.

BUSINESS OF THE CLERK - Marty Bowles Edwards

On motion, unanimously approved the infant baptism of Thalia Jean Chambers, daughter of Aislinn (D'Auben) Chambers and Michael Chambers for December 1, 2019. Aislinn grew up in our church and church member Pam Paulsen is the grandmother of this child.

- Committee Chairs will maintain a record of Committee Minutes. Those minutes are emailed to Session Members for reading prior to the monthly Session Meeting. These committee minutes will not be stored by the church.
- Active Membership Roll and Baptized Member Roll are under review for consideration of changing our current system.
- Clerk received a note praising the change to a unified single Worship Service format, and the manner in which it was researched and communicated to the Congregation.
- Five of the six assigned conversations have been completed, to share the motions passed at the October 18, 2019 Session Meeting. The sixth and final meeting is scheduled for November 22.
- Pastor Mark and Clerk Marty have requested Presbytery leadership consider participating in a conversation led by an outside Mediator to allow for planting seed of understanding and reconciliation.
 - It is recommended that the list of questions Session submitted for a Synod Review be addressed as a part of the mediation.
 - To date, there has been no Presbytery response to Session regarding the questions.
- Results of E-votes shared:

On motion, unanimously approved Katrina Williams to become a member of FPC Davenport by profession of faith. The date of baptism and introduction to the Congregation will be determined in the future.

On motion, unanimously approved the spending up to \$1000 to bring a candidate for the CE director position to Davenport for an in-person interview.

DEACON'S REPORT – Ted Brown

Standing Committee Reports

Outreach:

- Blessing Box drive: Volunteers have been recruited to man the Blessing Box drive to occur at KWQC TV on Martin Luther King Day, January 20, 2020. A donation box has been set up in the back of the Sanctuary.
- Food Pantry collected an unknown amount of money and 91 food items for October. -65 were served at Church's United Dinner.
- Angel Tree project through Bethany Homes this holiday season. Gift tags will begin to be distributed between services Sunday November 17. 100 tags are being requested. Gifts are to be in the \$45 per child range and are to be returned to Fellowship Hall unwrapped by December 10, 2019
- Paula Hartmann and Debbie Keenan have agreed to serve as co-chairs of the Outreach Committee for 2020.
- Cocoa and mitten giveaway event will be held December 10, 2019 from 3:00-5:30 outside the southwest corner of the church. Donations are welcome. Anyone wanting to attend is encouraged to do so.
- Boys and Girls Club has severed its ties with the church and has relocated to the J.B. Young School Administration Center. Deacons are no longer providing a Wednesday night meal or providing

homework helpers, though individual church members are welcome to contact Boys and Girls Club directly should they desire to provide those services.

- Outreach is actively searching for a cause to support in place of Boys and Girls Club.

Mission Connection:

- Schalk reported on the trip that she, Craig Foster and another made to Guatemala to support our mission for ILUGUA. They had great communication with six outlying communities in the area because their leaders were attending a conference at ILUGUA's center. Deforestation and water shortages continue to be issues they struggle with. The government continues to stifle and undermine ILUGUA leaders.
- The church is no longer supporting AMKA based on recommendations from the Mission Connection committee. It was agreed that the funds left in the AMKA account be sent to ILUGUA instead.
- Kids Against Hunger will be held April 19, 2020 - April 21, 2020.
- Tabitha's Circle has 75 items ready to be shipped out for distribution.

New and Other Business:

- Pastor Mark for \$200 of the Deacon's discretionary fund to pay to a person who came to the church because he couldn't pay his rent. It was the consensus that while this was acceptable on a one-time basis, these types of requests should generally go through Neighbor to Neighbor. It was also noted that there is now \$800 left in the Deacon's discretionary fund which budgeted on a 'use it or lose it' basis. Brown moved that we give \$400 of the balance in the discretionary fund to Neighbor to Neighbor in November and that, assuming no intervening need arises, we give the remaining \$400 to Neighbor to Neighbor in December. K. Wells seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Schalk inquired as to whether there are budgeting meetings happening that Deacons should be attending. Brown agreed to inquire at Session next Monday. A discussion was held.

STAFF REPORTS

Matt Bishop

- Guys and Dolls Auditions will be held November 24
- Lessons and Carols is scheduled for the Worship Service December 8 at 9:30 am.
7 readers are needed for this service
- Christmas Concerts will be December 14 and 15.
- Communion Servers are needed for December 1, at worship 9:30 am.
- 3 readers are needed for the Thanksgiving Eve service
- Christmas Eve Service will be held at 4:00 pm, 9:00 pm, and 11:00 pm.

Mark Galbraith

- Reported on the 5 assigned conversations with congregants
- Requested people submit names of small group leaders for conversations to begin in January of 2020. People will be needed to facilitate conversations and to record responses from participants.

Sarah Greim

- 7 youth attended Shrek the Musical in Williamsburg, strengthening the relationships made at Triennium
- 10 children have been attending Kirkwood club
- HSF and Choir will be moving from Sunday to Wednesday evenings

Pat Halverson

- Assisting during Katie Styrt's maternity leave with Pastoral Care and Preaching.

Darren Long

- Met with Glass Heritage regarding Stained Glass Window maintenance project
- Another security camera has been install by Heartland to cover the elevator into the Sanctuary
- Security cameras have been beneficial in correcting over billing by the snow removal service
- Requested bids from 3 Boiler Maintenance companies

Kristine Olson

- October financials have not been completed
- Budget Meeting will be scheduled in December
- Received a request for FPC to encourage Parishioners to complete the 2020 Census. Session approved including a statement in the E-Blast.

NEW BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION – Anita Burnett

- Read a letter requesting the AC be dismissed, having completed their work with FPC Davenport.
- Presbytery will vote on this request at the November 21, 2019 meeting.
- The AC has been asked to write guidelines to assist future AC's
- Individual members of the AC will be available for future questions or assistance as needed.

CEFY – Diane Roebuck

- The CE director Search Committee will be hosting a DCE candidate soon.
- The committee is moving forward with their search, and will broaden the candidate pool by considering Ordained Pastors.

On motion, unanimously approved the MIF for the position of Certified Christian Educator.

PERSONNEL - Ruth Ann Tobey-Brown

- The Staff Christmas Party will be Tuesday December 3, 2019. The office will be closed for half the day.
- The Staff has requested Xmas Eve be declared an extra Holiday. Staff may choose to take the day off with pay, take off a day in flex time, or earn double pay for working and not receive an extra day off.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE –Sarah Greim

On motion, unanimously approved a change of date for the Congregational Meeting with the Agenda of voting on the Slate of Officers for 2020, and the Nominating Committee for 2020. The Staff will determine the date and take appropriate action to announce the determined date and establish Leadership Training dates.

STEWARDSHIP – Samantha Crow

Total Committed Pledgers 132 for \$481,439

Total Committed Pledger Net Increase of \$46,739 (compared to 2019 Pledge)

- 8 New Pledger – \$24,470
- 55 Pledgers increased their pledge – total increase \$35,439 (includes \$1,143 increase due to 53 weeks of giving in 2020 vs 52 weeks in 2019)
- 10 Pledgers decreased their pledge – total decrease (\$10,549)
- 4 Pledges opted out – Lost pledges (\$5,600)
- Note: 2019 Total Pledge Count = 225 for \$658,200

FINANCIAL REPORT - Stephanie Arp

- We need to collectively allow time for Kristine Olson to complete financial reports.

By collective agreement, though Stephanie Arp is concluding her term on Session December 31, 2019, she has been given permission by Session to continue to Chair the budget committee until the 2020 budget is completed and approved.

- **On motion**, by unanimous vote, the Budget Committee will be comprised of the Head of Staff, Finance Manager, Personnel Committee representative, Finance Committee representative, Deacon’s representative, and Stewardship representative. Other committees may send their Staff liaison, i.e.: Music and Worship Staff Liaison, Matthew Bishop stated he would be in attendance.

[KRISTINE INSERTS FINANCIAL REPORT INFO HERE]

OLD BUSINESS

On motion, unanimously approved Kristine Oswald as a representative of Session for the Presbytery Meeting on November 21, 2019 in West Liberty, IA. There was no second volunteer.

ADJOURNMENT –

On motion, by unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 pm and Moderator Galbraith closed with prayer.

The next meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, Iowa will be held on, December 16, 2019 at 7:00 pm in Von Maur Hall.

Moderator,
The Rev. Mark Galbraith

Clerk of Session,
Martha Bowles Edwards