

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
MONDAY OCTOBER 6, 2014**

1. The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, October 6, 2014 at 7:01 PM in the church lounge at First Presbyterian Church located at 508 Franklin Ave., Grand Haven, Michigan 49417. After determining a quorum was present, the Moderator, The Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook, called the meeting to order.

2. **Attendance:**
 - 2.1 **Elders Present:** Lisa Luckey, Michelle Potter, Bruce Spoelman, Marge Coffey, Andrew LeFurge, Charlie Parker, Matt Olds, Dianna Sahr, Eric Snyder, Scott Wagasky, Lee Brink, Jack Jansma, Sue Ochs, Keli Olson, Roger Rose, Bill Scott, Cal Bosman, Tim Stoeper

 - 2.2 **Elders Absent or Excused:** Ron Mass, Craig Seaver

 - 2.3 **Teaching Elders Present:** The Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook

3. Call to Worship: Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook opened the meeting with prayer and led devotions reading from Hebrews, Chapter 10, beginning with verse 19.

4. **Clerk's Report:**

First Presbyterian Church			
Membership Report			
September 2014			
Membership as of August 31, 2014			1054
Deaths:			3
New Members Received:			0
Restored to Active Roll:			0
Removed from Active Roll:			1
Transferred from Active to Inactive Roll:			0
Transferred by Letter			5
Membership as of September 30, 2014			1045
Additional Registers		Member #	Notes
Marriages:		0	
9/20/2014	Dallas Benjamin Goldberg and Melissa Sue Shedd #2014-6714		Rev. Tom Cook
Baptisms:		0	
9/28/2014	Harrison VanTubergen, son of Christopher & Mara (Mulcahy) VanTubergen		Rev. Tom Cook
Deaths:		3	
9/8/2014	Carol Hall	4667	Rev. Tom Cook
9/21/2014	Bill Creason	1037	Rev. Tom Cook
9/26/2014	Bob Akin	2613	Rev. Tom Cook
Membership Losses:		6	
9/8/2014	Deanne Hannibal	move to affiliate per her request	
	Randy Poel	move to participant, per their request, attending another church	
	Lisa Poel	move to participant, per their request, attending another church	
	Josh Poel	move to participant, per their request, attending another church	
	Adam Poel	move to participant, per their request, attending another church	
	Jacob Poel	move to participant, per their request, attending another church	
Communion Served:	8:45 & 11 a.m. Service	9/14/2014	
Home Communion:	9/14/2014		
	Martha Anderson	Don Edward	Fern Mastenbrook
	Charile Davis	Ruth Edward	Sue McClellan
	Millie Enders	Betty Hansen	Sue Roper
	Les Ennenga	Jean Lautenschlager	LaMar VanHaften
	Jo Ennenga	Helen LaVercombe	Evelyn Wood
Action Item: Approved at 10/06/2014 Session			
10/6/2014	Gary Brugger	Transfer to Hope Reformed	5232

- 4.1 The September 2014 membership report was presented.
- 4.2 On motion and support the minutes of the September 8, 2014 Session meeting were approved with the following corrections: Marge Coffey did not volunteer to be on the interim associate pastor search committee. Tim Stoepker was volunteered. Dr. Patricia "Zocke" should read Rev. Patricia Locke. (corrections made 10-15-2014).
- 4.3 The minutes of the Special Congregational meeting of August 24, 2014 were approved on motion and supported by voice vote.
- 4.4 On motion and support the Associate Pastor Search Committee selected to fill the position of interim minister of pastoral care is to meet within 2 weeks (from October 6) with Andrew LeFurge as chair. Approved by voice vote.
- 4.5 On motion and support approval was given to the transfer of Gary Brugger to Hope Reformed Church.
- 4.6 On motion and support the clerk's report was approved

5. Andrew LeFurge gave his faith journey.

6. Treasurer's Report:

August Revenues:				
MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	
\$77,425.31	\$65,422.19	\$626,370.92	\$621,100.04	
August Expenses:				
MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	
\$117,100.66	\$93,023.25	\$648,022.62	\$657,407.71	
August Joyful Noise Revenues:				
MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	
\$56,318.03	\$63,205.00	\$439,782.16	\$452,940.00	
August Expenses:				
MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	
\$76,105.64	\$75,691.88	\$456,219.27	\$470,459.04	

- 6.1 On motion and support the Treasurer's report was approved.

7. Trustees Report: Lee Brink reporting.

- 7.1 The Trustees have agreed to proceed with the plan to start brick cleaning, tuck painting and sealing of the church exterior which as never before been done.
- 7.2 Copies of revised Standard Practice Bulletins as recommended by the trustees were passed out to each elder with a goal of discussing and adopting those SPB needing updating at the November, 2014 Session meeting. Elders were advised to make suggested modifications to the trustees by October 20.
- 7.3 On motion and support approval was given Trustees to pay for the brick cleaning, paint tucking and cleaning with funds from distribution from the Omega Fund and a loan from Alpha Fund Distributions which would be repaid with distributions from the Omega Fund.
- 7.4 On motion and support approval was given Trustees to take distributions from the Alpha and Omega Funds for this year.
- 7.5 On motion and support approval was given to supply Caleb with a \$2,000.00 credit limit church Visa card to be used only for necessary expenses in his church ministry.
- 7.6 On motion and support the Trustees report was approved.

8. Special Congregational meeting of October 5, 2014

- 8.1 Session discussed their individual reactions to the special congregational meeting which ended with a vote to accept Rev. Scott Robertson's resignation.

- 8.2 On motion and support approval was given to inform the congregation by publication in the "Weekly Update" that Session has taken action which put in place a committee to obtain the services of an associate interim Minister for Pastoral Care and are considering the options for addressing the Family Life Minister position with the intent of continuing and growing the ministry begun by Rev. Scott Robertson.

9. **Omnibus Motion:** By omnibus motion and support the following committee reports were approved.

- 9.1 Adult Education discussed the Experiential Adventure Church Picnic, the Sunday Growing in Faith classes, the weekday classes and ideas for future classes.
- 9.2 Children's Ministries discussed the church picnic, financial, the Hand to Hand ministry, next years budget, future VBS, One day with God Camp, and a fall conference for Becky Yonan.
- 9.3 Hospitality and Outreach Committee discussed Committee/office communication, Outreach Deacons and mentors for new members, greeter team and information desk assignments for September and October, Food and Fellowship and the church picnic.
- 9.4 Nominating Committee discussed potential Elder and Deacon nominations, the failure of a previous Nominating Committee to identify a nominee for a 1 year term resulting in the congregation electing 8 Elders to 3 year terms, a nominee bio brochure, Congregational Meeting for church election on November 2, 2014 and new officer training on December 7 and 14, 2014 and January 4 and 11, 2015.
- 9.5 Small Group Committee discussed Young Family Small Groups and scheduling conflicts, schedule for group plans and meeting times, and the nature and purpose of small groups.
- 9.6 Worship Committee discussed financials and proposed budget, CAS fundraising, recycled Bibles sent to Lake Shore Chapel in Saugatuck, getting new members involved in the church, communion bread, review of church picnic, Rob Hlebinsky as new bell choir director, Humanity for Prisoner Letters, guest speakers for CAS, a \$10,000 gift from Flo Sluiter to the Geneva Choir.
- 9.7 Youth Committee discussed Roots and Vines, parents providing food for the first youth group meeting of the month, the need for additional youth volunteer leaders and youth programming goals.
- 9.8 Mission Committee discussed the benefits of adult mission trips and the need for them to take place each year, the level of staffing/volunteerism on mission trips, the need for a fit between the goals of the Re-Member and our organization, safety procedures for youth on mission trips and content or purpose of the projects.
- 9.9 Stewardship Committee reported that Consecration Sunday is October 26 and brochure and pledge cards are being mailed in advance.

10. **JOYFUL NOISE COMMITTEE:** Andrew LeFurge reporting.

- 10.1 The C-Fund was explained as to what it is, its use and need for continued growth.
- 10.2 Andrew expressed concern for the maintenance or lack thereof in the part of the facility used by Joyful Noise and the fact that items of concern have been communicated to the Church Administrator without any results.
- 10.3 On motion and support the Joyful Noise report was approved.

11. **PASTORS REPORT:** Rev. Cook reporting

- 11.1 Dan is undergoing chemo therapy and needs help with custodial and maintenance work as things are not getting done.
- 11.2 Rev. Cook attended Presbytery meeting on September 16. The next Presbytery meeting is November 8, in Muskegon. Eric Snyder, Sue Ochs and maybe Kelli Olson will attend.
- 11.3 Thursday, October, 9, Friday, October 10, and Saturday, October 11, Rev. Cook will conduct the funerals of Gladys Pfaff, Sherman Wirick and Lowell Rasmussen.

12. **World Vision Sponsorship:** Diane Sahr reported World Vision has provided us with Meseret Eyasu, a young child from the Amaro Community in Ethiopia. She will replace the previous child sponsored by Session whose community is now self-supporting.
13. By motion and support each following Action Items were approved.
 - 13.1 The September 8, 2014 Session Minutes with corrections.
 - 13.2 Minutes of the August 24, 1014 Special Congregational meeting.
 - 13.3 The interim Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care search committee is to meet by October 20, with Andrew LeFurge as chair.
 - 13.4 Gary Brugger's membership was transferred to Hope Reformed church.
 - 13.5 The Clerk's report was approved.
 - 13.6 The Treasurer's report was approved.
 - 13.7 Payment of the church's brick cleaning point tucking with funds from the Alpha and Omega funds and a loan from distributed funds from the Alpha fund to be repaid from future distributed funds from the Omega fund.
 - 13.8 Trustees to take distribution from the Alpha and Omega funds this year.
 - 13.9 Supply Caleb with a \$2,000/00 limit credit card for his church ministry use.
 - 13.10 The Trustees report
 - 13.11 Publication in the "Weekly Update" of Session's action to retain an interim minister of pastoral care and filling the void left by the resignation of Rev. Scott Robertson.
 - 13.12 Omnibus motion approving committee reports.
 - 13.13 Joyful Noise Committee report.
14. **ADJOURNMENT:** On motion and support Session approved adjournment of the meeting at 9:05 pm with singing the doxology. Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted,

Cal Bosman
Clerk of Session