

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017**

1. The session of First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, September 11, 2017, at 7 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. Troy Hauser Brydon called the meeting to order.
2. **Attendance:**
 - 2.1. Elders Present: Carroll Bennink, Bill Blessing, Bill Bussell, Marge Coffey, Sandie Enders, Megan Hayes, John Heritage, Jack Jansma, Keith Konarska, Andrew LeFurge, Nancy Levenburg, Paul McNergney, John Nametz, Katie Neiring, Abe Overway, Carrie Rivette, Rick Skodack, Michele Smith, Alishia Terrill, Sue VandenBosch, and Tina Vander Wall.
 - 2.2. Elders Absent or Excused: None.
 - 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 passages from the book of Job, reading from The Message and then opened the meeting with prayer.
4. **Clerk's Report:** Bill Bussell reporting:
 - 4.1. Upon motion and support, session approved the September 11, 2017 meeting docket.
 - 4.2. Upon motion and support, session approved the August 7, 2017 session meeting minutes with two corrections.
 - 4.3. Upon motion and support, session approved the August 2017 membership report with one correction.
 - 4.4. Rev. Hauser Brydon discussed an email from the Presbytery of Lake Michigan which discussed the Presbytery's visioning process and area gatherings to seek input. Our church will host one of these gatherings on October 4. The clerk will forward this email to the elders.

First Presbyterian Church Membership Report
August 2017

Membership as of July 31, 2017	792
Deaths:	1
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 August 31, 2017 791

Additional Registers	Member #	Notes
Baptisms: 1		
8/13/2017 Kason James Green, son of Jordan & Taylor (Rezny)Green		
Deaths: 1		
8/20/2017 Jill Wiersema	2065	9-1-2017 Service
Communion Served:	8:45 & 10:30 a.m. Service	8/6/2017
Home Communion:		
	8/6/2017	
Harvey Beute	Ruth Edward	Sue McClellen Gerry VanStratt
Sandy Beute	Laurel Hendrick	Marie Pfeiffer Carol Winton
Charlie Davis	Muriel Mersereau	Flo Sluiter Evelyn Wood

5. **Faith Biography** – Carrie Rivette shared her faith biography.
 - 5.1. Visioning – In this month’s session packet, Rev. Hauser Brydon included a draft of a Session Covenant. He provided an overview of the document’s purpose and goals. He asked elders to review this prior to the October meeting at which time it will be discussed and potentially adopted.
6. **Treasurer’s Report:** Andrew LeFurge reporting:
 - 6.1. Andrew advised that August year-to-date results (not available for inclusion in the session packet) are favorable while Mission expenditures remain under budget.
 - 6.2. He pointed out that the fund balances held at Grand Haven Area Community Foundation now approximate \$3 million as of June 30, 2017.
 - 6.3. He also discussed that Total Restricted Funds is greater than Total Current Assets.

Financial Recap as of July 2017:

	<u>July Actual</u>	<u>July Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
General Fund Revenues	\$61,729	\$71,000	\$530,720	\$526,000
General Fund Expenses	\$61,850	\$70,951	\$520,438	\$534,224
Joyful Noise Revenues	\$53,423	\$54,568	\$428,995	\$416,153
Joyful Noise Expenses	\$49,882	\$57,621	\$380,554	\$408,879

7. **Omnibus Motion:** Upon motion and support, the following written committee reports were accepted by omnibus motion:
 - 7.1. Adult Education minutes of August 8, 2017.
 - 7.2. Board of Deacons minutes of August 28, 2017.
 - 7.3. Children’s minutes of August 8, 2017.
 - 7.4. Hospitality minutes of August 22, 2017.
 - 7.5. Nominations minutes of August 14, 2017 distributed at the meeting.
 - 7.6. Personnel minutes of August 29, 2017.
 - 7.7. Trustees minutes of August 8, 2017.
8. **Committee Reports withheld from the Omnibus Motion:**
 - 8.1. Generosity Committee: Sue VandenBosch reporting:
 - 8.1.1. Sue and Rev. Hauser Brydon discussed the upcoming stewardship plan. It is based on Matthew 6:21, ““Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”
 - 8.1.2. Elders were reminded of the importance of church leadership pledging.
 - 8.1.3. While Pledge Sunday will be on October 29, members will be encouraged to submit pledges earlier.
 - 8.2. Worship: Marge Coffey reporting:
 - 8.2.1. Upon motion, session approved the Community Artist Series schedule and budget for the 2017/18 program year.
 - 8.3. Upon motion and support, session accepted the reports of Generosity and Worship.
9. **Unfinished Business:**
 - 9.1. There was no unfinished business.
10. **New Business:**
 - 10.1. Upon motion and support, the session approved a Presbyterian Disaster Assistance special collection in response to the two recent hurricanes.
 - 10.2. Carrie Rivette, Katie Neitring, and Michele Smith shared observations from their attendance of the September 9, 2017 presbytery meeting.
 - 10.3. Keith Konarska invited elders to attend “Growing in Faith” classes which resume on September 17.

11. **Moderator's Comments** – Rev. Hauser Brydon reporting:
 - 11.1. Rev. Hauser Brydon reported that officer training will be held on November 10 and 11. Current elders are encouraged to attend these sessions.
 - 11.2. Upon motion and support, session authorized the baptism of Tatum Reece Geren, child of Steven and Amy Geren.
 - 11.3. Rev. Hauser Brydon referred session to his written report.
12. **Associate Pastor's Comments** – Rev. Jill VanderWal reporting:
 - 12.1. As reported in September's Tidings, the church is offering two new support groups: long term care giver support and grief recovery.
 - 12.2. Elders are encouraged to attend the second annual all church retreat on October 13-15 at Gull Lake Ministries. This year's theme is "Practice Sabbath".
13. **Action Items Recap:**
 - 13.1. Approved the September 11, 2017 meeting docket.
 - 13.2. Approved the August 7, 2017 session meeting minutes with two corrections.
 - 13.3. Approved the August, 2017 membership report with one correction.
 - 13.4. Under omnibus motion, accepted the following written reports: Adult Education, Deacons, Children's, Hospitality, Nominations Personnel, and Trustees.
 - 13.5. Approved the 2017/18 Community Artist Series schedule and budget.
 - 13.6. Accepted the reports of Generosity and Worship.
 - 13.7. Approved the baptism of Tatum Reece Geren.
 - 13.8. Adjourned the meeting.
14. **Adjournment:** The session adjourned at 8:15 pm with a closing prayer by Rev. Hauser Brydon. The next scheduled meeting is October 2, 2017 at 7 pm in the church lounge.

William Bussell
Clerk of Session