

Session Meeting  
 First Presbyterian Church  
 Davenport, Iowa  
 October 21, 2019

The regular meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa was held in Von Maur Hall on Monday, October 21, 2019.

Moderator Rev. Mark Galbraith called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and opened with a devotion

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

and prayer.

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

A quorum was present.

Staff members:

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

Deacons' Representative:

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

P	<b>Anita Burnett</b> <i>Administrative Commission</i>	p	<b>Pat Halverson</b> <i>Administrative Commission</i>
E	<b>Sam Massey</b> <i>Administrative Commission</i>	p	<b>Jeff Charis-Carlson</b> <i>Administrative Commission</i>
P	<b>Mark Jones</b> <i>Worship Task Force</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 September 16, 2019.
- The minutes of the Called Congregational Meeting of September 22, 2019.

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

**On motion**, by majority e-vote concluded September 22, 2019, approved the FPC Davenport Pet Policy as follows: No pets are to be allowed in the church property by members, staff, or visitors except in the case of certified therapy animals or animals that are in a certified therapy training program. The therapy animal must be in the owner’s control, be that by a secure/gated office or by leash or carrier. The owner or the animal is responsible for any damage or harm caused by the animal.

Vote count: yes 14, no 3, no response 4

**I. REQUESTS FOR ACTION:**

**Requests Resulting in an Addition to the Active Roll**

Tracey Seaman Moving to Active Membership from Inactive status in database

**Requests Resulting in the Reduction of the Active Roll**

Susan M. Houseman Transfer to Bettendorf Presbyterian Church

**II. CHANGES TO THE REGISTERS:**

**Weddings:**

Shelby Steger\* and Jacob Alexander\*

**Date:**

September 7, 2019

**Officiated By:**

Rev. Katie Styr

\*Non-members

**III. COMMUNION RECORD:**

**Special Communion**

On Sunday, September 22, 2019, communion was served by Rev. Katie Styr to 45 people at the Food for the Soul Worship Service.

**DEACONS’ REPORT -Ted Brown**

- There will be a minute for mission on November 3rd for homework helper volunteers.
- Food pantry donations for August were \$340.00, in September \$305.00 and 142 items
- 85 people were served at the Churches United meal sight.
- Punch Thanksgiving meal food donations are requested.
- The Blessing Box collection will be on January 20<sup>th</sup>.
- The Homecoming Dinner was a big success.
- Due to our connection with AMCA leaving we are no longer supporting that mission. We can no longer guarantee that our funds are going to help the scholarships for the young women there.
- On December 10th cocoa and mittens will be distributed to those in need out in front of the church.
- Received one application for funds through the Endowment fund for Argrows house, a battered women’s shelter in Davenport. A motion was made and approved for \$3800.00.
- The Fall Festival needs candy and trinkets donated. Contact Traci Cracraft
- Boys and Girls Club moved out of our building on October 21 and 22, 2019, consolidating their

programming in the JB Young Building. Further support for the program will be determined in the near future.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Matt Bishop**

- Harpsicord Recital October 27, 2019 presented by Matthew Bishop
- PAS Patron Program has surpassed the pre-season fund raising goal.
- Banshee Bash October 29, 2019 will be hosted by Ted Brown and RuthAnn Tobey Brown
- Christmas Concert preparations are in progress

### **Mark Galbraith**

- Working with nominating committee
- Divine Drama course has over 50 in attendance
- Appreciated the expression of sympathy following the passing of his Father

### **Darren Long**

- Salt delivered for winter needs
- Fire inspection completed
- Estimates for Boiler work have been requested from 2 companies
- Stained Glass window project is continuing
- Outdoor signage installation has been completed

### **Kristine Olson**

- September financials were completed
- Stewardship quarterly statements were sent
- Filled Membership coordinator/accounting assistant position
- Budget meetings are underway
- Provided assistance as requested in the neighborhood shooting incidences on and near church property.

### **Katie Styr**

- Provided Pastoral Care including 3 funerals and family support
- Preparations underway for Maternity Leave
- Roll cleanup is underway – follow up calls will begin in a couple of weeks

**On motion**, unanimously approved Rev. Katie Styr as an applicant to serve in the role of Commissioner for General Assembly. Funding will be secured through the Pastoral Expense Fund and the Continuing Education Budget.

**FINANCIAL REPORT - Stephanie Arp**

	September 2019		September 2018	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	57,877	65,185	64,123	56,660
Custodial Accounts Income	4,847	-	8,508	-
Compensation Expenses	60,788	66,321	54,164	64,010
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	14,281	19,991	29,914	87,462
Custodial Accounts Expenses	4,847	-	8,508	-
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(17,192)</b>	<b>(21,127)</b>	<b>(19,955)</b>	<b>(94,812)</b>
	2019 Year-To-Date		2018 Year-To-Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	646,751	657,120	689,712	717,526
Custodial Accounts Income	67,737	-	68,029	-
Compensation Expenses	435,729	480,264	467,926	514,640
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	170,133	228,107	209,093	227,921
Custodial Accounts Expenses	67,737	-	68,029	-
<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>40,888</b>	<b>(51,251)</b>	<b>12,693</b>	<b>(25,035)</b>
All numbers are rounded.				

**NEW BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION** – Jeff Charis-Carlson and Sam Massey

**On motion**, by majority vote, the Session recommends the Nominating Committee not put forward the names of former CG&P members to be considered for Officer positions for the 2020 calendar year, and that the same persons not chair or sit on standing committees of the Session during this extended ecclesiastical judicial process.

**On motion**, by majority vote, approved the following: “The Session lovingly yet firmly requests of the six former CG&P members that they refrain from attempting to exercise any authority or influence they previously had as a committee, and that they no longer communicate as a self-conscious, self-identified group seeking to influence decision making at FPC Davenport. We encourage them each to present their thoughts, ideas, and concerns as individuals. Session acknowledges and deeply values their experience, and the earnest love each one has for this Congregation.”

**On motion**, unanimously approved, The Clerk of Session and Interim Head of Staff are to meet individually with the impacted Congregation Members to share the Session motions guiding our ongoing communication and provide time for further conversation.

- April 24, 2020 is the permanent Judicial Committee Hearing in Louisville, Kentucky, to address Harry Hoyt's challenge for denial of standing for the filed complaint of Presbytery actions surrounding October 1, 2018.

**EMERGENCY TASK FORCE** –Pam Paulsen

**On motion**, unanimously moved to conclude the Emergency Preparedness Task Force on October 21, 2019.

- EPTF accomplished the main goals of:
  - Updating the emergency guidelines
  - Contracted a security system which was installed for the safety of all members, visitors, and staff of FPC Davenport
  - Recommendations for future enhancements
- Appreciation was expressed by the Session, for the excellent and extensive work.

**STEWARDSHIP-** Samantha Crow

Stewardship Sunday is November 2, 2019. The request is for all church leaders to submit their pledges prior to November 2, 2019 to present a united and supportive message to the Congregation.

**HOSPITALITY AND WELCOMING** - Jeanne Sherwood

**On motion**, unanimously approved Tracey Seaman and Heather Calvert for active membership and fellowship. They will be introduced to the Congregation on November 10, 2019.

**WORSHIP AND MUSIC** -

WHEREAS, a significant portion of the June 2021 music outreach trip to Ireland involves a mission component (TBD),

**On motion**, approved a series of fundraisers whereby members of the Sanctuary Choir will host a bake sale between services (or after the service on single-service Sundays) in the Fellowship Hall on the following dates:

- Sunday, November 24, 2019
- Sunday, February 9, 2020
- Sunday, April 5, 2020
- Members of the Sanctuary Choir and any willing congregation members will provide baked goods, and ask for a free-will or suggested donation. All proceeds from the sale will be put towards the missional components of the outreach trip.

**On motion**, approved a fundraiser for the youth ministries of the church whereby members of the Sanctuary Choir will serve tea and refreshments during the intermission of the harpsichord recital on Sunday, October 27.

- Members of the Sanctuary Choir will provide refreshments, and ask for a free-will or suggested donation.
- All proceeds from the sale will be given to the youth ministries of the church, to be utilized at CEFY's discretion.

**WORSHIP TASK FORCE** – Mark Jones

**On motion**, by unanimous vote, will change our current worship service schedule to include a single Sunday morning service in our current worship style, to begin with Advent 2019 on Sunday, December 1, 2019

- The Sunday morning schedule is outlined below with worship starting at 9:30 AM.
- The recommendation does not include changing our summer worship schedule that includes both an 8:30 AM outdoor service and a 10 AM indoor service.

Choir Warm-up 8:45-9:15

Worship 9:30-10:30

Fellowship 10:30-10:45

Cherub Choir 10:35-10:50

Musikgarten 10:50-11:25

Children and Youth Education 10:45-11:30

Adult Education 10:45-11:30

Fellowship Time 9:00-9:30 and 10:30-11:15

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE** – Sarah Greim

**On motion**, unanimously approved the number of members of Session be set at 20 for the 2019-2020 nominating year, or 21 if the Clerk needs to be a voting Elder, serving their first term as an ordained Elder.

This will allow for two Session Members per Session committee and better reflect the current size of the Congregation.

**On motion**, unanimously approved a Called Congregational meeting for November 24, 2019 at 10:00 am, to approve the Slate of Officers for 2020.

The training of new officers is to be scheduled in December 2019 with a make-up training session as needed in January of 2020.

### **PRESBYTERY REPORT** – Rev. Katie Styr

- September 21, 2019 Presbytery officially voted to approve Mark Galbraith's service to FPC Davenport as Interim Head of Staff.
- Next Presbytery meeting is November 21, 2019 in West Liberty, Kristine Oswald and potentially Jeff Ehrmann will be in attendance representing FPC Davenport.

**ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 pm and Moderator Galbraith closed with prayer.

The next meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, Iowa will be held on, November 18, 2019 at 7:00 pm in Von Maur Hall.

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Moderator,  
The Rev. Mark Galbraith

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Clerk of Session,  
Martha Bowles Edwards