

Stated Session Meeting Minutes - December 9, 2023

The Session of the Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista, AR held a Stated Session Meeting on Saturday, December 9, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in Classroom A. Rev. Dr. Judi McMillan called the meeting to order, lit the Christ Candle and welcomed those present. Opening devotion and prayer were given by **Nancy Ortman**

Members Present: Ruling **Class of 2023:** Mack Bean, Jean Nichols, David Riter, Florence Riter and Bud Clark. **Class of 2024:** Bev MacDonald. **Class of 2025:** Tom Hackleman, Sharon Warner and Vicki Erickson. Lon Cross was excused
Others Present: Cathy Rew, Daniel Johnson, Eddie Lou Taylor, Peggy Prevost and Karen Watson. Also:
Moderator: Pastor Judi McMillan.

Approval of Agenda: **Pastor Judi** asked if there were any changes, omissions, additions to the agenda. There being none, the agenda was approved.

Pastor's Reports: **Pastor Judi** reported on the new security system that has been completed and explained how the entry codes are to work. Each Elder received a security code and were shown how the system works.

Deacon's Report: **Gail Cowdin** reported that 18 people are now being served by our Deacons, four of which are bereaved and some will be rolling off soon.

Treasurer's Report: **Cathy Rew** reported that the Church, for the first time in over seven years, will be looking at a positive budget in 2024. She then noted some of the improvements to the church which were long overdue and were completed during 2023. Karen Watson will be taking over as Treasurer in January 2024. Vicki informed Session that new signature cards need to be updated to reflect the following:

- Karen Watson - Treasurer
- Lon Cross - Elder
- Vicki Erickson - Elder

The Church's bank account is housed at ARVEST Bank and the account number is 17567523. Name on the account is Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista. **Motion was made, seconded and approved that the update to the signature card is approved by Session.**

Clerk's Report: **Sharon Warner** asked for a motion to approve the Stated Session Minutes of November 11, 2023. There being no corrections, **Motion was made, seconded to approve**

A final review of names to be deleted from the Church rolls was reviewed by Session **and motion was made and approved to remove the following list.** (It should be noted that these individuals were contacted by phone or e-mail regarding their status with the Church before being presented to Session)

-Leon Wehmeyer	- Lois Ault	-Brian Hodge
-Jean Hehl	-Terry Durbin	-Marj Hodge
-Lee Hehl	-Carol Durbin	-Elaine Jones

Committee Reports:

Operations Committee - Bud Clark

- a) Success of stewardship drive.
- b) Transparency - going forward the Clerk of Session will put a copy of the Minutes and Financial report in a binder that will be in the Church office for members to review.

- c) Coffee Pots - After some due diligence, it was decided that it would cost several thousand dollars to purchase new coffee pots. However, a company in Springdale, Arkansas will furnish and maintain coffee pots at no cost provided the Church purchase all the coffee supplies from them. Following further discussion, Committee elected to go with the local company that furnishes and maintains the pots.
- d) Paul requested the Church purchase a \$350 upgrade for the camera system that is used on Sunday mornings for live broadcasting. Committee approved the request.
- e) A deep cleaning of the kitchen will be set up by Ann as soon as possible.

Spiritual Life Committee - Jean Nichols

- a) Reported 88 received communion in worship and 3 received home communion in November
- b) Report from Missions - Ronnie Provost has agreed to replace Sue Predl as The Cottages' representative.
- c) Report from Worship - Pastor Judi will be on study leave from February 6 to February 12 to participate in the 2024 Calvin Symposium on Worship
- d) Request from Stephen and Gail Knudsen to trade their piano for the Church's electronic piano was declined.

Congregational Life Meeting - Bev MacDonald

- a) Jan Halgrim reported that Canopy has welcomed 139 refugees in 2023 and will welcome nine new refugee families in December. Five types of Welcome Kits are needed to support these new families. Church will create one of each Kit in March.
- b) Christmas meal is scheduled for Monday, December 25 at 12:00 noon. Sign-up sheet is in the Connector Hallway.
- c) Bev has leaders for the five Shepherd Groups and will have the new lists out soon. Sharry McGuire and Terry Woods will be Shepherd Group Coordinators.

Members of Session were provided with a complete copy of the minutes of the three committees for their review. Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept all reports.

Unfinished Business

- a) Tom reported that the changes to the Policies and Procedures manual have been completed and will be ready for Session approval in January

New Business

- a) Announcement to be made on Sunday, December 10, that a Congregational Meeting will be call on Sunday, December 17, 2023 for the purpose of approving the Pastor's Terms of Call.
- b) Pastor and Session recognized officers who will complete their term at the end of December 2023.
- c) Approval of 2024 Budget to be approved at January Session Meeting
- d) Committee reports are due to Paul as soon as possible in preparation of the year-end financial statement.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Adjournment: Pastor Judi

Extinguish The Christ Candle:

Next Stated Session Meeting: December 9, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in Classroom A

Sharon Warner
Clerk of Session

Rev. Dr. Judith McMillian
Moderator