

Stated Session Meeting Minutes - February 17, 2024

The Session of the Presbyterian Church of Bella Vista, AR held a Stated Session Meeting on Saturday, January 13, 2024 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 **Vicki Erickson**.

Members Present: Ruling **Class of 2024:** Bev MacDonald and Lon Cross and Nancy Ortman. **Class of 2025:** Tom Hackleman, Sharon Warner and Vicki Erickson. Dan Johnson was excused. **Class of 2026:** Peggy Prevost, Gary Harris and Eddie Lou Taylor. **Others Present:** Alice Irwin and Karen Watson. Also: **Moderator: Pastor Judi McMillan. A Quorum was present for the meeting.**

Special Order:

Eddie Lou Taylor introduced prospective new members, **Becky Morgan** and **Annette and Doug Bowen**. Becky will be coming via Reaffirmation of Faith and Annette and Doug via Transfer of Certificate of Membership from First Christian Church in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. **Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept these new members.**

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 Worship Conference she recently attended in Michigan. Speakers were very engaging and Workshops offered new ideas on:

1. Preaching
2. Building Blocks of Lament
3. Promoting a Culture of Goodness through Worship
4. AI and Virtue
5. Prophetic Art and Storytelling.

Pastor will be using some of what was suggested in following sermons and fellowship time.

Pastor introduced the **FIRST** in house published **Lenten Devotional** which has been a goal of hers. She gave credit to those ministers who contributed to this endeavor and noted that the devotional is being used not only in PCBV but in churches whose ministers contributed.

Book studies are going well and the group has learned much as we continue to navigate our culture that tries to divide us.

Deacon's Report: **Alice Irwin** reported that **Frank Taylor**, our new deacon attended the meeting. He is to be installed on Sunday, February 25. She also reported that 18 to 20 members attended the program given by Circle of Life. Discussion followed about having information available to church members.

Treasurer's Report: **Karen Watson** reported no changes to financial condition of the church. **Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Treasurer's Report.**

Clerk's Report: **Sharon Warner** asked for a motion to approve the Stated Session Minutes of January 13, 2024 There being no corrections, **Motion was made, seconded and approved.**

- a) Clerk reported on January 30, 2024 via e-mail, Session approved the purchase of the HVAC Unit in the church office and to repair the HVAC Unit in the Hallway/Parlor Office area. Total cost was \$10,856.41.
- b) Reminder: **Elder/Liturgist** for the month of March is Sharon Warner.

Committee Reports:

Operations Committee - Lon Cross

- a) Operations approved a motion to request Session for approval to:
Form a sub-committee charged with coming up with a comprehensive plan to:
- Create an inviting welcome center in the current office wing.
 - Expand classroom A into classroom B and create a large storage space.
 - Update the main narthex restroom
 - Create a small gathering place in the former nursery. Those serving on the Sub-Committee will be Lon Cross, Karen Watson, Bev MacDonald and Nancy Ortman. Task Force to remain intact until all projects are completed.

Motion was made, seconded and approved for the formation of a Sub-committee.

- b) Operations approved a motion to request Session for approval to authorize Ann Davidson to get bids from multiple local lighting contractors to re-do lighting in the parking lot, plus additional appropriate lighting in both the memorial garden and along the sidewalk on the southeast side of the church.

Motion was made, seconded and approved by Session

- c) Operations approved a motion to request Session to elect corporation officers for the church.

Motion was made, seconded and approved by Session to elect the following officers to one year terms of the corporation:

President - Lon Cross Vice President - Gary Harris
Secretary - Sharon Warner Treasurer - Karen Watson

Other items from the meeting:

- June 1st set for Spring Fundraiser.
- 3rd annual fall church sale will be held on September 20th and 21st. Planning Committee consists of Lon Cross, Susan Foster, Tom Hackleman, Bev MacDonald Terry Woods and Sharon Warner.
- Annual budgeted amount for substitute non-employee musician fees was discussed.

Spiritual Life Committee - Peggy Prevost

- a) Committee reviewed the following upcoming events of the church:
- Blessing of the Pets (discussion regarding date/place).
 - Pastor Judi will work on training liturgists.
 - Pastor Judi will be out May 26 (Rev. Joe Tropansky will serve as minister).
 - Pastor Judi will be out June 2 (Dr. Ronnie Prevost will serve as minister).
 - Update to church's Emergency Medical Plan and training.
 - Communion has been set/approved for March 3rd, March 28th and March 31st.

Congregational Life Meeting - Bev MacDonald

- Blessing of the Pets will be held June 9. Glasgow Park has been reserved for the event. Time is 8:30 to 12:00.
- Bev reported on a possible bake sale. Will ask PW if they would be interested in helping with baking.
- Eddie Lou Taylor reported on new visitor handout. This would replace the visitor packet currently in use.

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

Lon reported update to P & P manual in process.

New Business

1. Pastor Judi announced church has been approached by two organizations about having their meetings in our building.
2. Commissioners for the March Presbytery will be Pastor Judi (in person) and Sharon Warner (via zoom)
3. Motion was made, seconded and approve to welcome Kristen Harris on April 7. Kristen is a representative for NOROC and will speak to congregation about mission efforts in Rumania. Session also approved a motion to collect a Love Offering to support the mission in Rumania.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Adjournment: Pastor Judi

Extinguish The Christ Candle:

Next Stated Session Meeting: March 9, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. in Classroom A

Sharon Warner
Clerk of Session

Rev. Dr. Judith McMillan
Moderator