

HIGHLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Stated Session Meeting
19 October 2022
Hybrid Meeting

Moderator Rev Megan McCarty called the meeting to order at 6:17 PM. Rev Nolan Huizenga offered evening prayer.

Elders Present: Ben Anderson, Laurie Anderson, Ralph Bowling, Clyde Foshee, Helen Jones, Ann Lacy, Steve Makela, Kathy Mounce, Patti Pinkley, Carol Pye, Craig Siegenthaler, Paul Troy, Chris Valentine, Lauren Wood.

Clerk to the Session: Cynthia Welch

Staff Present: Nolan Huizenga, Megan McCarty, Charles Brockwell

Guests: Katherine Trentham, Bill Williamson, Joel Weible, CoM; Amy Fitzgerald, WDS; Steve Holmes

Elders Excused: Nancy Owen, Mike Reed

Elders Absent: Sara Gambrell, David Morrison

With a motion and a second and no objections, the agenda was adopted.

Clerk's Report

Minutes. The minutes of the Stated Session Meeting on 21 September 2022 were, with a motion and a second, approved as written.

Deaths. Mary Anne Baker, 29 September 2022; Roger Dalton, 15 October 2022
MKP Commissioners for the meeting on 12 November 2022: Carol Pye, Steve Makela, Cynthia Welch, Kathy Mounce. Approved with a motion and a second and no objections.

Consent Agenda

From Finance: add Megan McCarty as a temporary third check signer for HPC (since Rob Miller is leaving). Approved with a motion and a second and no objections.

Annual Report From WDS

Amy Fitzgerald. In their 73rd year of operation, the WDS serves 167 children, with a faculty of 34. Amy shared a video and pictures of the children at work and at play. The WDS is an extension of the mission of HPC. The WDS has taken on the Little Pantry outside of HPC. They are also offering parenting classes in coordination with HPC.

Growing in Spiritual Community

The Session engaged in conversation with Katherine Trentham and Bill Williamson of the MKP CoM concerning what CoM's relationship with HPC is now. In general, CoM oversees relationships with pastors and congregations. They feel they can report back to MKP that HPC is in a better place now than it was a year ago. HPC is no longer a church in conflict, but a church in transition. The question was asked what CoM had learned from HPC's experience. CoM will examine Kent's evaluation of his time at HPC in January, after John Odom gets back from sabbatical. HPC would like feedback from that conversation. The question was also asked how they were going to change the perception of CoM for the congregation. CoM will return to the Session in January after CoM holds a retreat. HPC needs to know how CoM will move forward.

Committee Reports

Adult Education. Megan. Lenten Devotional submissions will begin after Advent.

Children's Ministry. Ann Lacy. Sunday School will add a stewardship component to the curriculum. Sitters urgently needed (a minimum of two) for church events.

CITW. Megan. A refugee family of seven has arrived from Burundi. Donations for PACT are scheduled for October. HCM is asking for donations of gift cards for their Thanksgiving baskets.

CNC. No report. A new committee is needed. Clyde Foshee and Patti Pinkley have agreed to serve as Session members to the committee.

Earth Care. Megan presented the congregational pledge to start the application for status as a PC(USA) Earth Care Congregation. The committee will oversee implementation. The application is done every year for five years. With a **motion** and second and no objections, the Session **approved** the pledge.

Fellowship. Ralph Bowling. The first Wednesday night supper went well. Advent workshop is 4 December. There may be a progressive dinner on 10 December, depending on Covid levels. Neighborhood caroling will be 18 December.

Finance. Chris Valentine went over September operating results and expense summary.

Personnel. Craig Siegenthaler. Rob Miller is leaving 31 October. Rhonda Hibdon and Michael Harper will stay through the end of the school year, and are being given a slight raise. Rob's job description will be revised. Last severance payment to Rev Harris was 15 August.

Motion: After reviewing current market rates for Megan's position, Personnel is proposing a salary raise to \$65,000 (from \$50,000), effective 1 October 2022. This will require a change to her terms of call. Unanimously **approved**.

Motion: Call for a congregational meeting immediately following worship on 30 October to approve changing Megan's term of call. Unanimously **approved**.

Property. Clyde. Various patches and repairs throughout the campus, including foundation leak in PMC basement, parking lot has been restriped, exterior signage project is moving forward.

Race Equity. No report.

Stewardship. Ben Anderson. The pledge card has been redesigned to include chances to include areas of interest. Stewardship Sunday is 13 November.

WSL. Carol Pye. Arts on the Corner will be 21 October – Music with a Purpose, benefitting KRM. Inclusion of lay members in worship leadership has been expanded. Communion was served 2 October.

Youth Ministry. Nolan. Staff is connecting more with youth ministry. Nolan and Megan sat with parents and youth and listened. Nolan went to the middle and high school groups. Youth are being asked what the late service on Christmas Eve could look like – all options considered.

Deacons. Kathy Mounce. No report.

PNC. No report.

Pastors. Nolan and Megan are alternating weeks preaching.

December Session meeting will be on the **2nd Wednesday – 14 December**. Possible joint meeting with the Deacons. Dinner will be served.

The meeting closed with blessing and sending prayer at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia B Welch
Clerk to the Session