

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MADISON**

**Session Highlights**

**January 8, 2018**

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

**Ruling Elders:** Bob Baisch, David DePaul, Janet Foster, Becky Moody, Suzanne Flynn, Kathleen Underwood, Monika Stebbins, and Giorgios Vlamis, Clerk

**EXCUSED:** **Ruling Elders:** Bill Bowen, Brian Peterson, Tom Selquist

**DEVOTIONAL:** Becky Moody offered a poem from the commissioned song called *My Name is Lamiya: Don't Call Me 'Refugee*

Rev. Scott Foster called the meeting of Session to order with prayer at 7:38 PM.

There was a quorum present.

The docket was adopted.

**OMNIBUS MOTION** - Approved.

**Resolved,** Session approves the minutes of the Regular Session Meeting on December 12, 2017

**FINANCE AND STEWARSHIP** Barbara Schuszler provided a written report. There was continued discussion about the 2018 budget considerations. There was an update on the stewardship campaign which continues to improve in terms of pledged dollars and participation. Adjustments to the budget will be circulated by email for the approval of Session prior to the Annual Meeting.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT** There was an open discussion.

**W.I.N. UPDATES**

**Path to Discipleship:** Monika Stebbins provided a written report and update. There was a discussion about the team plan for creating hands on guides.

**Planning/Procedures/Process:** Becky Moody provided an update.

**Growth Strategy and Children's Discipleship:** There was a discussion about possibly reforming this team for 2018.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Capital Campaign - RENEW:** A written report was received. Janet Foster explained that construction to be pushed out begin in March as scope and budget are refined.

**Properties:** A written report was received. A **Motion** was approved to accept facility uses: (1) John Hoover, member of Madison Borough Council for the evening of Friday, January 12, 2018, to meet with a group of about 20 people. Parlor or Session Room suggested. (2) Elizabeth Redwine, facilitator for Action Together NJ for the afternoon of Saturday, January 13th for a workshop on policy.

**Worship:** A written report was received. Monika Stebbins discussed highlights. Special Christmas worship elements were very well received and Christmas Eve attendance was exceptional (214).

**Christian Education:** David DePaul discussed the upcoming retreat.

**Mission & Service:** Becky Moody provided a written report. A **Motion** was approved to collect the four PC(USA) special offerings in 2018 – One Great Hour of Sharing, the Pentecost Offering, the Peace and Global Witness Offering, and the Christmas Joy Offering. A **Motion** was approved for our church to formally become a member of Refugee Assistance Morris Partners (“RAMP”), a local interfaith group serving as “a bridge to assist people to cross from one life to another”. Charles Courtney has been meeting with the group for the last several months, and we recently made a donation of \$798 as part of our year-end mission giving. We would like to dedicate the 2018 quarter offering to RAMP.

**Community Outreach & Congregational Life:** No report. There was a discussion about the success of this year’s Christmas caroling (45 attendees).

**Discipleship:** See WIN report.

**Clerk:** Celebration of communion was moved to January 14, 2018.

**Nominating:** Giorgios Vlamis, Monika Stebbins, Janet Foster, and Kathleen Underwood will be leaving Session. The nominating committee will be seeking at least three new members of Session.

**CORPORATE BUSINESS** None.

**NEW BUSINESS** None.

**PASTOR’S REPORT** A written report was received and highlights were discussed. There is an upcoming meeting of Presbytery on January 13, 2018. PCM has been invited to nominate a second commissioner to Presbytery for 2018. Annual reports are due to the Church Administrator ASAP.

The Annual Meeting is February 4, 2018 and Session training will be held February 10, 2018. The next regular session meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM with prayer led by Rev. Scott Foster.