

Stated Session Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2017
7:00 p.m., St. Andrew Room
Community Presbyterian Church in Celebration

Moderator: Rev. Dr. William Lewis
Clerk: Gail Gebhardt

Approved by Session October 24, 2017

Opening Prayer: *Pastor Lewis opened the meeting at 7:04 with a prayer.*

In Attendance: *Bruce Carlson, George Crippen, Judy Gregg, Kim Hawk, David Hulme, Tedd Lingo, Beth McAulay and Jeff Smallwood*

Excused: *Charles Moore*

A Quorum was Present

Opening Devotions – *Jeff Smallwood*

Jeff read a meditation on the subject of our “enemies” from the book The Forgotten Way by Ted Dekker.

There are two kinds of enemies:

- 1. The enemies within yourself such as substance abuse.*
- 2. The enemies outside yourself such as people who attack and persecute you.*
- 3. Turn your irritations into praise rather than going negative.*
- 4. What kind of spiritual things do you have going on right now?*
- 5. Reflections in this book were contributed by Bill Vanderbush.*

Action Items:

Motion: *Approval of the August 2017 Session Minutes* ***M/S/A***

Motion: *Approval of August 2017 Financials* ***M/S/A***

Finance Report – *David Hulme*

No big changes. We are right-on for projected income. Average attendance is better than last year.

Membership ***M/S/A***

On Sunday, September 24, 2017

By Profession of Faith

- Erica Lynne Abeling*
- Stela Antunes Veire*
- Fred A. Fox*
- Frank Tracy*

By Re-affirmation of Faith

- Steven Allen Grice*
- Vivien Ann Grice*
- Kelly Elizabeth Grice*

*Stated Session Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 26, 2017*

By Letter of Transfer

- Paul Stanley Ciupek – From - Lifeway Fellowship in Killeen, TX
- Melinda J. Ciupek – From - Lifeway Fellowship in Killeen, TX
- Lorianne Elizabeth Bridges – From - Canyon Baptist Church, Temple, TX
- Fernanda DiFolli –
- Christine Warner – From - First Christian Church, Longview, TX

Clerk's Report: None

Staff Report: Pastor Lewis

- Ground breaking was great!
- Bruce is making things happen.
- 20th Anniversary Celebration is October 7.
- Want people from the past, present and future to attend 20th Anniversary Celebration. Some of the people invited are Pastor Patrick Wrisley, Pastor Nancy Graham-Ogne and R.K. Kelly and family.
- Working on Staff Self-Evaluation Reports
- Stewardship underway
- I will be in Germany with Bill Vanderbush, leaving October 26 and returning on November 1. We will be preaching at an event which is also the 500th year anniversary of the Reformation through Luther. Neil Rhodes will preach on Sunday.
- We Need Elders! We need to form a nominating committee and get this done. Each Elder, please submit to me three names before the next Session meeting that you feel would be qualified and have spiritual maturity. The positions to be filled are Nurture of Youth, Soul Care, Life Groups and Assimilation.

New Business - None

Old Business

A. On-going Business

Expansion Report - Bruce Carlson

- Pretty much on track.
- May make a small Cross from some of the trees that have been taken down.
- Need better communications going out. Need to keep our neighbors updated. This will be done through neighborhood contact, CROA, Celebration News as well as updates on the CommPres Website.
- Several large supports of the expansion expressed their joy to see the ground breaking and reconfirmed their financial commitment to make it happen.
- We are on track for opening Preschool next fall in the new building.
- Our contractors have requested that we not use the 8 parking spots at the end of the lot and in front of the construction gate on Monday – Friday from 7a.m – 6 p.m.
- Hired Ian McCook from NVision as an Owners Rep (Project Manager) at a cost of \$36K.
- We need to know what furnishings the Youth need for the new Youth Center...televisions, speakers, lighting?

Action Item: M/S/A

Joe Judge has asked for use of the grass between the sidewalk and Construction Fence along Celebration Avenue to do a scaled-down version of the Pumpkin Patch to sell pumpkins for charity. He says he is certain he can make it work and he would not

*Stated Session Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 26, 2017*

have all the décor of previous ones but would maintain the tradition for the church and town. Our contractors said it would not interfere with any of their work.

- During discussion of this request, concerns were expressed about interference with JoAnn Tennant's space, delays due to construction area being violated and the liability. These concerns will be addressed with the appropriate people to insure all points are covered.

B. Unfinished Business - None

Elder Reports

Beth McAulay

Amended Information for Minutes

- Kingdom Families:

First meeting on Saturday, September 23rd was successful. Families met from 6:00-8:30pm. Bill led study at church for the first hour, then the group left the church to continue fellowship at a nearby restaurant. Childcare was provided. Since this is not a "licensed program" and it is simply offering childcare, Beth has concerns about church liability when parents leave church property. This is the beginning of a new program and Beth wants to make sure we are setting ourselves up for success and that we have met all legal requirements. The question will be directed to Michele Swanson.

Tedd Lingo

- We had plans for Mary Downey to speak at some time. We are running out of time for this to happen.

Kim Hawk

- There has been money raised for building bookcases that will house the books that Carol Potochney has gifted to the church.
- Some technical equipment that was on "loan" to us must now be returned. We will be coming to Session for replacements.
- Kim notes that some people have had trouble with "giving online" through the website.

David Hulme

- Our budget for the expansion has not changed.

Elder Written Reports Received

Bruce Carlson, George Crippen, Judy Gregg, Kim Hawk, David Hulme, Tedd Lingo, Beth McAulay and Jeff Smallwood

Committee or Special Reports –None

Closing Prayer

There being no other business, Pastor Lewis closed the meeting with a prayer at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Gebhardt

REMINDERS:

Next Stated Session Meeting will be Tuesday, October 24, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Opening Devotions: George Crippen