

Session Meeting  
 First Presbyterian Church  
 Davenport, Iowa  
 December 16, 2019

The regular meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa was held in Von Maur Hall on Monday, December 16, 2019.

Moderator Rev. Mark Galbraith called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm and opened with the reading

	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>Merlyn Pete Madden</b> <i>Buildings &amp; Grounds</i>
E	<b>Sarah Greim</b> <i>Christian Ed. &amp; Fellowship for Youth</i>	P	<b>Dick Koos</b> <i>Personnel</i>	p	<b>Diane Roebuck</b> <i>Christian Education &amp; Fellowship for Youth</i>
P	<b>Matt Kabel</b> <i>Buildings &amp; Grounds</i>	P	<b>Pamela Paulsen</b> <i>Finance</i>	E	<b>Karla Ruitter</b> <i>Congregational Development and Fellowship</i>
P	<b>Jane Magnusson</b> <i>Christian Ed. &amp; Fellowship for Youth; Worship &amp; Music</i>	E	<b>RuthAnn Tobey-Brown</b> <i>Personnel</i>	P	<b>Don Wood</b> <i>Worship &amp; Music</i>
P	<b>Kristine Oswald</b> <i>Worship &amp; Music</i>	A	<b>James Woods</b> <i>Hospitality &amp; Welcoming</i>		
E	<b>Jeanne Sherwood</b> <i>Hospitality &amp; Welcoming; Nominating</i>				

from Ephesians 4, 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>	E	<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:

E	<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>
P	<b>Sam Massey</b> <i>Administrative Commission</i>	P	<b>Doug Wells</b> <i>Deacons' Representative</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 November 18,2019.
- **The REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION** (*A full copy of the November 2019 Clerk’s report presented to the Session at the December 16, 2019 Session Meeting can be found in the Appendix of the official 2019 Session minutes.*)

**On motion**, approved Rev. Sam Massey to serve as Moderator during a portion of the meeting this evening.

**On motion**, approved Anita Burnette to sit in this meeting and offer her voice as desired.

**I. REQUESTS FOR ACTION:**

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

Agbenonsi, Sonia	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Allen, Angela	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Arp, Sarah	Move to Baptized Roll
Berrie, Kristin	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Blackman, John	Move to Baptized Roll
Bowerman, Dan	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Bowerman, Kathy	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Bowles Edwards, Alan	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Buitendorp-Drew, Pamela	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Crow, Gene	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Dalton-Banks, Barbara	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Driscoll, John	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Driscoll, Judi	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Earp, Susan	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Fagla, Kossi	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Fairchild, Tricia	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Ferkel, Josh	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Ferkel, Renea	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Florang, James	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Grier, Elliott	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Grier, Emily	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Hamsher, Kathy	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Hamsher, Richard	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Harper, Betty	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Hart, Betty	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Hartman, Eric	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Havercamp, Joan	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Hickerson, Karl	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Hickerson, Margaret	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Hoogheem, David	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Hoogheem, Pamela	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Horvat, Timothy	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Jones, Julie	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Jones, Keith	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Kling, Johanna	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Kuhn, Cindy	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Lamb, James	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Lamb, Shawn	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Lambert, Gayle	Transfer to South Park Presbyterian, Rock Island, IL
Lambrecht, Steven	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Larson, Stephanie	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Lehman, James	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Lehman, Kay	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Loewenstein, Kay	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Loewenstein, Roger	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Lorenz, Amanda	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Losasso, Anne	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Marten, Dorothy	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Martin, Doris	Transfer to Christ’s Family Church, Davenport, IA
McDonald, Mike	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Meracle, Alison	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session

Mercer, Joanne	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Neilson, Kelsey	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Nelson, Donna	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Nyasa, Safi	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Oien, Lorraine	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Oien, Ronald	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Page, Adam	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Page, Anne	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Page, Sue	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Paul, A.J.	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Pausback, Jenny	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Pausback, William	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Peters, Jennifer	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Peters, Mike	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Rapsilber, Margaret	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Richardson, Kyle	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Rickert, Lizz	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Rigdon, Dallas	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Rigdon, Meg	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Rink, Peter	Transfer to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport, IA
Rink, Merriam	Transfer to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport, IA
Rink, Chelsea	Move to Baptized Roll per Merriam
Rink, Melissa	Move to Baptized Roll per Merriam
Rink, Andrew	Move to Baptized Roll per Merriam
Ruge, Kimberly	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Schermer, Gavin	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Schmidt, Erika	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Schmitt, Emily	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Schreiner, Zach	Move to Baptized Roll Per Session
Sodemann, David	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Sodemann, Gretel	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Suh, Karen	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Talbot, Sean	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Taylor, Thomas	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Vander Horn, Alexis	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
VanLoon, Bonnie	Transfer to Bettendorf Presbyterian Church, Bettendorf, IA
VanLoon, Jerry	Transfer to Bettendorf Presbyterian Church, Bettendorf, IA
VanOteghem, Melody	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
VanOteghem, Richard	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Wackenhuth, Charles	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Wadsworth, Diana	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Walker-Minninger, Katherine	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Wilson, Colene	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response
Wolfe, Pamela	Remove from Active Roll Per Session – No Response

## II. INCREASES TO MEMBERSHIP:

### New Members Received into Membership November 10, 2019

Heather Calvert

Certificate of Transfer

#### **BUSINESS OF THE CLERK - Marty Bowles Edwards**

**On motion**, by E-vote concluded December 6, 2019, postponed the Congregational Meeting from December 8, 2019 to January 12, 2020 at 10:30 am, for the purpose of voting on the slate of officers for 2020.

#### **DEACONS' REPORT –Doug Wells**

##### **Outreach:**

- PUNCH Thanksgiving meal was once again a success. Over 200 were served.  
Thank you to all who served or donated food.
- The Blessing Box at the back of the Sanctuary which we are contributing to through PUNCH was full. A reminder that the Blessing Box campaign will culminate in a drive at KWQC on the Martin Luther King holiday.
- 68+ were officially served at Church's United Dinner
- Outreach Committee is once again conducting the 'Paper Hearts' toilet paper drive for the benefit

of Humility of Mary Shelter in January and February.

- The Angel Tree project through Bethany Homes was once again a success. Our congregation took all 100 tags we requested. Bethany will pick up all the gifts on December 10th at 11:30 a.m.
- The Outreach Committee addressed its 2020 budget requests at its committee meeting and shared its conclusions with Kristine Olson.
- The cocoa and mitten giveaway event was held December 10, 2019 from 3:00-5:30 outside the southwest corner of the church. Donations were appreciated.

#### **Pastoral Care and Spiritual Development:**

- PCSD Committee discussed its 2020 budget requests at its committee meeting. A list of suggestions and recommendations will be left for next year's committee to review.

#### **Mission Connection:**

- Mission Connection committee discussed its 2020 budget issues. It was agreed to move previously budgeted funds for AMKA (which the church is no longer supporting based on recommendations from the committee) into the Mission Connection discretionary fund.

#### **Deacon's Endowment Fund:**

- A \$3800 grant for ARGROWS House was approved and the check has been sent out.

#### **New and Other Business:**

- A discussion was held as to how to get the congregation of the church more involved with mission work. An informal task force was formed to study the ideas and make recommendations. The task force will meet at D. Wells' office on Tuesday, January 7th at 5:30 p.m. Anyone interested is invited.
- A discussion was had regarding the \$500 remaining in the Deacon's discretionary fund for this year. A motion was made to contribute \$400 to the Neighbor to Neighbor program at The Center, contribute \$49.38 to the Deacon's mittens and cocoa event for supplies, and to leave \$50.62 in the fund to offset a shortfall in another line item.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Matt Bishop**

- Lessons and Carols was well received in the Worship Service on December 8, at 9:30 am.
- Christmas Concerts were well received on December 14 and 15, 2019
- FPC choirs will be Caroling to Ridgecrest on Thursday, December 19
- Christmas Eve services will be at 4:00, 9:00, and 11:00 pm
- Musical rehearsals will begin January 10, 2020

### **Mark Galbraith**

- Annual Reports from all committees of Session are due into the Church Office by December 31, 2019.
- Small group facilitators are needed to begin discussion sessions in January. Please submit names to Mark for consideration.

### **Pat Halverson**

- Preached 2 times during Katie's Maternity Leave
- Officiated for the Funeral of Roberta Darbyshire
- Will lead a graveside service for Nellie James yet this month

### **Darren Long**

- Snow removal will be provided for a flat fee of \$400 per day for this winter
- Light bulb replacements will result in a savings of \$3.00 each in monthly utility charges.

## **Kristine Olson**

- November Financial Report was completed and presented in printed form.

## **NEW BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **STEWARDSHIP – Samantha Crow**

- Pledges received – 166 for a total of \$586,000
- Campaign will end at midnight on 12/31 and not continue into January.
- 85 pledgers for 2019, that have not submitted a pledge for 2020, will all be contacted before the end of the year.
- December of 2018 there was \$658,000 pledged

### **FINANCE/BUDGET – Stephanie Arp**

- There is a \$200.00 shortfall projected for 2020. Therefore, a lifestyle change is needed for the Congregation for FPC.
- Personnel Committee is asked to analyze staffing needs and recommend changes to address this deficit, beginning in January of 2020.
- There is enough remaining in the Associate Pastor fund to cover 1 ½ more years of salary for Rev. Katie Styr.

**[KRISTINE INSERTS FINANCIAL REPORT INFO HERE]**

### **CEFY – Diane Roebuck**

- CE Director Search Committee interviewed a candidate and is waiting for direction from Session before moving forward in the process.
- The Candidate is a person with strong qualifications, experience, and vision.
- Currently there are no High School Youth attending Sunday School.
- Due to budget concerns, the search process was instructed by Session to be put on hold at this time.
- The MIF was sent to Presbytery for approval, to allow for a look at ordained candidates. There has been no feedback from Presbytery as of yet.
- Rev. Sam Massey offered his assistance at the Presbytery level if needed, to move the process forward through the Personnel Coordinating Committee (PCC).

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Moderator Mark Galbraith appointed Rev. Sam Massey to moderate the meeting beginning at 8:28pm.**

- Moderator Sam Massey reviewed parliamentary procedures, allowing for Session to address a letter and request from parishioner Harry Hoyt.

**On motion**, approved reconsidering motions passed on October 21, 2019. Passing this motion permitted discussion of a motion presented to Session, electronically, prior to this meeting, by congregant Harry Hoyt.

**The motion was defeated** by a majority vote, that the three motions passed by the session in its meeting on 21 October 2019 that affect the former members of the Church Government and Personnel Committee (CG&PC) as printed in full at the end of this motion as Attachment 1 are hereby

declared to be invalid, null, void and of no consequence or effect, effective as of, and retroactive to, the moment of their approval by the session on 21 October 2019.

**On motion**, defeated by majority vote, the following resolution and motion presented by the Clerk of Session:

Whereas there is a clear, ongoing conflict between some Presbytery of East Iowa officials and six former members of Davenport's Church Government and Personnel Committee;

Whereas the Session needs to continue to do its work as the decision-making board for the congregation;

Whereas the conflict continues to occupy agendas for and drain resources from Presbytery commissions;

Whereas the conflict is keeping former CG&P members from being considered by the Davenport's Nominating Committee to serve in positions in which they otherwise would be capable to lead;

Whereas the conflict can only be solved by Presbytery officials and former members of the CG&P committee seeking mediation with each other;

*Resolved*, that the Session of FPC Davenport:

- call to hold both parties accountable for their role in the ongoing conflict;
- respectfully petition the Presbytery of East Iowa to schedule a mediation session with the former members of Davenport's CG&P committee members;
- ask that the mediator be selected from outside the Presbytery of East Iowa;
- ask that those in attendance include, but not be limited to, Rebecca Blair, Jim Claypool, Daniel DeBeer, Sam Massey, Kristin Hutson, Harry Hoyt, Nancy Chapman, Louise Hales, Brock Earnhardt, Judy Hawthorne, and Diane Schroeder;
- ask that a firmly scheduled and verified mediation date — and a confirmed intent to enter into mediation in good faith — precede and result in the withdrawal of the formal complaint filed by Harry Hoyt;
- ask that the above parties work together to write and present a statement to the Session of FPC Davenport as to their mutually achieved understandings and steps toward reconciliation with the Session and Congregation of FPC Davenport.

**On motion**, unanimously approved that the Session deems all members are eligible to be considered for positions of leadership, including serving as members of standing committees, if they are not filing and or pursuing an ecclesiastical judicial process in the PCUSA."

**Moderator pro tem Re. Sam Massey returned the role of moderating to Rev. Mark Galbraith at 10:28 pm.**

**On motion**, unanimously approved Rev. Sam Massey, Anita Burnett, or/or Jeff Charis-Carlson assist with the January 2020 training of new church officers.

**ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 10:37pm and Moderator Galbraith closed with prayer.

The next meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, Iowa will be held on, January 27, 2020 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