

# **THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MADISON**

## **Session Notes December 9, 2019**

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

**Ruling Elders:** Bob Baisch, Cheryl Bolton, Suzanne Flynn, Brian Peterson, Barbara Schuszler, and Becky Moody, Clerk

**EXCUSED:** Bill Bowen, Sara Burnet, David DePaul, Ryan Rate

Rev. Foster called the meeting of Session to order at 7:04 PM.

There was a quorum present.

Scott Foster presented a devotional from Richard Rohr's writings on the spirituality of 12-step programs, followed by an opening prayer.

The docket was adopted.

**OMNIBUS MOTION** – Approved.

**Resolved,** Session approves the minutes of the Regular Session Meeting on November 11, 2019

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Nominating:** Brian plans to hold a committee meeting soon.

**Life Transformation:** Scott Foster had provided a written report from the Worship team. The Christmas pageant will be on December 15. Anna has been having trouble scheduling the organ repair work but expects to have it completed before Christmas. Regular organ maintenance will also be done.

#### **Community Renewal:**

- Sara Burnet had provided a written report from the Mission team. Year-end giving has been finalized.
- Suzanne Flynn reported that three greeter families have resigned so she will be redoing the greeter schedule.

**Finance and Stewardship:** Barbara Schuszler provided a verbal report including the following points:

- There are 40 current pledges for a total of \$300K, which represents an increase in pledged amounts but a decrease in pledging units such that two-thirds of the total is from five families.
- The current 2019 endowment drawdown is \$230K; since December is normally a higher month for giving there may not be a need to take any more from the endowment before the end of the year.
- 2020 is expected to be better due to increased pledging, decreased expenses, and increased rental income.
- Teresa has been working on creating December 31 statements from the new accounting system.
- The 2018 audit is underway.

**Properties:** Bob Baisch provided a verbal report on the status of the kitchen lease. Matt James does not plan to renew his lease until April, but Will Gonzalez (the current Sunday sexton) would like to keep using the kitchen six days a month.

**Personnel:** Brian Peterson provided a verbal report. There have been multiple exchanges between Brian, Barbara, Suzanne and Scott dealing with issues from the last two Session meetings. Brian and Barbara will be on a selection committee for a part-time director of family ministries; Scott will ask for additional members from the congregation. Anna D'Achille is looking for a new guitar player; Val Schuszler will help in the search.

**Clerk:** Communion was celebrated on Sunday, December 1, and Wednesday mornings November 13, November 20, November 27, and December 4.

**Report from November 12 Presbytery Meeting:** Becky Moody highlighted the following:

- The 2020 presbytery budget was approved, including the \$2 increase in per capita.
- The change in the New Jersey presbytery structure was approved by all seven current presbyteries; Becky will be one of two Newton Presbytery representatives on a Synod team to work out the details.
- Members of the Youth Triennium delegation led a worship service.
- Two ruling elders and two teaching elders were elected commissioners to the 224<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in Baltimore in June.

**PASTOR'S REPORT** – A written report was received. Gordon Drewery will be preaching on December 29 and Joe Martinoni on January 5 while Scott is on vacation. Communion will be moved to January 12.

The next regular Session meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2020 at 7 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM with prayer led by Scott Foster.