

# THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MADISON

## Session Highlights

October 16, 2017

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Unicameral Session held in the seminar room.

**PRESENT:** **Moderator:** The Rev. Scott Foster

**Ruling Elders:** Bill Bowen, Bob Baisch, Janet Foster, Suzanne Flynn, Monika Stebbins, and Giorgios Vlamis, Clerk

**Elders:** Barbara Schuszler, Cathy Baillie (Church Administrator)

**Others:** Patrick Allred (Director of Family Ministries)

**EXCUSED:** **Ruling Elders:** Kathleen Underwood, Tom Selquist, Becky Moody, Brian Peterson, David DePaul

**DEVOTIONAL:** Rev. Foster provided a devotional from the translation by Charles Courtney of sermons by Louis Simon called “*My*” *Jesus*.

Rev. Scott Foster called the meeting of Session to order with prayer at 7:35 PM.

There was a quorum present.

The docket was adopted.

**OMNIBUS MOTION** - Approved.

**Resolved,** Session approves the minutes of the Regular Session Meeting on September 11, 2017

**FINANCE AND STEWARSHIP** Barbara Schuszler provided a written report and 3Q analysis. There has been a reduction in pledging and annual operating costs are trending upward. A task force (Barbara Schuzler, Janet foster, and Giorgios Vlamis) will be formed to assist with 2018 budgeting/expense reduction recommendations. Ideas were discussed for how to motivate better pledging participation by members. An evening event on (December 1st) will be planned to focus on stewardship.

**RALLY DAY VISIONING UPDATE** There was an update from Patrick Allred and Barbara Schuzler on visioning conducted with the youth of the church. Community, service, and spirituality topics were reviewed.

### **W.I.N. UPDATES**

**Growth Strategy and Children’s Discipleship:** Suzanne Flynn provided a brief update.

**Path to Discipleship:** Status quo.

**Planning/Procedures/Process:** Status quo.

**DIRECTOR OF FAMILY MINISTRIES** Patrick Allred provided a report on a conference he recently attended regarding family ministry. A power point presentation was provided including an outline for organizing future discussions.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Capital Campaign - RENEW:** Janet Foster provided an update on the kitchen project. There are significant infrastructure upgrades necessary. Further planning and engineering will be necessary to fully budget the project.

**Worship:** A written report was received. Highlights include reformation Sunday and the Christmas pageant.

**Christian Education:** There was a brief update.

**Mission & Service:** No report.

**Community Outreach & Congregational Life:** Bottle Hill was a huge success.

**Properties:** A written report was received regarding building use requests. A **Motion** was approved for the Rotary International Club to use Fellowship Hall for an organizational meeting for the “End Hunger” drive. The meeting will be November 1st and 6:30pm. A **Motion** was approved for the “Beloved Community” organization, which has used our space before has requested Fellowship Hall on November 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm for a meeting at which they anticipate up to 100 participants.

The recent use of Fellowship Hall including beer and wine was discussed and there were no objections by members of Session.

**Discipleship:** No report.

**Clerk:** Communion was celebrated on October 1, 2017. Rolls: record the death of Elder Scott Fleming on September 29, 2017; record the death of Elder Rex Reed on May 4, 2017

**CORPORATE BUSINESS** Janet Foster, President of the Board of Trustees moderated. Given Bob Garman’s impending confinement (beginning 10/31 and running for 3-6 months after) for a stem cell transplant and recovery, a **Motion** was approved that Session appoint Jim Burnet as Assistant Cemetery Administrator with full powers (i.e., to approve time sheets and vouchers for expenses, to authorize repairs to equipment, and to execute any other powers granted to Bob Garman by Session’s Annual Enabling Motions). Jim and Bob agree that where practical, Bob will continue to approve expenses (voucher requests by Email), but that for example, time sheet approvals will be done by Jim.

**NEW BUSINESS** None.

**PASTOR’S REPORT** A written report was received. Rev. Foster noted an upcoming cemetery seminar. Rev. Foster provided an update on his recent rotator cuff surgery.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT** None.

The next regular session meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2017.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM with prayer led by Rev. Scott Foster.