

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MADISON

Session Meeting Notes

June 10, 2019

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

Ruling Elders: Bob Baisch, Cheryl Bolton, Bill Bowen, Sara Burnet, Brian Peterson, Ryan Rate, Barbara Schuszler, and Becky Moody, Clerk

Guests: Patrick Allred, Director of Family Ministries; Anna D'Achille, Director of Musical Arts

EXCUSED: David DePaul, Suzanne Flynn

Rev. Foster called the meeting of Session to order at 7:07 PM.

There was a quorum present.

Patrick Allred led a devotional on Ephesians 2:1-10, followed by an opening prayer.

The docket was amended; the amended docket was adopted.

Becky Moody presented an overview of Presbyterian polity and the duties and responsibilities of ruling elders.

OMNIBUS MOTION – Approved.

Resolved, Session approves the minutes of the Regular Session Meeting on May 13, 2019

Resolved, Session approves the minutes of the Special Session Meetings on June 2, 2019 and June 9, 2019

NEW BUSINESS

Madison School of Music: Anna D'Achille presented a proposal to establish a private music lesson program operating out of the Presbyterian Church of Madison. After discussion of the positive aspects of such a program, as well as concerns to be addressed, there was a consensus that Anna should proceed with the plan. Patrick and Anna will confer with Adam Gilbert at Central Presbyterian Church in Summit, who directs a similar program.

Session Committee Restructure: Barbara Schuszler presented a proposal to align the non-operating committees into two: Lives Transformed (Worship and the educational portion of Family Ministries – Cheryl Bolton, Bill Bowen) and Community Renewed (Congregational Care and Community Outreach, Mission and Service, and the remainder of Family Ministries – Sara Burnet, David DePaul, Suzanne Flynn, Becky Moody). Following a period of discussion, there was consensus to pursue this structure beginning now.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Strategic Planning: Barbara Schuszler provided a written report. The follow-up meeting regarding the changes in worship personnel took place on June 8; participants felt that they were able to express their concerns and that it is time to move on. Barbara will be drafting a second communication to the congregation regarding the 2019 assessment; Session members will be able to provide input. Scott Foster and Patrick Allred provided verbal updates on the status of their development work with coaches.

Worship: The organ technician has recommended a regular maintenance plan in order to keep the sanctuary organ in good operating condition. Further details (including costs) will be provided.

Family Ministries: Patrick Allred provided a written report. There are currently 13 registrations for day camp. Patrick attended the Madison Newcomers' event held on June 8.

Mission: The Pentecost Offering was received on June 9.

Finance and Stewardship: Louise Kacerek had provided her usual monthly reports as well as additional information regarding actual and expected rental income. Ryan Rate reported on the process to select a new accountant to replace Louise; a **Motion** was approved to hire Theresa Lepore on an hourly basis. A **Motion** was approved to appoint Barbara Schuszler as Treasurer.

Properties: A **Motion** was approved to lease the Fellowship Hall kitchen to Daddy Matty's (Matt James) catering business for six months, at a monthly rent of \$1,400. All kitchen use by other groups (including the church) will need to be approved by Matt. A **Motion** was approved for Min Kwon and the Center for Musical Excellence to hold recitals in the sanctuary on Sunday, September 22 and Sunday, November 3.

Personnel: There was a discussion regarding the Sunday sexton position.

Clerk: Communion was celebrated on Sunday June 2, Sunday June 9, and Wednesday mornings May 15, May 22, May 29, and June 5. Changes in congregational rolls – 13 confirmands were received by Session on June 2 and June 9; twelve of them were welcomed in worship on June 9.

REPORT FROM MAY 14 PRESBYTERY MEETING – The theme for the year is Stories of Hope, related to Matthew 25 initiative, which we qualify for because we participate in all four special offerings (one of 13 churches in the presbytery that do so). Presbytery voted to move forward with the New Jersey missional structures initiative. Stories of Hope included two local church initiatives – Boonton Loaves and Fishes and Wharton United Hope's Table. Commissioners enjoyed an extensive potluck dinner with a large assortment of entrees, salads and desserts. Following dinner, the new presbytery moderator (a ruling elder) was installed; moderators alternate between ruling elders and clergy. Patrick Allred was elected to Young Leader Formation Team. There was a first reading of a clergy renewal leave policy being developed by the Committee on Ministry.

PASTOR'S REPORT – A written report was received. Scott has arranged for pulpit supply for two of the three Sundays he will be away in July and August.

The next regular Session meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2019 at 7 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM with prayer led by Scott Foster.