

First Presbyterian Church Stated Session Meeting Minutes

Somerset, KY

March 18, 2024

Moderator: Rev. Brad Napier

Clerk of Session: Laura Kamperman

Elders Present: Jo Salmon, John Wright, Sharon Mandt, Laura Wright, Perry Waller, & Laura Kamperman

Guests: Sue Guffey, Jimmy Salmon, Rev. Tim Noel

Gathering in God's Name:

The Session of First Presbyterian Church met in the Library at 5:00 p.m. on Thurs., March 18, 2024 for its stated meeting. Rev. Brad Napier called the meeting to order and opened with prayer. A quorum was present.

Agenda: Laura Wright made a **Motion** to approve the agenda. John Wright seconded, and the **Motion passed.**

Consent Agenda:

1. Motion: Approve the February 15 Stated Session Meeting minutes.
2. Motion: Receive committee reports as information
3. Motion: Approve February Financial Reports.

A **Motion** to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Perry Waller and seconded by Jo Salmon and the **Motion passed.**

Clerk:

1. Elder of the month for April is Charlie Leveredge.
2. Nominating Committee—A slate of committee members was presented by Chairperson Perry Waller. They are: Perry Waller, Nina Joplin, Paul Guffey, Brenda Wesley & Carol Prater.

Pastor's Report: Rev. Tim Noel reported that he feels energized by the congregation. He said the congregation is a “happy and joyful group”. He has attended both Sunday school classes and enjoyed them. He is considering offering a Biblically-based class soon. He is making plans to visit home-bound members with a deacon or elder. In his opinion, everything is going smoothly.

PNC Report: Report from PNC: Jimmy Salmon reported that they have received 18 Ministry Discernment Forms and are arranging preliminary talks with three of them. He reported that many more applicants are available at the \$60,000 maximum salary level with much greater

work experience. Following more discussion, John Wright made a **Motion** to increase our maximum salary from \$55,000 to \$60,000. Laura Wright seconded and the **Motion passed**.

Moderator's Report:

1. Rev. Brad Napier led a Session sharing assignment for each member to choose a metaphor for their spiritual life.
2. Resumed a prior discussion regarding our church offering to host a Presbytery meeting. Laura Kamperman will compose a letter to Presbytery offering a future Saturday (not the fourth Saturday of the month to avoid Somernites Cruise) for a Presbytery meeting. She will send it to Rev. Napier who will forward it to Presbytery.

New Business:

1. Jo Salmon presented a letter to send to church members who have not participated in any church activity or financially contributed to the church in the last two years to respectfully request if they would still like to remain on the membership roll. It was amended to include contact information. A **Motion** was made by Laura Wright to approve the amended letter. John Wright seconded and the **Motion passed**.
2. A request by organist Debby McDonald and Amanda Balltrip, voice instructor who rents in our facility, to use the sanctuary on Sat., May 11 for a music recital. A **Motion** was made by Sharon Mandt to approve the use. Laura Wright seconded and the **Motion passed**.
3. A request was received by a non-member from Albany, KY who would like to use the church for her wedding in December. There were many questions. A decision was not made, but it was recommended that Rev. Tim Noel and someone from the worship committee meet with the woman making the request to get further information.

Committee Reports:

1. **Administration:** Tabled job descriptions.
2. **Congregational Care:** Jo Salmon reported that our church will be hosting the community Lenten Luncheon on Mon., March 25. The lunch will be served using all biodegradable/compostable materials with an insert announcing our new certification as an Earth Care Congregation. She also reported that the February Fellowship Dinner raised \$1,700 to support Help the Homeless.
3. **Mission:** Perry Waller reported that we have received official certification as an Earth Care Congregation. He said we are only one of seven in Kentucky. He also reported that the committee had completed seven community interviews and presented those summaries.
4. **Spiritual Formation:** A **Motion** was made by the committee to provide monthly communion during worship to begin in April on the first Sunday of each month. **Motion passed**. The change will be announced in the newsletter. A discussion about recruiting volunteers for children's Sunday school and recruiting youth for Christian Education and activities followed. No decisions were made.

Other Business: Rev. Brad Napier said that the Presbyterian Church in Stanford is organizing a mission trip to Guatemala to build a home June 1-8, 2024. The group is flying from Louisville and the cost for the trip is \$2,000 per person, adult or youth. Contact Rev. Napier for more information or if interested in participating.

Next Stated Session Meeting: Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. in the Library.

Laura Wright made a **Motion** to adjourn. John Wright seconded the motion and the **Motion passed.**

Time of Prayer: The meeting was closed with prayer by Rev. Brad Napier.