

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
MONDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2014**

1. The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, November 3, 2014 at 7:05 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:** Cal Bosman, Lisa Luckey, Ron Mass, Bruce Spoelman, Marge Coffey, Andrew LeFurge, Charlie Parker, Matthew Olds, Eric Snyder, Scott Wagasky, Lee Brink, Sue Ochs, Keli Olson, Craig Seaver and Tim Stoepker
 - 2.2 **Elders Absent or Excused:** Michelle Potter, Dianna Sahr, Jack Jansma, Roger Rose and Bill Scott
 - 2.3 **Teaching Elders Present:** The Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook
 - 2.4 **Others Present:** The Presbytery of Lake Michigan Members: Rev. Nancy Clodfelder, Rev. David Weber, Rev. Douglas Peterson and Rev. Dave Milbourn
3. **Call to Worship:** Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook led devotions opening with prayer, reading from Luke 18 beginning with verse 18. He spoke of letting go, a release from our comfort zone and embracing change.
4. **Interim Associate Pastor Search Committee:**
 - 4.1 Andrew LeFurge reported on the progress of the Interim Pastor Search Committee.
 - 4.2 Rev. David Weber, member of Presbytery Committee on ministries, led a discussion of the pros and cons of the two options available for temporarily filling the position of Associate Minister of Pastoral Care.
 - a. The first option is to obtain the traditional interim pastor, which involves selection of a search committee (already done), and hiring by session with Presbytery approval. The upside is this is the quicker of the two options. The downside is despite allowance by the Book of Order (G-20504c) under special circumstances The Presbytery of Lake Michigan will not allow an interim pastor serving a church to be called and installed by that church.
 - b. The second option is to call an associate pastor who would be installed for a designated term. The upside is after the designated period has ended, another call can be made for either a definite or indefinite period of time. Another upside is that a temporary pastor who becomes a "good fit" for the church can have the pastorate extended. The downside is the process takes longer as it involves not only the search committee and presbytery approval, but also congregational approval with many of the procedures of a regularly called and installed pastor.
 - 4.3 Following extended discussion Tim Stoepker moved and Cal Bosman seconded the following motion which session unanimously approved: To grant the formation of an Interim Nominating Committee for an Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care which entails:
 - a. The authority for Reverend Dr. Thomas Cook to contact Scott Vanderwall to ask Rev. Scott Vanderwall, or he and his wife, the Rev. Jill Vanderwall, to come to our church to allow for the Interim Nominating Committee and Church Program Staff and Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook to conduct interviews with Rev. Scott Vanderwall, and for him to attend worship and the Growing in Faith Hour with regard to potential of filling the position of Interim Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care, or to consider and evaluate Rev. Scott Vanderwall for a called position for a designated period of time as Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, and to pay the travel and hospitality expenses for both of them and;
 - b. To call a congregational meeting for the purpose of asking the congregation to install the Session as a Personnel Nominating Committee for an Associate Pastor of Pastoral Care for a designated period of time, and to appoint the current Interim Nominating Committee to serve as the Session Committee for purpose of processing the applicable process for an Associate Committee for

Pastoral Care, which process includes submitting the Information Form to Presbyterian John Best and to receive, review and process applications and make recommendations to Session.

5. **Closure Discussion of Rev. Scott Robertson:** Rev. Nancy Clodfelder led a discussion for preparation of a report to Presbytery concerning Rev. Scott Robertson's ministry at First Presbyterian Church, Grand Haven. All comments were positive.
6. **Mediation Team Report:** Rev. Dave Milbourn and Rev. Doug Peterson spoke about the ongoing mediation process and the need to keep working toward a more harmonious workable relationship.
7. **Clerks Report**
 - 7.1 The Clerk gave the membership report.

First Presbyterian Church			
Membership Report			
October 2014			
Membership as of September 30, 2014			1045
	Deaths:		5
	New Members Received:		0
	Restored to Active Roll:		0
	Removed from Active Roll:		0
	Moved from Active to Inactive Roll:		0
	Transferred by Letter		0
Membership as of October 31, 2014			1040
Additional Registers			Member # Notes
Marriages:			
10/18/2014	Charles W. Machan & Amanda S. Cook #2014-1597		Rev. Karin Fowler
Deaths:			5
7/23/2014	Peter McArthur	1674	On July report, not in totals
10/3/2014	Lowell Rasmussen	3165	Rev. Tom Cook
10/5/2014	Sherman Wirick	1718	Rev. Tom Cook
10/6/2014	Gladys Pfaff	1638	Rev. Tom Cook
10/6/2014	Jack Krueger	2532	Rev. Karin Fowler
Communion Served:		8:45 & 11 a.m. Services	10/5/2014
Home Communion:		10/5/2014	
Martha Anderson	Louise Edwards		Sue Roper
Charlie Davis	Jean Lautenschlaeger		Ethel Slover
Carol Fridsma	Helen LaVercombe		Meryl Slover
Millie Enders	Fern Mastenbrook		LaMar Vanhaaften
Les Ennenga	Ruth Mastenbrook		Evelyn Wood
Jo Ennenga	Sue McClellan		
Action Item: Approved by November 3, 2014 Session			
<i>Proposed Transfer out:</i>			
11/3/2014	Alissa (Jullie) Enzenberger	To Westminster Presbyterian Church, Grand Rapids, MI	

- 7.2 On motion and support the transfer of Alissa Enzenberger's membership to Westminster Presbyterian Church of Grand Rapids, MI was approved.
- 7.3 On motion and support the minutes of the Special Congregational meeting of Sunday, October 5, 2014 were approved.
- 7.4 On motion and support the minutes of the October 6, 2014 Session meeting were approved with the following corrections: Elder Cal Bosman was present, the treasurer's report was approved after motion and support to do so, and Andrew LeFurge instead of Tim Stoepker is chair of the Interim Associate Pastor Search Committee as noted in two separate places. *(all corrected 11/25/14)*

7.5 Elders who had not done so were reminded to make their calls to the 3 or 4 members designated to them in July for determination of the member's future status with First Presbyterian Church, Grand Haven MI.

7.6 On motion and support the membership report and clerk's report were approved.

8. **Treasurer's Report:** Charlie Parker reporting.

The September expense actual over budget is due primarily to catching up on mission payments

Revenues September 2014:

MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
\$ 70,084	\$ 79,283	\$696,455	\$700,383

Expenses September 2014:

MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
\$ 95,484	\$ 73,562	\$743,506	\$730,970

Joyful Noise Revenues September 2014:

MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
\$ 49,824	\$ 57,905	\$489,606	\$510,845

Expenses September 2014:

MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
\$ 52,360	\$ 54,648	\$508,580	\$525,107

8.1 On motion and support the Treasurer's report was accepted.

9. **Trustee Report:** Lee Brink reporting.

9.1 Various items of maintenance in and around the building were identified, some or most of which could be done by volunteers.

9.2 Fall cleanup of grounds is scheduled for Saturday, November 22, 2014.

9.3 Elders had been asked to ignore the prior months request to critique the proposed update of the Standard Practice Bulletin.

9.4 On motion and support the Trustees report was approved.

10. **Omnibus Motion:** On motion and support an omnibus motion approved the following reports:

10.1 **ADULT EDUCATION** discussed the Growing in Faith Hour classes. Advent Reflections, Weekday classes, #Family Class subject matter, Faith Goes to the Movie for a week night and possible future topics for #family classes.

10.2 **CHILDRENS MINISTRIES** discussed the Hand to Hand project, curriculum for children in Worship/Shine, approved the \$650 fee to Olivia Stewart Robertson for training Young Children and Worship leaders.

10.3 **HOSPITALITY AND OUTREACH** discussed Committee/Office communication, Greeter Team schedules, Information Center Desk schedule, Food and Fellowship, Church Picnic, Hanging of the Greens, Membership loss retention process.

10.4 **NOMINATING COMMITTEE** discussed the completion of the nomination roster for church officers (elders and deacons), the need for potential PNC nominations after guidance from Session, possible elder committee slotting recommendations.

10.5 **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE** discussed status of the Interim Associate Pastor search, review of the active member rolls, estimated staff budget and salary review.

10.6 **YOUTH COMMITTEE** discussed the Cedar Point trip, the need for youth to spend more fun times together, the need for more youth small group leaders, attendance at Vine and Roots, future events, food sign ups, the committees desire to have the Associate Pastor for Family Life position filled, youth programming goals.

11. **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:** Lisa Luckey reporting.

11.1 To date 167 pledge cards were received with pledges totaling \$522,000. Elders who had not yet pledged were urged to turn in pledge cards.

11.2 Attorney Todd Anthes will give a presentation on November 23 and December 7 during the Faith in Action hour on the subject of methods to include the church in one's estate plan.

11.3 The committee is considering doing a "giving thanks day" before year end.

11.4 On motion and support the Stewardship Committee report was approved.

12. **PASTORS REPORT:** Rev, Cook reporting

12.1 Michelle Potter reported Hands to Serve went well.

12.2 November 23, we will celebrate our Scot heritage with St. Andrew's Sunday

12.3 November 23, is the Presbyterian Women Thank Offering Sunday.

12.4 November 22, is the church grounds cleanup from 9 to 12 am.

12.5 November 30, is the Greening of the Church Sunday.

12.6 The church office is trying to promote "Fix it Friday".

12.7 Rev. Cook was gone from the office November 4, 5 and 6 for sermon planning. Which, he accomplished through Easter 2015.

12.8 Eric Snyder will present his faith bio at the December 1, session meeting.

12.9 Matt Olds announced the Nominating Committee will be making session committee assignments for the February organizational meeting and was informed the proposed assignments can be made any time prior to the meeting.

13. **ACTION ITEMS:** On motion and support each of the following motions were approved.

13.1 Authority granted to the Interim Pastoral Search Committee for Pastoral Care to (1) invite Reverends Scott and Jill Vanderwall to come to our church for interviews, (2) pay their expenses, (3) to determine which if any of the two types of interims to present, (4) to call a congregational meeting for calling purpose and ask congregation to install Session as PNC for associate Pastor of Pastoral Care and (5) permit Session to appoint the Interim Nominating Committee to the task of processing the applicable process for hiring or calling a temporary Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care.

13.2 The transfer of Alissa Enzenberger's membership to Westminster Presbyterian Church, Grand Rapids.

13.3 The minutes of the October 5, 2014 Special Congregational meeting.

13.4 The October 6, 2014 Session meeting with corrections.

13.5 The membership and clerk's report.

13.6 The Treasurer's report.

13.7 The Trustee's report

13.8 By Omnibus Motion the Adult Education, Children's Ministries, Hospitality and Outreach, Nominating, Personnel and Youth Committees reports.

13.9 The Stewardship Committee report.

14. **ADJOURNMENT:** On motion and support the Session Meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm with the singing of the Doxology.

Respectfully submitted,

Cal Bosman
Clerk of Session