

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2015**

1. The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, February 9, 2015, at 7 pm in the lounge of the church located at 508 Franklin Street in Grand Haven, Michigan. After determining a quorum was present, the Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook called the meeting to order.
2. **Attendance:**
 - 2.1. **Elders Present:** Andrew LeFurge, Matthew Olds, Dianna Sahr, Eric Snyder, Scott Wagasky, Lee Brink, Sandie Enders, Jack Jansma, Brigette Kemink, Keli Olson, Craig Seaver, Tim Stoeper, Bill Bussell, Megan Hayes, John Heritage, Nancy Levenburg, John Nametz, and Sue VandenBosch.
 - 2.2. **Elders Absent or Excused:** Marge Coffey, Bill Scott, and Katie Neitring.
 - 2.3. **Teaching Elders Present:** The Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook and Rev. Linda Male.
 - 2.4. **Teaching Elders Absent or Excused:** None.
3. **Call to Worship:** Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook opened the meeting with a reading from Matthew 21 and with a prayer.
4. **Opening Comments:** Rev. Cook welcomed newly installed Elders Sandie Enders and Brigette Kemink.
5. **Clerk's Report:**
 - 5.1. On motion and support, the Session approved a request to baptize the child of former member Brent Baribeau on May 17, 2017. Brent's home church, Denver Community Church, Denver, CO, approved the family's request. Brent's mother, Karen Sherwood, is on the church's active roles.
 - 5.2. On motion and support, the Session approved the Clerk's Annual Questionnaire for the year ending December 31, 2014, with a few changes. Question 1 (sharing this church's membership directory with the Presbyterian Mission Agency's Funds Development Office) was referred to the Generosity Committee for consideration. (*corrected February 10, 2015*)
 - 5.3. On motion and support, the Session approved the Annual Church Statistical Report for 2014 which will be submitted to the denomination's office.
 - 5.4. On motion and support, the January 2015 membership report was approved by Session with one date correction.

Membership as of December 31, 2014	943
Deaths:	1
New Members Received:	0
Restored to Active Roll:	0
Removed from Active Roll:	1
Transferred from Active to Inactive Roll:	4
Transferred by Letter	0
Membership as of January 31, 2015	937

Additional Registers	Member #	Notes
	Baptisms: 1	
1/11/2015	Elleana Marie Emmerich, daughter of Nick and Abby (Reenders) Emmerich	Rev. Tom Cook
	Deaths: 1	Service Date
1/5/2015	Harry (Bud) Wynne-Parry 5500	1/10/2015

Membership Losses: 5

1/5/2015	Allison Steggles	5496	Participant
	Jacob Steggles	5638	Participant
	Lauren Visser	5357	Participant
	Mackenzie Berube	4956	Participant
	Ben Lewis	5486	Removed

Communion Served: 8:45 & 11 a.m. Service 1/4/2105
Home Communion: 1/4/15

Martha Anderson	Les Ennenga	Sue Roper
Millie Enders	Jo Ennenga	Roger Rose
Don Edward	Betty Hansen	Cathleen Pranger
Ruth Edward	Fern Mastenbrook	Gerry Van Stratt
Louise Edwards	Muriel Mersereau	

Action Item: Approved by 02/09/2015 Session

Proposed Move to Active from Inactive

	Jennifer	
2/2/2015	Klaassen	#5387
	Kurt Klaassen	#5388

Proposed Transfer Out

	Jennifer	
2/2/2015	Klaassen	Transfer to Hope Reformed Church, GH
	Kurt Klaassen	Transfer to Hope Reformed Church, GH

- 5.5. On motion and support, the Session approved the Session meeting minutes of January 5, 2015.
- 5.6. On motion and support, the Session approved the Session meeting minutes of January 26, 2015.
- 5.7. Clerk Bill Bussell solicited volunteers to provide meals for the February 25, 2015 Taize' service.

6. Treasurer's Report: Andrew LeFurge reporting

6.1. All data are through December 2014:

General Fund Revenues	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
	\$79,423.10	\$103,615.65	\$914,353.83	\$955,000.00
General Fund Expenses	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
	\$80,608.65	\$73,705.41	\$953,462.03	\$951,864.00
Joyful Noise Revenues	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
	\$56,442.18	\$62,805.00	\$66,605.76	\$694,460.00
Joyful Noise Expenses	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
	\$57,442.18	\$59,348.38	\$670,081.31	\$693,252.56

7. Trustees' Report: Lee Brink reporting

7.1. Subsequent to a motion and support, Trustees' recommendation to transfer \$9,476 from the Memorial Mission Fund to Joyful Noise was withdrawn.

7.2. On motion and support, the Treasurer's Report and the Trustee's Report were approved.

8. Omnibus Motion: On motion and support, the following written committee reports were approved by omnibus motion:

8.1. Children's Ministries Committee minutes of 01/13/2015 and 12/09/2014.

8.2. Deacons minutes of 01/26/2015.

- 8.3. Hospitality & Outreach Committee minutes of 01/20/2015
- 8.4. Stewardship/Generosity Committee minutes of 01/27/2015.
- 8.5. Worship Committee minutes of 01/13/2015.
- 8.6. Youth Committee minutes of 01/13/2015.
- 9. **Associate Pastor Search Committee:** Andrew LeFurge reporting
 - 9.1. Andrew reported that a highly considered candidate was selected by another church.
 - 9.2. The committee is in the process of preparing and reviewing a Ministry Information Form that will go to Presbytery to potential candidate matching.
 - 9.3. The committee hopes to meet every other week going forward.
 - 9.4. The committee understands the need to communicate its status with the congregation with a target of monthly communication.
 - 9.5. On motion and support, the Session approved directing this committee to expand the position description to include pastoral care and family life ministries.
 - 9.6. On motion and support, the Associate Pastor Search Committee report was approved.
- 10. **Adult Education:** Tim Stoepker reporting
 - 10.1. Tim spoke about how various programs and classes are positioned to reach young families which will lead to church growth: Joyful Noise, #Family, support classes, Children in Worship, and Love and Logic.
 - 10.2. The committee is entertaining different promotional/advertising tools to attract more families to church sponsored events and programs.
 - 10.3. On motion and support, the Adult Education report was approved.
- 11. **Joyful Noise:** Andrew LeFurge reporting
 - 11.1. Andrew reported on the recent Grand Haven Tribune article discussing Joyful Noise's role in the "Love of Literacy" event scheduled for March 18 at Grand Haven's Loutit Library. Among the goals is providing children's books for those families who cannot afford them.
 - 11.2. On motion and support, the Joyful Noise report was approved.
- 12. **Nominating Committee:** Matt Olds reporting
 - 12.1. Matt distributed a listing of proposed Elder committee assignments for 2015. A motion was made to adopt these recommendations and supported. An amendment was then made to designate Lee Brink as Trustees' Chair/President and John Nametz as Secretary. A lengthy discussion ensued. Subsequently, the amendment and the original motion were withdrawn.
 - 12.2. Another motion was then made with the above changes and supported. An amendment to this motion was made to assign Jack Jansma as Personnel Chair. On voting by ballot, the amendment was defeated. The motion was then voted upon and passed with Brigette Kemink abstaining. On motion and support, the Nominating Committee report was approved.
 - 12.3. Following are the 2015 Elder committee assignments as adopted by Session:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	
Adult Education	Tim Stoepker, Chair	
Children's Clerk	Dianna Sahr, Chair	Megan Hayes
Generosity	Bill Bussell	
Hospitality	Sue VandenBosch, Chair	Scott Wagasky
Joyful Noise	John Heritage, Chair	Sandie Enders
Mission	Andrew LeFurge, Chair	
	Jack Jansma, Chair	Bill Scott

Nominating	Matt Olds, Chair	Brigette Kemink
Personnel	Craig Seaver, Chair	Nancy Levenburg
Trustees	Lee Brink, President	Andrew LeFurge, Treasurer John Nametz, Secretary
Worship	Marge Coffey, Chair	Katie Neitring
Youth	Keli Olson, Chair	Eric Snyder

13. **Personnel Committee:** Jack Jansma reporting

- 13.1. Jack distributed copies of this committee's minutes of January 19, 2015.
- 13.2. On motion and support, Session approved granting the staff a three percent pay increase for 2014 with the exception of the staff who received their health insurance reimbursement in 2014. This motion clarifies a Session motion from September 2014 at the request of retired Clerk Cal Bosman.
- 13.3. A motion was made and supported to pay one hundred percent of the staff's health insurance premium costs for the 2015 year. This motion was tabled with the Session asking for additional clarification.
- 13.4. On motion and support, Session approved a 1.7% cost of living adjustment for all non-ordained staff retroactive to January 1, 2015.

14. **Pastor's Report:** Rev. Cook reporting

- 14.1. Rev. Cook reported on upcoming Advent services: Ash Wednesday, Taize services, Easter worship
- 14.2. Another Advent related event is Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner and following "talent" show.
- 14.3. Rev. Cook requested and was granted vacation for May 3 through May 6, 2015.
- 14.4. A new members' class will start on February 22.
- 14.5. Esther Smith passed away earlier today at the age of 99.

15. **Adjournment:** On motion and support, the Session adjourned at 9:50 pm. Rev. Male closed with prayer. The next scheduled Session Meeting is March 2, 2015 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

William Bussell
Clerk of Session