

Session Meeting
First Presbyterian Church
Davenport, Iowa
February 20, 2023

The stated meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa was held on Monday, February 20, 2023. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

Moderator Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. A quorum was present. Elder Paula Burnett opened the meeting with prayer.

	Class of 2023		Class of 2024		Class of 2025
P	David Bowles Edwards <i>Congregational Marketing & Growth</i>	P	Paula Burnett <i>Hospitality & Welcoming</i>	P	Dan Breinich <i>Personnel</i>
P	Jim DeReus <i>Adult Christian Education</i>	A	Peter Bawden <i>Personnel</i>	P	Nancy Chapman <i>Finance</i>
P	Patrick Downing <i>Stewardship</i>	P	Kirk Christie <i>Adult Christian Education</i>	P	Bonnie Johnson <i>Christian Ed & Fellowship for Youth</i>
P	Michael Ferris <i>Worship & Music</i>	P	Nancy Foster <i>Finance</i>	P	Mark Ruebling <i>Congregational Marketing & Growth</i>
P	RuthAnn Tobey-Brown <i>Personnel</i>	P	Bev Koos <i>Worship and Music</i>	P	Vicki Stegall <i>Adult Christian Education</i>
P	James Woods <i>Hospitality & Welcoming</i>	P	Diane Roebuck <i>Christian Ed & Fellowship for Youth</i>		
		P	Karla Ruiter <i>Building & Grounds</i>		
		P	Jay Williams <i>Cong Fellowship & Development</i>		
P	Mark Jones <i>Clerk of Session, non-voting</i>	P- present E-Excused A-Absent			

Staff members:

P	Rev. Kristopher Schondelmeyer <i>Pastor / Head of Staff</i>	P	Matthew Bishop <i>Director of Music</i>	P	Darren Long <i>Facilities & Custodial Supervisor</i>
P	Rev. Pat Halverson <i>Parish Associate</i>	P	Kristine Olson <i>Finance Manager</i>	P	Kristy Woodrow <i>Director Christian Education</i>

Guests: Deacon Glen Roebuck, Elder-elect Nathan Kabel.

The agenda was approved with the following changes: addition of motions from the Pandemic Task Force and the Congregational Marketing and Growth Committee.

On motion and second, our guests were admitted to the meeting with voice but no vote:

The Moderator took a few moments to explain some changes in the usual order of the agenda. The monthly income/expense report and the custodial and pass-through report will be added to the consent agenda. The Clerk's Report will be removed from the consent agenda and stand on its own. The Moderator expressed hopes that committees can provide minutes (or notes) for the Session to review with only highlights provided and questions answered during the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion and second, the Session approved the following items in the Consent Agenda

- Approval of the January 30, 2023 Session minutes as presented in Session packet.
- Affirm the following E-votes
 - Motion to approve the 2022 Statistical Report
 - E-vote conducted February 9-11, 2022
 - Motion was approved: 16 yes votes; 0 no votes.
 - Motion to approve Vicki Stegall as commissioner to the February 16, 2022 Called Meeting of PEIA
 - E-vote conducted February 9-11, 2022
 - Motion was approved: 16 yes votes; 0 no votes

CLERK'S REPORT

- The February Clerk's Report documenting membership changes, deaths, baptisms, communion, leadership training and January attendance is appended to these minutes
- Other business of the Clerk
 - Reminder next meeting: March 20, 2023. Elders are encouraged to attend in-person in Von Maur Hall. Zoom will be available.
 - Requested reports have been submitted to PEIA and the denomination. Copies of these reports will be in the bound 2023 records.
 - 2022 Trustee Report (insurance) and certificates of insurance
 - 2022 Statistical Report
- Draft agenda for upcoming congregational meeting was provided for comment.
- **Action item:** It is recommended that the Session approve the Operations Manual with changes reviewed and affirmed at the December 2022 Session meeting. Additional changes are still pending and can be approved at future meetings as they are completed.

On motion and second, the Session approved the December 2022 version of the Operations Manual. It is recognized that sections of the Operations Manual should be under continual review and updating.

DEACONS' REPORT: Glen Roebuck, Deacon

Deacon Glen Roebuck provided the following highlights on Deacon activities:

- Deacons are, with help from Pastor Schondelmeyer, re-envisioning ways to provide care to FPC members. It is hoped that Deacons can have regular contact with all church members several times per year. This type of work is particularly important in a single pastor church. This will involve further development of the plan, training, and piloting.
- FPC has recently ended our partnership with the Center regarding rental assistance when accountability of services and money spent was not forthcoming. The Deacons are looking into a partnership with Humility Homes and Services. This would remove responsibility for vetting requests for rental assistance from FPC staff.

SESSION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Report – Elder Nancy Chapman

- January financial reports are delayed while focusing on multiple year-end reports that must take priority. The January and February numbers will be presented next month. The January income numbers look very positive. This is often true because some choose to give their 2023 pledge in December 2022. These are carried over to January 2023.
- The Finance Committee's Annual Report has been completed including a narrative to go with the numbers reported. One change from previous reports to Session is that the item "additional revenue from unknown sources" was changed to "additional income from donors." The label changed but the projected income of \$30,000 is unchanged.
- A few committees have asked about using Custodial Funds. Continue to ask these questions of Elder Chapman or Kristine Olson in the finance office.

Congregational Development and Fellowship (CDF) – Elder Jay Williams


- A copy of the CDF 2022 Annual Report was provided to the Session highlighting that many activities suspended during the worst of the pandemic have been restarted. This report is appended to these minutes.
- CDF is working with Pastor Schondelmeyer on a series of "meet & greet" events for members to talk with Pastor Schondelmeyer in a small group setting of no more than 20 people. The times and dates of these meetings are still being decided.
- Working with Hospitality and Welcoming to encourage new members to consider helping out with fellowship events as a way of getting to know people in the church.
- CDF is considering new programs. Among those suggested include a chili cook-off and an FPC talent show.

Pandemic Task Force (PTF) – Elder RuthAnn Tobey-Brown

- Elder Tobey-Brown **moved that the Pandemic Task Force be dissolved with great thanks on May 11, 2023, coinciding with the expiration of the Federal Covid Health Emergency Declarations.** The motion received a second.
 - Discussion highlights:
 - The PTF is tired. They have worked diligently for many months. No current Covid-related limitations are currently in place and none are expected in the near future.
 - The church is smarter about managing the pandemic-related issues than at the start. Supplies needed for management will remain in place.
 - Covid is still around - what if Covid numbers would rise again? A task force can be re-instated, if and when necessary. Pastor Kris has a background in public management and feels capable of re-activating our processes and forming a new task force, if indicated.
 - Dissolving rather than suspending the PTF will give the current members closure to their activity and allow us to celebrate their efforts.
 - Following discussion, **the motion was approved.**

Congregational Marketing and Growth Committee (CMGC)– Matt Bishop, Staff Liaison

- **The CMGC moved the adoption of a new FPC logo which will be the basis for a logo package to be used by FPC.**
- Matt Bishop presented the logo (see to the right) and discussed its elements.

- It uses the Celtic Cross – highlighting the connection of the Celtic Cross at FPC and the denomination’s Scottish heritage.
 - 3 of the colors are the same as used in the Matthew 25 logo. The additional red color represents the color of the Holy Spirit and, with purple, are colors represented in the Covenant Network. FPC is a member of both the Matthew 25 and Covenant Network.
 - The purple was also chosen as one of the main colors in our sanctuary and to add additional color to the logo.
 - The words Energy, Intelligence, Imagination, Love come from the vows of ordination of church leaders, from the *At the Crossroads* mission study document, and words that Pastor Schondelmeyer thought reflected the aspirations of FPC shared with him during the call process.
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- Discussion highlights:
 - Should “Davenport, Iowa” be added to the logo? The logo presented will serve as the template for a series of logos that can be used in different circumstances. Yes, some of them should include “Davenport, Iowa.”
 - Why the Celtic Cross and not the PC-USA cross? Because of the special connection FPC has with the Celtic Cross. Many churches will adopt a cross that has meaning to them. The PC-USA cross will still appear in our bulletins identifying our church with that denomination.
 - Many positive comments to this new proposal.
 - Following discussion, **the motion was approved.**
 - Matt Bishop also shared a preview of a new bulletin format and how the logo will look.
 - In addition to thanks for Matt Bishop and Kris Schondelmeyer for their work on this, thanks to Caitlin Bishop for the design of the Celtic Cross logo, and to Jim Middleton for significant input on format and style features in the new bulletin.

On motion and second, the Session approved the Clerk’s Report, the Deacons’ Report and the Session Committee reports.

Staff Reports

Matt Bishop, Director of Music

- Commended Alex Gilson for his wonderful organ recital on February 10, 2023.
- Auditions held for Addams Family and the cast list has been completed; table read will be Sunday with formal rehearsals starting in April or May. Dates of the show are July 21-23.
- Kirkwood Choir enthusiastically offered music on February 12. Thanks to Linda Bengfort and Kathy Middleton for their work with this group. Discussions underway about maybe splitting this choir into 2 groups again now that the numbers have increased.
- Later this week Matt will be attending the National Conference of the American Choral Directors Association. Linda and Alex will be lead rehearsals.

Kristy Woodrow, Director of Christian Education, provided the following written report:

- **Sunday School** – We used “Follow Jesus”, a *Follow Me* curriculum for the PC(USA). The kids are having fun learning how to use the Bible, reading different Bible stories, eating snacks, as well as doing crafts and service projects. We have made some progress

recruiting volunteers to service as we are preparing to move into two classes for the Lenten season.

- **Youth ministry** – CEFY is planning a get-together with youth and parents in the next few weeks.
- **ACE** - I am available to offer support in any way needed. I have recommended a few options for a Lent study. Pastor Kris expressed interest in leading a Lenten devotional.
- **Nursery** – Our wonderful nursery staff are excited to have an average of three little ones every week since January began. They are growing closer with the children and teaching them about Jesus' love.
- **Preaching** – I preached on January 8 when we celebrated Epiphany Sunday. The congregation had the opportunity to choose a “star word”, which they were tasked with reflecting on throughout the year.
- Alongside CEFY, we are starting to plan for the end of the school year and what Vacation Bible Camp will look like this year. I am also starting to plan for the summer and what next school year's programming might look like.
- Kristy added the following: In January she audited a class on children and family ministries and remotely attended a conference of the Association of Partners in Christian Education.

Pat Halverson, Parish Associate

- Doing a bit more visiting, especially at Ridgecrest.
- Officiated a funeral in January.

Darren Long, Maintenance and Custodial Supervisor

- Painting on 3rd floor of CE building almost complete.
- Catching up on small maintenance issues around the building.
- Outdoor clean-up day being scheduled for April 1, 2023
- As more activities are being held in the building, it is important for the Building Use Forms to be submitted as early as possible. Pass the word.

Kristine Olson, Finance Manager

- Focus has been on completing year-end reports
- Then will be able to complete January and February monthly reports.

Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer, Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

- Will be away Thursday-Saturday for Abby's grandmother's funeral.
- Will be taking Feb 27-Mar 5 for CE leave to do worship and program planning.
- Will begin leading a Lenten series on Feb 26 holding a session after worship on Sundays and again on Zoom Sunday evening.

Other Business

Report from the Commissioners to the Called Meeting of February 16, 2023 for the purpose of voting on General Assembly's proposed amendments to the Book of Order.

- Good to see the Presbytery in action. Pastor Schondelmeyer was involved in writing several of the amendments being discussed and spoke in support of them.
- All 33 amendments were approved; 4 discussed apart from the consent agenda.

- If approved by enough presbyteries, the amendments go into effect in July 2023.

Election of Commissions to the **206th Stated Meeting of Presbytery**, Saturday, March 11, 2023, 10 AM-2 PM, at United Presbyterian Church, Washington, IA, in-person and Zoom.

- **On motion and second**, the Session elected Elders Nancy Foster, RuthAnn Tobey-Brown, and Mark Jones to serve as Commissioners to the 206th Stated Meeting of Presbytery.

Evaluation of the Meeting

- Kept on task.
- Will try to meet the challenge of regularly completing written reports.
- Proposal by Pastor Schondelmeyer
 - Would like to do deeper devotions and discussion of FPC's mission. Has a resource for the purpose. Will add time to the meeting, hopefully offset by greater use of written reports.
 - Session agreed to start our March meeting at 6:30 PM. Will continue to do so if this goes well.

ADJOURNMENT

The agenda was completed. No new business was brought to the floor. The meeting was adjourned by the Moderator at 9:02 PM. Moderator Schondelmeyer closed the meeting in prayer.

The next Stated Meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, Iowa will be held on March 20, 2023 at 6:30 PM, in Von Maur Hall. Zoom will be available.

The Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer
Moderator

Mark Jones
Clerk of Session

Appendix 1: FPC Session Minutes, February 2023: Clerk's Report

REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION **For the Month of February 2023**

I. Membership

New Membership

Abby Schondelmeyer was received into membership at FPC by Session on January 30, 2023.

Transfer of Membership

Robert and Pamela Karll – by letter of transfer to the First Presbyterian Church of Naples, Naples, FL

Deaths

Sally Ann McMullen, Moline, IL, died on January 16, 2023 in Phoenix, AZ. A service was held on 1/28/2023 at Van Hoe Funeral Home, East, Moline, IL, Rev. Pat Halverson officiating.

John Richard Howes, Davenport, IA, died on February 6, 2023 in Davenport, IA. A Celebration of Life Service will be planned at a future date per Weerts Funeral Home.

II. Baptisms Celebrated

Lincoln Daniel Schondelmeyer, son of Kristopher Daniel Schondelmeyer and Abby Louisa (Wasylkowski) Schondelmeyer, born on September 13, 2022 in Quakertown, PA was baptized at First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, IA on Sunday, February 5, 2023, Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala and Rev. Elissa Bailey officiating.

Franklin Joseph Hennes, son of Matthew W. Hennes and Sarah T. (Beiwel) Hennes, born on February 5, 2022 in Davenport, IA was baptized at First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, IA on Sunday, February 19, 2023, Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer officiating.

III. Communion

Communion was offered on Sunday, February 5, 2023, at the 9:30 AM worship service in the sanctuary. Officiants were Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala, Rev. Elissa Bailey, and Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer.

IV. Installation and Ordination

The following church leaders were ordained and installed on Sunday, January 29, 2023, Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer officiating.

- Ordained and installed as Elders: Bonnie Johnson and Mark Ruebling
- Installed as Elders: Dan Breinich, Vicki Stegall, and Nancy Chapman.
- Ordained and installed as a Deacon: Kristy Owens
- Installed as Deacons: Colleen Duenas and Terri Sheetz

V. Leadership Training

Leadership Training for all newly elected and currently serving Elders and Deacons for 2023 was held on Tuesday, December 20, 2022 from 6-8PM and on Wednesday, December 21, 2022, from 6-8 PM. The training was conducted by Rev. Dr. Kathy Stoner-Lasala. Those unable to attend completed make-up training in January 2023.

VI. Attendance, January 2023

January 2023	Nursery	Sunday School All Grades	Kirkwood Choir	Musik-garten	ACE
1	not held	not held	not held	not held	no class
8	1	12	12	12	7
15	4	14	14	19	6
22	3	not held	15	6	no class
29	3	14	14	12	4
Total	11	40	55	49	17
Attendance Total				172	

Worship Attendance

January 2022	Time	Cong. Count	Choir/ Clergy	Total
2	All services cancelled Snow storm related			
9	Vimeo FB Watch	7 42	6	55
16	Vimeo FB Watch	15 60	7	82
23	Sanctuary Vimeo FB Watch	63 1 32	4	100
30	Sanctuary Vimeo FB Watch	69 14 38	32	153
Attendance Total				390
Weekly Average				98

Live streamed only on Sunday 2/9/2022 and 2/16/2022

Video counts are based on views within 2 weeks of service date.

Weekly counts are based on sanctuary attendance plus watches on FB and Vimeo

January 2023	Time	Cong. Count	Choir/ Clergy	Total
1	9:30 AM On-line views	60 29	2	62 29
Total:				91
8	9:30 AM On-line views	109 43	3	112 43
Total:				155
15	9:30 AM FB Watch	124 36	43	167 36
Total:				203
22	9:30 AM On-line views	109 62	33	142 62
Total:				204
29	Sanctuary On-line views	82 54	39	121 54
Total:				175
Monthly Total				828
Weekly Average				165

Video counts are based on views on FB and Vimeo within 2 weeks of service date.

Weekly counts are based on sanctuary attendance plus watches on FB and Vimeo

Appendix 1: FPC Session Minutes, February 2023: CDF Report

Congregational Development & Fellowship Committee

2022 Annual Report, Development Strategies & Action Plan

Mission and Vision Statement:

Our key responsibilities are:

- To develop and update a written Action Plan for the committee annually which supports the CDF Vision and Mission Statements, as well as the Long-Range Strategic Plan of the church.
- Nurture all the fellowship groups within the church, helping to communicate and promote the activities of each group to the congregation, and encouraging active participation in all.
- Establish new fellowship groups and/or activities where there is sufficient interest.
- Discontinue groups where the level of congregational interest has been significantly reduced.

Successful Programming:

In 2022 we were able to host most of our annual events, as well as travel fellowship:

- First Night Out reinstated.
- Carnival Service & Celebration
- CDF's trademark Manna & More reinstated
- Blessing of the Animals Worship Service
- Bix Race Concession
- Bix Jazz Liturgy & Reception
- Thanksgiving Eve Pie Fellowship
- Rev. Dr. Kris Schondelmeyer Pastor Candidate Reception
- Eagle Point Park Holiday Lights Tour (Clinton, IA)

2023 CDF Committee:

- Dawn Hickenbottom, Co-chair
- Jay Williams, Co-chair
- Val Horvat, Past Chair
- Marilyn Jorgenson, Past Chair
- Verna Burrichter
- Ralph Congdon
- Jeffrey Gomez
- Bill Hawthorne
- Denny Jorgenson
- Linda Meadors
- Karla Ruiter

Respectfully,
Jay Williams, CDF Chair