

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
MONDAY, MAY 1, 2017**

1. The session of First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, May 1, 2017, at 7 pm in the lounge of the church located at 508 Franklin Ave. in Grand Haven, Michigan. The clerk, Bill Bussell, determined a quorum was present. Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon called the meeting to order.
2. **Attendance:**
 - 2.1. Elders Present: Carroll Bennink, Bill Blessing, Bill Bussell, Sandie Enders, John Heritage, Keith Konarska, Andrew LeFurge, Nancy Levenburg, Paul McNergney, John Nametz, Katie Neitring, Carrie Rivette, Rick Skodack, Michele Smith, Alishia Terrill, Sue VandenBosch, and Tina Vander Wall.
 - 2.2. Elders Absent or Excused: Marge Coffey, Megan Hayes, Jack Jansma, and Abe Overway.
 - 2.3. Teaching Elders Present: Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon and Rev. Jill VanderWal.
 - 2.4. Teaching Elders Absent or Excused: None.
3. **Call to Worship:** Rev. Hauser Brydon read an excerpt from Henri Nouwen's Dare to Journey and then opened the meeting with prayer.
4. **Clerk's Report:** Bill Bussell reporting:
 - 4.1. Upon motion and support, session approved the May 1, 2017 meeting docket.
 - 4.2. Upon motion and support, session approved the April 10, 2017 session meeting minutes with two corrections.
 - 4.3. Upon motion and support, session approved the April 2017 membership report with one correction.
 - 4.4. The clerk had no correspondence to share.

**First Presbyterian Church Membership Report
April 2017**

Membership as of March 31, 2017	786
Deaths:	2
New Members Received:	0
Restored to Active Roll:	0
Removed from Active Roll:	0
Transferred from Active to Inactive Roll:	0
Transferred by Letter	0
Membership as of April 30, 2017	784

Additional Registers	Member #	Notes
Baptisms: 1		
4/30/2017 Vivien Lee Johnson, daughter of Kaylee(Goldman) & Travis Johnson		Rev. Jill VanderWal
Deaths: 2		
4/25/2017 Jean Wagner	4004	
4/28/2017 Kathy McCloskey	5730	Rev. Jill VanderWal May 6, 2017

Communion Served:	Sunday, April 2, 2017	
Home Communion:	4/2/2017	
Charlie Davis	Laurel Hendrick	Sue Roper
Don Edward	Sue McClellan	Jim Swart
Ruth Edward		

5. **Committee of Focus** – Sue VandenBosch discussed the Generosity Committee’s activities and goals, including a brief preview of this year’s Giving Sunday.
6. **Visioning** – Rev. Hauser Brydon shared his beliefs and philosophies on giving/stewardship and will try to help us adopt the perspective of “moving from scarcity to gratitude.” He also led a discussion centered on four key issues identified in last year’s TAG Consulting analysis/assessment. He plans to continue discussing and addressing these issues in future session meetings with a primary focus of bringing more clarity to the church’s vision.
7. **Treasurer’s Report:** Andrew LeFurge reporting:
 - 7.1. Andrew stated that total cash as of the end of March approximated \$457,000.
 - 7.2. March’s revenues were roughly \$17,000 above budget and expenses were about \$6,500 above budget due to Mission expenditures.
 - 7.3. Joyful Noise’s financials are more favorable due to a revised fee schedule and more focus on scheduling.

Financial Recap as of March 2017:

	<u>Mar. Actual</u>	<u>Mar. Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
General Fund Revenues	\$89,037	\$72,000	\$241,955	\$236,000
General Fund Expenses	\$75,300	\$69,877	\$221,336	\$229,220
Joyful Noise Revenues	\$73,486	\$65,414	\$187,747	\$177,590
Joyful Noise Expenses	\$51,938	\$54,755	\$155,393	\$165,707

- 7.4. Upon motion and support, the Treasurer’s Report was accepted.
8. **Omnibus Motion:** Upon motion and support, the following written committee reports were accepted by omnibus motion:
 - 8.1. Adult Education minutes of April 11, 2017
 - 8.2. Generosity minutes of April 12, 2017.
 - 8.3. Hospitality minutes of April 18, 2017.
 - 8.4. Joyful Noise minutes of April 18, 2017 distributed at the meeting.
 - 8.5. Mission minutes of April 24, 2017 distributed at the meeting.
 - 8.6. Nominations minutes of April 18, 2017.
 - 8.7. Youth minutes of April 11, 2017.
9. **Committee Reports withheld from the Omnibus Motion:**
 - 9.1. Personnel: Nancy Levenburg reporting:
 - 9.1.1. Nancy confirmed that the Personnel Committee reviewed the Sexual Misconduct Policy and is making no revision recommendations.
 - 9.1.2. Rev. Hauser Brydon emphasized the importance for each elder to complete the on-line sexual misconduct training, sign the requisite attestation form, and turn the form in to Kelli Jullie.
 - 9.2. Trustees Committee: John Nametz reporting:
 - 9.2.1. Upon motion, session authorized up to \$3,000 for the installation of a separate water meter for lawn sprinkling.
 - 9.2.2. Upon motion, session approved Care Group funding requested by the Board of Deacons.
 - 9.2.3. At its upcoming meeting, the committee will be discussing financial support for the Iona trip as well as contemplate strategies for the future of current TCM building.
 - 9.3. Worship Committee: Carrie Rivette reporting:
 - 9.3.1. Upon motion, session approved shifting Sunday worship times to 8:45 and 10:30 for the Sundays starting May 28 and concluding on September 3.
 - 9.3.2. Upon motion, session approved service times for Sunday, December 24, 2017: 10 am, 5 pm, 7 pm, and 10 pm.
 - 9.4. Upon motion and support, session accepted the reports of Personnel, Trustees, and Worship.

10. Unfinished Business:

- 10.1. Three elders (Bill Bussell, Marge Coffey, and Paul McNergney) will attend the June 13 presbytery meeting in Buchanan, Michigan.

11. New Business:

- 11.1. Rev. VanderWal was temporarily excused from the meeting. Session concurred with Rev. Hauser Brydon's recommendation for the Personnel Committee to negotiate a new interim employment agreement with Rev. VanderWal (her current agreement will expire in August). Rev. VanderWal rejoined the meeting.

- 11.2. Upon motion and support, session cancelled its July meeting.

12. Moderator's Comments – Rev. Hauser Brydon reporting:

- 12.1. Rev. Hauser Brydon referred session to his written report and stated his plan to include a session meeting synopsis in each month's Tidings newsletter.

- 12.2. He plans to continue the visioning discussions.

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

- 13.1. Rev. VanderWal offered to review the TAG Consulting document with those elders who joined session earlier this year (hence, were not on session when it was prepared).

- 13.2. As of this meeting date, there are two available seats at the church's table for TCM's annual dinner on May 6.

14. Action Items Recap:

- 14.1. Approved the May 1, 2017 meeting docket.

- 14.2. Approved the April 10, 2017 session meeting minutes with two corrections.

- 14.3. Approved the April 10, 2017 membership report with one correction.

- 14.4. Accepted the Treasurer's report.

- 14.5. Under omnibus motion, accepted the following written reports: Adult Education, Generosity, Hospitality, Joyful Noise, Mission, Nominations, and Youth.

- 14.6. Approved up to \$3,000 for the installation of a separate water meter for lawn sprinkling.

- 14.7. Approved funding Deacon's request for Care Groups.

- 14.8. Approved summer worship times starting May 28 and ending September 3.

- 14.9. Approved worship times for Sunday, December 24, 2017.

- 14.10. Adjourned the meeting.

15. **Adjournment:** On motion and support, the session adjourned at 8:35 pm with a closing prayer by Rev. VanderWal. The next scheduled meeting is June 5, 2017 at 7 pm in the church lounge.

William Bussell
Clerk of Session