

FELLOWSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Stephen D. McConnell welcomed the elders, guests, and staff members at 6:00 PM in the Campus Center for dinner and discussion based on *Fire Road* by Kim Phuc Phan Thi. The elders and staff then moved to Room 206 of the Education Building for the Session meeting that began at 6:50 PM.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Teaching Elders: Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Stephen D. McConnell (Moderator), Congregational Life Pastor The Rev. Dr. Lal Hmingliani Browne, and Family Life Pastor The Rev. Laurie Haas. Ruling Elders: Marcia Baarson, Linda Calvert, Gerry Hailey, Andrea Jackson, Cliff McHenry, John McQueen, Robin Segó, Lou Stern, Sandi Stewart, and Matthew Straeb. Clerk to the Session Linda Getzen, Executive Director of Operations Pam Gillespie, Music Director Genevieve Beauchamp, and Community Engagement Director Sarah Soboleski. **EXCUSED:** Ruling Elders Joan Emrich and Dotti Tyle.

QUORUM, CALL TO ORDER, AND OPENING PRAYER: A quorum was established. Dr. McConnell served as Moderator. He called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. **MOTION MADE, SECONDED, and PASSED: To approve the Agenda for the Meeting.**

STORYTELLING: Elder Cliff McHenry told his story. We were blessed to hear about God's gift of Peyton. Prayers were said for the storyteller.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: This month's spotlight shone on Family Life. Pastor Haas (thank you to Sarah for the video!) shared staff interviews and pictures of the many, many ministries of Family Life –pre-school, children, youth, outreach, tutoring, pickleball, square dancing, and original musicals – oh my!

STAFF REPORTS:

Community Engagement Director Sarah Soboleski:

- Bulletin – Rethinking the Sunday bulletin to be friendlier to visitors.
- Connect Magazine – Summer issue is in Jackie's hands – due out on April 28.

Family Life Pastor The Rev. Laurie Haas:

- Confirmation Class – to be received by the Session on April 26 at 6 PM.

Executive Director of Operations Pam Gillespie:

- New hire – Director of Facilities and Property Management John Mercer starts on 5/ 1.

Music Director Genevieve Beauchamp:

- Music - After the Requiem and Easter music, Genevieve is looking forward to a little break! – Kudos to the fabulous Genevieve/Jonathan piano duo last Sunday!
- Bagpipes are a 'coming!
- Concert – May 5 @ 3 PM – Arranged by a Pineview student – Donations for the Food Pantry

Congregational Life Pastor The Rev. Dr. Hmingi Browne:

- 9 new Stephen Ministers and 30+ Shepherding Deacons
- Flowering Easter plants delivered to homebound/elderly members
- April New Member Class – 3 new members
- Elder Marcia Baarson is now on the Congregational Life team.

Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Stephen McConnell:

- Prayers for Elder Tyle as she battles shingles.
- Storytelling “2.0” for the Session year – your story may come in different versions – life stories, God moments, people in your life, a story from the present, etc.
- Dr. McConnell will be away April 24 – May 5.

CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERK’S ANNOUNCEMENTS: *The Clerk to the Session emails to Staff and Elders pertinent correspondence received between Session Meetings. Discussed:*

- REMINDER – May Session meeting is a week earlier on May 20.
- Appointment of Elder Commissioners to the quarterly Peace River Presbytery meeting (May 16 – Vanderbilt PC). By consensus, the Clerk was authorized to complete the appointment of elder commissioners in the event of a vacancy.

FINANCIAL UPDATE: Administration and Finance Chair Andrea Jackson reported that the finances are “in good shape.” See Director of Operations’ Report on page 9 of the Session package.

OMNIBUS MOTION:

MOTION MADE, SECONDED, and PASSED: To pass the following Omnibus Motion (Items A-F), as presented in the Agenda

A. To APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:

1. Stated Session Meeting – 03/25/19

B. TO APPROVE THE CLERK’S REPORT:

1. Assignments and Meetings:
 - a. Sunday Morning Prayers for the Pastors - Month of May 8:20 AM - Sr. Pastor’s office – **Robin Segó**
 - b. Session Meeting Storyteller – May – **Steve McConnell**
 - c. Deacons’ Exec. Comm. Meeting – Monday, 05/06/19 at 7 PM – **Sandi Stewart**
 - d. Special Session Meeting to Receive New Members - Sunday 05/12/19 at 11 AM - Chapel Reception Room - **Group 1 Elders (J. Emrich (for M. Baarson), A. Jackson, C. McHenry)**
2. Membership Statistics, Baptisms & Weddings, Home Communion, and Quarterly Attendance Report (see attached Clerk’s Report)

C. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM:

1. Elder attending Deacons’ Exec. Comm. meeting on 04/01/19 – Dotti Tyle

D. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM SESSION COMMITTEES:

1. Administration and Finance - Ch. Andrea Jackson - includes Building and Grounds Team and The Generosity Team
2. Global Mission Partners - Ch. Dotti Tyle (*see also New Business below*)
3. Personnel - Ch. Joan Emrich

E. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM MINISTRY TEAMS:

1. Family & Student Ministries (includes Palms Preschool) – *see staff reports above*
2. Contemporary Worship Service Leadership
3. Presbyterian Women - *no written report this month*
4. Stephen Ministry Leadership – *no written report this month*

F. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM CONGREGATION COMMITTEES:

1. Deacons’ Executive Committee - Ch. Carol Washchuk
2. Memorial Garden Board - Ch. Sue Angle – *no written report this month*

3. Nominating - Ch. Robin Segó – *no written report this month*

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Communion Serving.** Dr. McConnell reported on the service of Communion at all three services. Many hands are needed each month. It has been particularly challenging to fully staff Sanctuary Communion servers in a variety of positions among the existing pool of ordained Elders and Deacons who have volunteered. A new approach is being tested. Under the Book of Order, the Session may enlarge the pool of available servers to include persons other than Elders and Deacons. **MOTION MADE, SECONDED, and PASSED: Pursuant to Book of Order section W-3.0414, the Session confers upon to the Sanctuary Communion team the power to act on its behalf to recruit additional Communion servers among the church members.** Dr McConnell emphasized that the act of serving Communion to others is a privilege.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Grant Request to Foundation – Global Mission Partners.** Elder Straeb reported. The Grant is requested to provide funding for a new 16 passenger van for the Eye and Dental Clinic at Centro Cristiano de Servicios Humanitarios de Honduras (CCSHH). The total price of the van is \$34,320 and will be more than 50% funded from other sources. *For additional details, see Grant Request attached to the official minutes.* **MOTION MADE, SECONDED, and PASSED: To approve submission to the Foundation of the Global Mission Partners Committee Request for \$15,000 for a new van for the Eye Clinic and Dental Clinic at CCSHH in Honduras.**
2. **Election of Church Officers.** Being the first meeting of the new Session year, the meeting proceeded to the election of officers of the church and the corporation. **MOTION MADE, SECONDED, and PASSED: To elect the following church/corporate officers for a one-year term ending when successors are elected:**

President – Andrea Jackson	Vice President – Gerry Hailey
Treasurer – Fred Chamberlain	Secretary/Clerk to the Session – Linda Getzen

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Reading for discussion at May Session dinner: Continue *Fire Road* by Kim Phuc Phan Thi.
- Laurie Haas’s daughter Jordan Goodwin finished her 2nd Boston Marathon today!
- Gerry Hailey’s grandson was elected president of the Film Club at University of Florida.

There being no further business to come before the Session, **MOTION MADE, SECONDED, and PASSED: To adjourn the meeting** at approximately 8:40 PM to a Circle of Prayer.

By: _____
The Rev. Dr. Stephen D. McConnell
Moderator

By: _____
Linda R. Getzen
Clerk to the Session

Attachment to official minutes:

Clerk’s Report (statistics)

Foundation Grant Request – Global Mission Partners – Van for Honduras
(Completed form to be attached after action by the Foundation)