

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2016**

1. The session of First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, February 1, 2016, at 7:00 pm in the lounge of the church located at 508 Franklin Street in Grand Haven, Michigan. The Clerk, Bill Bussell, determined a quorum was present. Rev. Linda Male called the meeting to order.
2. **Attendance:**
 - 2.1. Elders Present: Bill Blessing, Lee Brink, Bill Bussell, Sandie Enders, Jack Jansma, Brigitte Kemink, Keith Konarska, Andrew LeFurge, Nancy Levenburg, Katie Neitring, Abe Overway, Carrie Rivette, Craig Seaver, Tim Stoeper, Alishia Terrill and Sue VandenBosch.
 - 2.2. Elders Absent or Excused: Marge Coffey, Megan Hayes, John Heritage, John Nametz, and Keli Olson.
 - 2.3. Teaching Elders Present: Rev. Linda Male and Rev. Jill VanderWal.
 - 2.4. Teaching Elder Absent or Excused: None.
 - 2.5. Others Present: Sally Segers, Joyful Noise Director.
3. **Call to Worship:** Rev. VanderWal's meditation centered on her attendance of a session at Calvin College's Worship Symposium. This seminar meeting dealt with integrating work and vocation into how to conduct church on Sunday. She read Luke 10:2 and then opened the meeting with prayer.
4. **Clerk's Report:** Bill Bussell reporting:
 - 4.1. Because of some errors on the meeting docket, the clerk did not ask that it be approved.
 - 4.2. Upon motion and support, session approved its regular meeting minutes of January 11, 2016.
 - 4.3. Upon motion and support, session approved its special meeting minutes of January 25, 2016.
 - 4.4. Upon motion and support, session approved the annual 2015 statistical report.
 - 4.5. Upon motion and support, session approved The Clerk's Annual Questionnaire for 2015 subject to researching the timing of a bequest received.

**First Presbyterian Church Membership Report
January 2016**

Membership as of December 31, 2015	935
Deaths:	0
New Members Received:	0
Restored to Active Roll:	0
Removed from Active Roll:	0
Transferred from Active to Inactive Roll:	0
Transferred by Letter	1
Membership as of January 31, 2016	934

Additional Registers	Member #	Notes
Membership Losses:		
1/11/2016 Lori Rose	1	Hillcrest Christian Reformed Church, Hudsonville, MI

Communion Served:	8:45 & 11 a.m. Service	1/10/2016
Home Communion:	1/10/16	
Charlie Davis	Jo Ennenga	Meryl Slover
Don Edward	Fern Mastenbrook	Ethel Slover

Ruth Edward	Ruth Mastenbrook	Gerry Van Stratt
Louise Edwards	Sue McClellan	LaMar VanHaften
Millie Enders	Muriel Mersereau	Carol Winton
Les Ennenga	Sue Roper	Evelyn Wood

- 4.6. Upon motion and support, session approved the January 2016 membership report as presented.
- 4.7. The clerk had no correspondence.

- 5. **Faith Biography/Committee of Focus:** Sally Segers shared information about Joyful Noise, including handouts, a video, and display boards. She also shared that the church’s blanket ministry provides blankets for new born siblings of Joyful Noise children. Approximately 70 to 80 families have children in Joyful Noise. After her presentation, Sally answered questions and then excused herself from this meeting.
- 6. **Shared Joys and Concerns –** The elders reported on their joys and concerns.
- 7. **Treasurer’s Report:** Andrew LeFurge reporting:
 - 7.1. Andrew explained the reports included in the monthly session packet to new elders.
 - 7.2. He also covered December’s results.
 - 7.3. Andrew and Rev. Male reported on conversations and research that were precipitated by questions at the annual meeting about the use of Alpha Fund distributions.
 - 7.4. Andrew explained how transfers from designated funds to committee budgets within the general funds can appear to understate that committee’s actual cash expenditures at the summary level.

Data are for December 2015:

	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
General Fund Revenues	\$170,083	\$100,197	\$940,159	\$948,127
General Fund Expenses	\$100,508	\$77,222	\$939,645	\$948,127
Joyful Noise Revenues	\$51,950	\$56,972	\$676,464	\$685,711
Joyful Noise Expenses	\$75,767	\$61,421	\$716,348	\$680,003

- 7.5. Upon motion with support, session accepted the Treasurer’s Report.

- 8. **Omnibus Motion:** Upon motion and support, the following written committee reports were accepted by omnibus motion:
 - 8.1. Board of Deacons minutes of January 23, 2016.
 - 8.2. Children’s Committee minutes of January 19, 2016.
 - 8.3. Stewardship Committee minutes of January 21, 2016.
 - 8.4. Worship Committee minutes of January 19, 2016.
- 9. **Committee Reports Withheld from the Omnibus Motion:**
 - 9.1. Hospitality Committee: Sandie Enders reporting:
 - 9.1.1. Upon motion, session approved the following non-elder members to serve on the Hospitality Committee: Karen Nienhouse, Mary Heyer, Kay McCrea, Sheryl Nametz, Nancy Holmes, and John Heritage (John serves in the elder capacity on the Nominating Committee).
 - 9.2. Mission Committee: Jack Jansma reporting:
 - 9.2.1. Upon motion and support, session approved the following non-elder members to serve on the Mission Committee: Carol DeYoung, Ken Ennenga, Nancy Hunter, Joe McCrea, Michelle Potter, Scott Reenders, Barbara Scott, and Bill Scott.
 - 9.3. Trustees Committee: Lee Brink reporting:
 - 9.3.1. Lee reported on cabinet door replacement, alarm system work, and assigning the cost of the upcoming TAG survey.

9.3.2. Upon motion and support, session was asked to approve a slate of non-elder committee members. The discussion that followed centered on whether the committee members should be selected exclusively by the committee elders or be selected by the entire committee (both elders and non-elders). The motion was defeated with six affirmative votes and nine negative votes. Rev. Male asked the Trustees to revisit this topic.

9.3.2.1. Upon motion and support, session approved naming the following corporate officers: President – Lee Brink, Treasurer – Andrew LeFurge, and Secretary – John Nametz.

9.4. Upon motion and support, session accepted the reports of the Hospitality, Mission, and Trustees Committees.

10. **Unfinished Business:** There is no unfinished business.

11. **New Business**

11.1. Clerk Bill Bussell solicited volunteers to provide soups and breads for the March 9 Taizé service.

12. **Moderator's Comments** – Rev. Male reporting:

12.1. Rev. Male distributed a communion schedule/assignment list and new communion serving instructions augmented with a sanctuary schematic.

12.2. Rev. Male has information on an upcoming seminar titled "Healthy Congregations" which will be held on May 6-7 at St. John's Episcopal Church in Grand Haven. Interested elders are asked to contact Rev. Male within the next few weeks.

13. **Associate Pastor's Comments** – Rev. VanderWal reporting:

13.1. Rev. VanderWal updated session on her work on the upcoming congregational survey which will help the PNC, and ultimately the church, in seeking an optimal candidate.

14. **Action Items Recap:**

14.1. Approved the regular session meeting minutes of January 11, 2016.

14.2. Approved the special session meeting minutes of January 25, 2016.

14.3. Approved the annual 2015 statistical report.

14.4. Approved The Clerk's Annual Questionnaire for 2015 subject to researching one item.

14.5. Approved the January 2016 membership report.

14.6. Accepted the Treasurer's report.

14.7. Under an omnibus motion, accepted the following committees' written reports: Board of Deacons, Children's, Stewardship, and Worship.

14.8. Approved Karen Nienhouse, Mary Heyer, Kay McCrea, Sheryl Nametz, Nancy Holmes, and John Heritage to serve on the Hospitality Worship Committee.

14.9. Approved Carol DeYoung, Ken Ennenga, Nancy Hunter, Joe McCrea, Michelle Potter, Scott Reenders, Barbara Scott, and Bill Scott to serve on the Mission Committee.

14.10. Approved naming the corporate officers: President – Lee Brink, Treasurer – Andrew LeFurge, and Secretary – John Nametz.

14.11. Accepted the reports of Hospitality, Mission, and Trustees Committees.

14.12. Adjourned the meeting.

15. **Adjournment:** On motion and support, the session adjourned at 9:15 pm with the Lord's Prayer. The next scheduled meeting is March 7, 2016 at 7 pm in the church lounge.

William Bussell
Clerk of Session