

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
MONDAY, MAY 2, 2016**

1. The session of First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, May 2, 2016, at 7:05 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, Lee Brink, Bill Bussell, Marge Coffey, Megan Hayes, John Heritage, Jack Jansma, Keith Konarska, Andrew LeFurge, Nancy Levenburg, John Nametz, Keli Olson, Abe Overway, Carrie Rivette, Tim Stoepker, Alishia Terrill, and Sue VandenBosch.
 - 2.2. Elders Absent or Excused: Sandie Enders, Brigette Kemink, Katie Neitring and Craig Seaver.
 - 2.3. Teaching Elder Present: Rev. Linda Male.
 - 2.4. Teaching Elder Absent or Excused: Rev. Jill VanderWal.
 - 2.5. Others Present: Brian Bosch for the first few minutes photographing/videoing part of the meeting.
3. **Call to Worship:** Rev. Male read excerpts from Kathleen Norris' book Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Grace. The theme of the reading related to Pentecost and the importance to understand the broader label of "Pentecostal". Rev. Male then opened the meeting with prayer.
4. **Clerk's Report:** Bill Bussell reporting:
 - 4.1. Upon motion and support, session approved the May 2, 2016 meeting docket after the clerk identified one correction and listed two additions to new business.
 - 4.2. Upon motion and support, session approved its April 11, 2016 session meeting minutes subject to the correction of those served home communion on March 6, 2016.

**First Presbyterian Church Membership Report
April 2016**

Membership as of March 31, 2016	941
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, 2016	939

Additional Registers	Member #	Notes
Baptisms: 5		
4/24/2016		Rev Linda Male
		Rev Linda Male
		Rev Linda Male
		Rev Linda Male
		Rev Linda Male
Deaths: 2		
		Service Date
4/7/2016	1784	4/12/2016
4/14/2016	5630	4/18/2016

Communion Served: 4/3/2016

Home Communion: 4/3/2016

Charlie Davis	Laurel Hendrick	Vicki Merwin	Gerry VanStratt
Don Edward	Ruth Mastenbrook	Marie Pfeiffer	Evelyn Wood
Ruth Edward	Fern Mastenbrook	Sue Roper	Carol Winton
Louise Edwards	Sue McClellan	Flo Sluiter	

- 4.3. Upon motion and support, session approved the April 2016 membership report as presented.
- 4.4. The clerk had no correspondence.

5. **Faith Biography/Committee of Focus:** Nancy Levenburg shared her faith journey/biography.

6. **Shared Joys and Concerns** – The elders reported on their joys and concerns.

7. **Treasurer’s Report:** Andrew LeFurge reporting:

- 7.1. Andrew reviewed the March 2016 financial reports and responded to various questions. Andrew’s comments included:
 - 7.1.1. March’s receipts were good when compared with budget while year-to-date receipts are approximately \$33,000 below budget.
 - 7.1.2. Expenses continue below budget as Mission Committee expenditures have been nominal in the first three months.
 - 7.1.3. Andrew and the Trustees continue to monitor the gap between Total Cash and Total Restricted Funds.
 - 7.1.4. Joyful Noise’s year-to-date net revenue of \$11,000 was noted.

Data are for March 2016:

	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
General Fund Revenues	\$77,915	\$75,804	\$199,613	\$233,042
General Fund Expenses	\$71,323	\$71,760	\$224,579	\$239,340
Joyful Noise Revenues	\$57,770	\$51,220	\$174,589	\$159,980
Joyful Noise Expenses	\$57,621	\$54,281	\$163,589	\$161,488

7.2. Upon motion with support, session accepted the Treasurer’s Report.

8. **Omnibus Motion:** Upon motion and support, the following written committee reports were accepted by omnibus motion:

- 8.1. Adult Education Committee minutes of April 12, 2016
- 8.2. Board of Deacons minutes of April 12, 2016
- 8.3. Children’s Committee minutes of April 12, 2016 (distributed at the session meeting)
- 8.4. Nominating Committee minutes of April 13, 2016
- 8.5. Personnel Committee minutes of April 12, 2016
- 8.6. Stewardship Committee minutes of April 12, 2016
- 8.7. Youth Committee minutes of April 12, 2016

9. **Committee Reports Withheld from the Omnibus Motion:**

- 9.1. Hospitality Committee: Alishia Terrill reporting:
 - 9.1.1. Upon motion, session approved the following non-elder to serve on the Hospitality Committee: Sandra Peel.
- 9.2. Trustees Committee: Lee Brink reporting:
 - 9.2.1. Lee thanked those who assisted with the spring grounds clean-up.
 - 9.2.2. The committee’s one page summary of mission, goals, and responsibilities was reviewed.
 - 9.2.3. Trustees have not yet requested session’s approval for annual distributions from the funds held at Grand Haven Area Community Foundation.
 - 9.2.4. Proposals for the contemplated financial and procedures audit are being evaluated. Additional proposals may be requested.
 - 9.2.5. Trustees have had special meetings to consider a land lease with Tri-Cities Ministries. Lee also expressed Trustees’ appreciation for Tim Stoepker’s expertise and assistance.
 - 9.2.6. Upon motion and support, session authorized the purchase of a van to be paid from the Children’s Ministries restricted fund.

9.2.7. Trustees and Stewardship Committee are planning this fall's stewardship campaign. Sue VandenBosch distributed a narrative budget from another church. Generosity Sunday will be on October 23. Efforts will commence immediately to gather the information and prepare requisite materials. A time table was distributed with Trustees information in this month's session packet.

9.3. Worship Committee: Marge Coffey reporting:

9.3.1. Upon motion, session approved changing September 11's worship to 10 am with one whole church service due to the church picnic.

9.3.2. Upon motion, session approved the following non-elder to serve on the Worship Committee: Rob Ver Duin.

9.4. Upon motion and support, session accepted the reports of Hospitality, Trustees, and Worship Committees.

10. Report from the PNC:

10.1. Bill Blessing, chairperson of the PNC, reviewed his committee's written report. He discussed the importance of having current membership information. Rev. VanderWal will be leading a group to audit/validate membership information. Abe Overway and Carrie Rivette are among those who volunteered.

11. **Unfinished Business:** There was no unfinished business.

12. New Business

12.1. Report from Stewardship Committee:

12.1.1. Sue VandenBosch reported on her recent attendance with Kelli Jullie to a Stewardship Kaleidoscope Conference sponsored by the PCUSA. Sue stated that stewardship is most effective when its message is integrated throughout the entire year and when personal stories can be shared. Quarterly testimonials are planned with Steve and Diane Grooters scheduled for June and Bill and Chris Bussell scheduled for September.

12.1.2. The William Montague Ferry Legacy program is still "in the works".

12.2. Upon motion and support, session approved restoring Ryan Goldman's membership status to "active".

12.3. Upon motion and support, session approved the baptism of Maddison Ruth Goldman (parent are Ryan and Kim Goldman).

12.4. Upon motion and support, session approved the Sexual Misconduct Policy dated March 2015 (unchanged from last year). Elders are asked to sign the fourth page and give it to Kelli Jullie.

12.5. Rev. Male was excused from the meeting. The clerk explained that the interim contracts with Rev. Male and Rev. VanderWal will expire this summer. The session authorized Personnel Committee to initiate conversations to renew these contracts. Rev. Male rejoined the meeting.

12.6. Keli Olson encouraged us to focus more upon the missions that this church supports, citing specifically Joyful Noise and Tri-Cities Ministries, and not become over encumbered with the church's financial dimensions.

13. **Moderator's Comments** – Rev. Male reporting:

13.1. Rev. Male thanked the session for granting her vacation so she could be in Arizona to celebrate her uncle's life.

13.2. She discussed how the recent class of new members continues to meet and reminded us that it is important to incorporate those who we do not know into the life of the church.

13.3. Some of the Deacons have not been ordained yet and she will be scheduling those ordinations.

14. **Associate Pastor's Comments** – Rev. VanderWal was absent because she was attending the second week of interim training. Rev. VanderWal submitted a written report citing TAG Consulting's progress and her assessment of the WEDX event.

15. Action Items Recap:

15.1. Approved the May 2, 2016 meeting docket after identifying one correction and two additional new business items.

15.2. Approved the April 11, 2016 session meeting minutes subject to the correction of those served home communion on March 6, 2016.

15.3. Approved the April 2016 membership report.

- 15.4. Accepted the Treasurer's report.
 - 15.5. Under an omnibus motion, accepted the following committees' written reports: Adult Education, Board of Deacons, Children's, Nominating, Personnel, Stewardship, and Youth.
 - 15.6. Approved the following individual to serve as non-elders on the Hospitality Committee: Sandra Peel.
 - 15.7. Authorized the purchase of a van using Children's Ministries restricted funds.
 - 15.8. Approved changing worship time on September 11 to a whole church service at 10 am.
 - 15.9. Approved the following individual to serve as non-elders on the Worship Committee: Rob Ver Duin.
 - 15.10. Accepted the reports from Hospitality, Trustees, and Worship.
 - 15.11. Approved restoring Ryan Goldman's membership status to "active".
 - 15.12. Approved the baptism of Maddison Ruth Goldman.
 - 15.13. Approved the Sexual Misconduct Policy.
 - 15.14. Adjourned the meeting.
16. **Adjournment:** On motion and support, the session adjourned at 9:10 pm with the Lord's Prayer. The next scheduled meeting is June 6, 2016 at 7 pm in the church lounge.

William Bussell
Clerk of Session