

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2017**

1. The session of First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, February 6, 2017, at 7:00 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. Linda Male called the meeting to order.
2. **Attendance:**
  - 2.1. Elders Present: Bill Blessing, Bill Bussell, Sandie Enders, Megan Hayes, John Heritage, Jack Jansma, Keith Konarska, Andrew LeFurge, Paul McNergney, John Nametz, Katie Neitring, Abe Overway, Carrie Rivette, Rick Skodack, Michele Smith, Tina VanderWall, and Sue VandenBosch.
  - 2.2. Elders Absent or Excused: Carroll Bennink, Marge Coffey, Nancy Levenburg, and Alishia Terrill.
  - 2.3. Teaching Elders Present: Rev. Linda Male and Rev. Jill VanderWal.
  - 2.4. Teaching Elders Absent or Excused: None.
  - 2.5. Guest Present: Rev. Nancy Clodfelder, Transition Counselor from the Committee on Ministry, Presbytery of Lake Michigan
3. **Call to Worship:** Rev. Clodfelder read an excerpt from Joyce Rupp's book May I Have This Dance? and then opened the meeting with prayer.
4. **Welcome:** Rev. Male welcomed new elders Paul McNergney, Rick Skodack, Michele Smith, and Tina VanderWall.
5. **Covenant of Closures:** Rev. Clodfelder reporting:
  - 5.1. Rev. Clodfelder reviewed the responsibilities of Rev. Male as the departing interim pastor and the church in respecting each party's boundaries. The Covenant of Closure document was signed by Rev. Male and Bill Bussell, Clerk of Session.
  - 5.2. Rev. Clodfelder excused Rev. Male so that the session could discuss Rev. Male's performance as an interim at this church.
  - 5.3. Rev. Clodfelder excused herself from the meeting.
6. **Clerk's Report:** Bill Bussell reporting:
  - 6.1. The clerk asked those elders who will be present at the February 12 congregational meeting to act as ballot tellers to tabulate the results of the anticipated vote for the new pastor/head of staff.
  - 6.2. Upon motion and support, session approved the February 6, 2017 meeting docket.
  - 6.3. Upon motion and support, session approved the January 9, 2017 session meeting minutes as presented.
  - 6.4. Upon motion and support, session approved the transfer of Dreyton Hardy and Heather Hardy to Hope Reformed Church, Grand Haven, Michigan.
  - 6.5. Upon motion and support, session approved the January 2017 membership report.

**First Presbyterian Church Membership Report  
January 2017**

<b>Membership as of December 31, 2016</b>	793
Deaths:	0
New Members Received:	2
Restored to Active Roll:	0
Removed from Active Roll:	4
Transferred from Active to Inactive Roll:	0
Transferred by Letter	0
<b>Membership as of January 31, 2017</b>	<b>791</b>

<b>Additional Registers</b>		<b>Member #</b>	<b>Notes</b>
	<b>Baptisms:</b>	1	
1/22/2017	Cora Grace Corwin, daughter of Cort & Jessica (Butcher) Corwin		
	<b>Membership Gains:</b>	2	
1/9/2017	David Gritter		Transfer from Immanuel Presbyterian, Milwaukee
	Linda Gritter		Same as Above
	<b>Membership Losses:</b>	4	
1/9/2017	David Foster	5115	Removed at his request
	Nancy Foster	5116	Removed at her request
	Amy Foster	5118	Removed at her request
	Dan Foster	5119	Removed at her request

**Communion Served:** 1/8/2017 8:45 & 11 a.m. Service

**Home Communion:** 1/8/2017

Charlie Davis	Marie Pfeiffer	Connie VanGelderen
Don Edward	Sue Roper	Gerry VanStratt
Ruth Edward	Jim Swart	Norma Vyn
Laurel Hendrick	Edie Swart	Jill Wiersema
Fern Mastenbrook	Sandy Teunis	Carol Winton
Sue McClellan	Lynne VanderMeer	

<b>Approved 2/6/2017 Session</b>			
2/6/2017	<i>Proposed move to active and transfer out:</i>		
	Dreyton Hardy	5467	Transfer to Hope Reformed, GH
	Heather Hardy	5468	Transfer to Hope Reformed, GH

- 6.6. Upon motion and support, session approved the December 2016 membership report which was not approved at January's session meeting.
  - 6.7. Upon motion and support, session approved the 2016 Clerk's Annual Questionnaire with the stipulation that two items be corrected.
  - 6.8. Upon motion and support, session approved the 2016 Annual Statistical Report.
  - 6.9. Upon motion and support, session approved 2017's Declaration of Intent to Support the Mission of the Presbyterian Church USA at \$17,000.
7. **Joys and Concerns** – Session members shared their joys and concerns.
8. **Treasurer's Report:** Andrew LeFurge reporting:
- 8.1. Andrew distributed copies of a year-end report that provided detailed data on both revenues and expenditures.
  - 8.2. Upon motion and support, the Treasurer's report was accepted.

Financial Recap as of December 2016:

	<b>Dec. Actual</b>	<b>Dec. Budget</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>YTD Budget</b>
General Fund Revenues	\$166,368	\$98,721	\$914,432	\$929,076
General Fund Expenses	\$109,660	\$94,459	\$914,432	\$929,076
Joyful Noise Revenues	\$63,371	\$73,700	\$664,161	\$699,582
Joyful Noise Expenses	\$77,120	\$83,989	\$693,531	\$700,468

**Committee Recommendations for Non-Elder Committee members:**

- 8.3. Adult Education – upon motion, session approved Warren Trimble and Deb Sorenson to serve on this committee.
- 8.4. Children’s Committee – upon motion, session approved Lynne Bosch, Melisa Overway, Carrie Ledet, Rachel Whiting, and Kim Berber to serve on this committee.
- 8.5. Generosity Committee – upon motion, session approved Katie Neitring, Jeanne VanGelderen, and Steve Groters to serve on this committee.
- 8.6. Hospitality Committee – upon motion, session approved Karen Nienhouse, Mary Heyer, Kay McCrea, Sandra Peel, Cheryl Nametz, Nancy Holmes, Diane Jones, and Amy Miller to serve on this committee.
- 8.7. Mission Committee – upon motion, session approved Scott Reenders, Nancy Hunter, Carole DeYoung, Ken Ennenga, Joe McCrea, Barb Scott, and Michelle Potter to serve on this committee.
- 8.8. Personnel Committee - upon motion, session approved Neil Blake, Meghan Heritage, Staci LeFurge, Cindy Podorsek, and Craig Seaver to serve on this committee.
- 8.9. Trustees Committee – upon motion, session approved Cal Bosman, Chris Bussell, Patrick Duell, Paul Lampe, Tom Lentz, Lisa Luckey, and Brad Sahr to serve on this committee.
- 8.10. Worship Committee – upon motion, session approved Rob Andersen, Pamela Blake, Calvin Clark, Bari Johnson, Harry Nienhouse, Tim Olson, Rob VerDuin, and Sara Shambarger to serve on this committee.
- 8.11. Youth Committee – upon motion, session approved Eric Snyder, Jay Neitring, Becky Sanchez, Leanna Sanchez, Lisa Hurley, Keli Olson, and Heather Force to serve on this committee.

**9. Additional Committee Reports and Recommendations:**

- 9.1. Generosity Committee – Sue VandenBosch reporting:
  - 9.1.1. Sue reported on her committee’s plan to have a golf outing this summer. Joyful Noise will be the beneficiary of this event
- 9.2. Trustees Committee – John Nametz reporting:
  - 9.2.1. John gave a synopsis of anticipated upcoming projects as well as stated that the TCM boiler continues to perform acceptably.
  - 9.2.2. Upon motion, session approved to pay for classroom carpeting from the Omega Distribution Fund.
  - 9.2.3. Upon motion, session approved transferring \$75,000 from the Capital Campaign Fund to the Missions Distribution Fund. (It is noted that John Nametz thoroughly explained the history behind the original designation and is further noted that session took this action after careful consideration.)
  - 9.2.4. Upon motion, session approved transferring the remaining Capital Campaign Fund balance (\$1,438.76 at this time) to the Maintenance Reserve Fund.
  - 9.2.5. Upon motion, session approved allocating \$75,000 from the Missions Distribution Fund to the 2017 Income Supporting Funds to cover the 2017 Mission Expense Budget line.
- 9.3. Worship Committee – Carrie Rivette reporting:
  - 9.3.1. Upon motion, session approved communion dates through January 2018: February 5, March 5 (intinction at traditional worship), April 2, Maundy Thursday, May 7, June 4, July 2, August 6 (intinction at traditional worship), September 3, October 1 (intinction at traditional worship), November 5, December 3, and January 7.
- 9.4. Youth Committee – Katie Neitring reporting:
  - 9.4.1. Katie provided an overview of the upcoming youth auction on April 21. It will be held at the community center and will be catered. She asked each committee to provide a basket to be auctioned. Proceeds will support upcoming youth activities.

**10. Unfinished Business:** Standard Practices Bulletins 3.2 and 3.4 – John Nametz reporting:

- 10.1. John discussed the proposed Standard Practices Bulletins, identified some text changes, and solicited input from session.
- 10.2. Upon motion, session approved SPB’s 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 with the identified changes and also to rename this document as “Standard Practices”.

**11. New Business:**

- 11.1. Upon motion and support, session elected the corporation's officers for 2017:
  - President: John Nametz
  - Treasurer: Andrew LeFurge
  - Secretary: Rick Skodack
- 11.2. Abe Overway discussed his preferred manner to handle session's 2017 World Vision sponsorship.
- 11.3. Rev. Male insured that session members understand their communion duties and sanctuary assignments.

**12. Moderator's Comments** – Rev. Male reflected on her interim service to this congregation.

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

- 13.1. Rev. VanderWal reported on her reading week.
- 13.2. She plans to incorporate Black History Month into worship in February.
- 13.3. Rev. Riley Jensen will be assisting with worship after Rev. Male's departure.
- 13.4. She encouraged elders and the remainder of the congregation to wear their name tags to help the new pastor learn names.

**14. Action Items Recap:**

- 14.1. Approved the February 6, 2017 meeting docket as presented.
- 14.2. Approved the January 9, 2017 session meeting minutes.
- 14.3. Approved the transfer of Dreyton Hardy and Heather Hardy to Hope Reformed Church, Grand Haven.
- 14.4. Approved the January 2017 membership report.
- 14.5. Approved the December 2016 membership report.
- 14.6. Approved the 2016 Clerk's Annual Questionnaire with two corrections.
- 14.7. Approved the 2016 Annual Statistical Report.
- 14.8. Approved 2017's Declaration of Intent at \$17,000.
- 14.9. Accepted the Treasurer's report.
- 14.10. Approved non-elder committee members for Adult Education, Children's, Generosity, Hospitality, Mission, Personnel, Trustees, Worship, and Youth Committees.
- 14.11. Approved paying for classroom carpeting from the Omega Distribution Fund.
- 14.12. Approved transferring \$75,000 from the Capital Campaign Fund to the Mission Distribution Fund.
- 14.13. Approved transferring the remaining balance in the Capital Campaign Fund to the Maintenance Reserve Fund.
- 14.14. Approved allocating \$75,000 from the Missions Distribution Fund to the 2017 Income Supporting Funds to cover the 2017 Mission Expense Budget line.
- 14.15. Approved communion dates through January 2018.
- 14.16. Approved Standard Practices Bulletins 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 and the renaming of these to "Standard Practices".
- 14.17. 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 6, 2017 at 7 pm in the church lounge.

William Bussell  
Clerk of Session