

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
MONDAY DECEMBER 1ST, 2014**

1. The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, December 1st, at 7:00 PM in the lounge of the church located at 508 Franklin Street in Grand Haven, Michigan. After determining a quorum was present, the Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook, called the meeting to order.

2. **Attendance:**

2.1 **Elders Present:** Cal Bosman, Lisa Luckey, Ron Mass, Michelle Potter, Bruce Spoelman, Marge Coffey, Andrew LeFurge, Charlie Parker, Matt Olds, Eric Snyder, Scott Wagasky, Lee Brink, Sue Ochs, Keli Olson, Bill Scott, Tim Stoepker

2.2 **Elders Absent or Excused:** Dianna Sahr, Jack Jansma, Roger Rose, Craig Seaver

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

2.4 **Teaching Elders Absent or Excused:**

3. **Call to Worship:** Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook led devotions, opening with prayer, reading from Chapter 2 of Luke's gospel followed by a reading led by narrator Rev. Cook, with response by the Session.

4. **Clerk's Report:**

4.1 The membership report was presented.

4.2 On motion and support approval was given to the Special November 2, 2014 Congregational Meeting minutes with corrections made to the spelling of the names Levenburg and Neitring.
(Corrected 3/18/2015)

4.3 On motion and support the minutes of the November 3, 2014 Session Meeting were approved.

4.4 On motion and support the following were moved from the Active Rolls to the Participant (Inactive) Rolls:

Alexander, Eric	Draper, Devon	Koopman, Norma	Sluiter, Mark
Alexander, Jeff	Erkes, Klint	LaNoue, Amy	Steggles, Deb
Alexander, Jessica	Greydanus, Stephanie	LaNoue, Andrew	Steggles, Jeff
Alexander, Kelsey	Kelly, Jeff	LaNoue, Eric	Stephenson, Campbell
Alexander, Martha	Kelly, Laurie	LaNoue, Sharon	Stephenson, James
Alman, Cheryl	Kiel, Alex	LaNoue, Tom	Stephenson, Joseph
Brummans, Aaltje	Kiel, Bryan	Mulder, Howard	Thomas, Carrie
Butcher, Debi	Kiel, Gregg	Mulder, Lynn	Thomas, Ed
Butcher, John	Kiel, Kate	Parker, Carol	Visser, Amy
Dalman, Amy	Kiel, Molly	Schroeder, Dave	Weber, Daphne
Dalman, Ryan	Kollewehr, Doug	Schroeder, Mary	Weber, Walt
Draper, Amy	Kollewehr, Jan	Sluiter, Bethany	

a. The names of Dave Berube and Mackenzie Berube were removed from the motion as it was concluded they were already on the inactive list.

b. The names of Marcy Engelsman and Tom Engelsman were removed from the motion as it was determined their membership had been previously transferred to Hope Reformed Church.

4.5 On motion and support the following were approved to be removed from the rolls.

Bassett, Chelsey	Bruhn, Brandy	Hardy, Heather	Lowther, Don
Bassett, Deb	Bruhn, Cal	Johnson, Bob	Lowther, Sue
Bassett, Erin	Fish, Corynne	Johnson, Lauren	Lukasik, Jacob
Bassett, Ken	Fish, Lydia	Justema, Nancy	Lukasik, Joe

Bassett, Nancy	Fish, Miles	Justema, Rick	Lund, Jon
Berg, Paul	Fish, Miles, Jr	Koster, Jennifer	Lund, Kelli
Bodrie, Greg	Fredricks, Amy	Koster, Joe	Marcus, Julie
Bodrie, Hannah	Fredricks, Brent	Lewis, Bret	Raschke, Charles
Bodrie, Harrison	Green, Brian	Lewis, Rebecca	Raschke, Rebecca
Bodrie, Jennifer	Green, Kelly	Lockwood, Chris	Warner, Colleen
Boterenbrood, Brenda	Greer, Jay	Lockwood, Tim	Warner, Derek
Boyer, Brad	Greer, Patti	Londot, Amy	Whisenant, Joyce
Boyer, Robin	Hardy, Dreyton	Londot, Mark	Willbrandt, Diane
			Wykowski, John

- a. The names of Amy Polston and Kevin Polston were removed from the proposed list as they had attended church services very recently.

4.6 On motion and support the clerk's report was approved

5. **Interim Minister Search Report:** Andrew LeFurge reporting.

5.1 Rev. Linda Male was recommended by the committee to be hired as Interim Minister of Pastoral Care. A proposed contract had been worked out between Rev. Cook and Rev. Male.

5.2 On motion and support Session approved hiring Rev. Linda Male under the terms of the above referenced contract to begin December 2, 2014.

6. **Rev. Thomas Cook's Housing Allowance:**

6.1 In order to meet IRS requirements, Rev. Cook's housing allowance for 2015 needed to be determined prior to the end of the year. On motion and support approval was given to set the housing allowance portion of Rev. Cook's 2015 salary/housing allowance at \$40,000.

7. **Treasurer's Report: Charlie Parker Reporting**

Elder Parker explained our pastor's pay is paid in arrears, hence the amounts paid in October for Rev. Locke and Robertson was for services rendered prior to and up to the date of resignation.

Revenues: October, 2014

MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
\$71,020.77	\$71,718.91	\$767,476.10	\$772,101.65

Expenses: October, 2014

MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
\$64,965.59	\$73,561.96	\$808,472.07	\$804,531.63

Joyful Noise: October, 2014

Revenues: October, 2014

MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
\$63,947.61	\$63,205.00	\$553,553.52	\$574,050.00

Expenses: October, 2014

MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
\$53,667.81	\$54,148.38	\$562,247.57	\$579,255.80

8. **Trustees Report: Lee Brink Reporting**

- 2 speakers have been sold. Some audio/video equipment remain to be sold.
- External brick caulking completed at entry ways. Brick cleaning and tucking will be completed in spring.
- Standard Practice Bulletin update is still a work in progress.
- The next meeting is Saturday, December 13 at 9:00 a.m.
- Also discussed, snow plowing of 6th street lot, a trailer hitch for the van and snow plow contract.

- 8.1 On motion and support trustees report was approved.
9. **Omnibus Motion:**
 - 9.1 On motion and support by omnibus motion the following committee reports were approved. Children's Ministries, Hospitality and Outreach, Youth Ministries.
10. **Adult Education: Tim Stoepker reporting**
 - 10.1 The daily devotions for Advent and Christmas booklet written by members and friends of FPCGH of all ages entitled "Let us Adore Him" was presented to each Session member with accolades to Sally Bryant for the finished product.
 - 10.2 The # family group will start up in February under the guidance of Meghan Heritage and Megan Hayes
11. **Mission: Michelle Potter Reporting**
 - 11.3 Tom Braak explained to the committee that the plans for building of the structure on the property purchased for use in Haiti by Faith in Action, Inc. was complete. Motion and support to release the \$50,000.00 for building the building presently held by FPCGH for that purpose was defeated after expressions of concern over the nature of the buildings use and pending more information and assurance by Session of the results to be made of releasing the money.
 - 11.4 On motion and support approval was given to release \$15,000.00 from restricted funds for Habitat for Humanity.
12. **Nominating Committee: Matt Olds Reporting**
 - 12.1 The committee proposed that term limits of 3 consecutive years be adopted by Session as a policy limitation for committee chairs and church officers. No motion was made to adopt that policy.
 - 12.2 Elder Charlie Parker is completing his sixth consecutive year and per Book of Order section G 2.0404 is ineligible to continue thereby creating a possible vacancy.
13. **Stewardship: Lisa Luckey Reporting**
 - 13.1 Promoted "Giving Tuesday" with explanation that giving can be done on line.
 - 13.2 The presentation on estate planning by Todd Anthes was well attended with one more session on Sunday, December 7 at 10:00 a.m.
 - 13.3 196 pledges have been received to date totaling \$576,526.00. By evenings end 5 elders had not yet pledged.
 - 13.4 Brian Gross will facilitate the Financial Peace University class beginning February 14, 2015.
14. **Worship: Ron Mass Reporting:**
 - 14.1 On motion and support approval was given to have 3 Christmas Eve services as follows: 6:00 p.m. impromptu children's Christmas Pageant; 8:00 p.m. family oriented presented by church youth and music by the Gathering Band; 10:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols Candlelight Service.
 - 14.2 The December 21, church services will include a carol sing.
15. **Pastors Report: Rev Cook reporting.**
 - 15.1 On motion and support approval was given to Rev. Cook's request for vacation beginning January 15, 2015 through January 22, 2015.
 - 15.2 The Hospitality and Outreach Committee did an excellent job on the Chili and Mac and Cheese cook offs.
 - 15.3 6 elders have not yet turned in their pledge for 2015
 - 15.4 The Hospitality and Outreach Committee will be the Committee of focus at the January, 2015 Session Meeting.
16. **Action Items:** On motion and support each of the following items were approved.
 - 16.1 The minutes of the November 2, 2014 Special Congregational meeting.
 - 16.2 The minutes of the November 3, 2014 Session Meeting.
 - 16.3 Moving 49 members from the Active rolls to the Participant (inactive) rolls.
 - 16.4 Removing 53 members from the rolls.

- 16.5 The Clerks report.
- 16.6 The hiring and proposed contract of Rev. Linda Male as Interim Associate Minister of Pastoral Care.
- 16.7 Rev. Cook's housing allowance of \$40,000.00 for 2015.
- 16.8 The Treasures report.
- 16.9 The Trustees report.
- 16.10 By Omnibus motion the Children's Ministries, Hospitality and Outreach and Youth Ministries Committees reports.
- 16.11 The Adult Education Committee report.
- 16.12 Transferring \$50,000.00 to the FIAI, Inc. Board of Trustees was defeated.
- 16.13 Releasing \$15,000.00 to Habitat for Humanity.
- 16.14 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., and 10:00 Christmas Eve. Services.
- 16.15 Tom Cook's vacation request beginning January 15, 2015 through January 22, 2015.

17. On motion and support the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. with Session singing the Doxology.

The next scheduled Session Meeting is January 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Lisa Luckey will be treating everyone (Session members) to a glass of wine following the meeting at The Kirby Grill.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cal Bosman,
Clerk of Session