

## **Session Retreat Minutes**

### **Theme: Spiritual Leadership**

Fairmount Presbyterian Church

2757 Fairmount Boulevard

Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118

Saturday, January 11, 2020

Ganson Room

**Moderator: Jessie MacMillan, Interim Senior Pastor**

**Clerk of Session: Bourbon L Zeigler**

**Session Members: Rev. Lindsay Harren-Lewis, Associate Pastor, Brian Perkins, Christina Seekley, Vanessa Whiting, Carol Adrine, Raleigh Duttweiler, Stephanie Washlock, David Bosler, Keith Miller, Peg Zitzner, and excused Krys Perry.**

**Opening prayer, Rev. MacMillan**

**Introductions of the three new Session Members:** Peg Zitzner, Keith Mills, and David Bosler.

**Guests: Matt Hrubey, Treasurer, and Leah Wyman, Artistic Director.**

**Introduction to Spiritual Leadership and Practices-** This was led by Rev. MacMillan, telling us we are all spiritual Leaders in this church. This was discussed in detail by Rev. MacMillan, followed by small group discussion of our on this topic of spiritual practices we have.

Review of 2019 Session Priorities:

1. Provide clear and frequent communication with the congregation, which includes both listening and sharing information.
2. Tell the story of the church and our personal stories.
3. Intentionally foster relationships and spiritual growth.

We may want like to keep these for 2020. Or do something simple, these can be determined at a later meeting.

Book of Order G-2.0301 and FPC Officer Handbook, and an article title "Ten things Ruling Elders Should Know" was handed out to the new Session members.

**Nominating Committee updates-** still need two elders, four deacons and a new nominating committee. All could be elected February 9 at a congregation meeting. Annual reports are due by January 17.

Statement of Faith by the new Elders will be give throughout the year, instead of the January Retreat meeting. The Statement of Faith by a new Elder along with an old Elder will be given each month. Keith Mills and Christina Seekely will do the February meeting.

**Clerk's report:**

1. We received a thank you card from Grafton prison thanking us for our support and the books.
2. **Motion** to approve the Fairmount Presbyterian Church 2019 Statistics, that is sent to Presbytery. Motion was seconded and approved. ( report is attached) 1

**Session Consent Agenda**

- **Motion:** to approve the Session Minutes of December 11, 2019. Seconded and approved.
- **Motion:** To receive the following report of all weddings, funerals, baptisms, and communion that have taken place at the church since session's previous meeting: Seconded and approved.
  1. Weddings/Funerals/Baptisms: None
  2. Communion: Since the last session meeting December 11, 2019: 8:30am worship on December 15<sup>th</sup>, December 22<sup>nd</sup> and 10:00am worship January 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **Motion:** to approve the membership statistical report through January 11, 2019. Seconded and approved.

Total Membership as of December 11, 2019	758
New Members	0
Moved from Active Membership to "Friends of Fairmount"	0
Removal from Rolls	0
Removed by Letter of Transfer	-1

Elizabeth (Lisa) Vitkus to Wasatch Presbyterian Church in Salt

Lake City, Utah on October 23, 2019

Deaths	0
Total Membership as of December 11, 2019	757

- **Motion:** To receive report of the weekly average Sunday worship attendance, since the last Session Meeting, for the time period of December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 through January 5, 2020 at approximately 269. This includes Christmas Eve worship of 418 ( 5:00pm) and 235 (10:00pm). Seconded and approved.

For comparison:

1. December 16, 2018 through January 6, 2019 at 279. This includes Christmas Eve worship of 444 ( 5:00pm) and 252 (10:00pm)
  2. December 17, 2017 through January 7, 2018 at 325. This includes Christmas Eve worship of 101 (11:am), 416 ( 5:00pm), and 264 (10:00pm).
- **Motion:** To approve the election of officers of the corporation: President: Carol Adrine, Vice President: Peg Zitzner, Treasurer: Matt Hruby, Clerk or Session/ Secretary: Bourbon Zeigler. Seconded and approved.
  - **Motion:** To elect members of the Personnel Committee: Amy Carlson (chair), Gina Kashuk, Nate Kruse, Laurie Deacon, Os Mills, Vanessa Whiting, and Keith Mills. Seconded and approved.
  - **Motion:** To approve the wedding of Nick Nini and Louisa Lowe, friends of the church, on November 21, 2020. Nick is a baptized member of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Columbus, Ohio. Louisa's parents, as well as her aunt and uncle, were married at Fairmount .Seconded and approved.

**Showing of Film "Godspeed"**-Group discussion on the meaning of the film and what we got from it.

### **Church tour and Neighborhood Church Discussion**

- Seeing the church as a first time visitor
- What is welcoming from the outside of the church and what is not.
- What things can be changed to make the church more welcoming.

### **Worship Decision/Discussions**

- Planning for Lent/Easter: Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary with readers, Maundy Thursday Tenebrae, Ecumenical Good Friday, Easter Service at 7 (sunrise),9 and 11. Motion was made on this and it was approved.
- Motion to approve the Lord's Supper-whenver there is an early service (8:30) and monthly at the second service (10:00) on the first Sunday. Also during the Maundy

Thursday service. Serving of the Lord's supper will done by intinction, and will be passed on World Communion Sunday. Seconded and approved.

### **Budget Discussion with the Treasurer**

- The final 2019 budget was approved (see attachment) 2
- 2020 operating budget was reviewed, and each council, and music went over their budget. Matt then brought the whole budget together.(This is a temporary budget)

### **Thoughts on Transition**

- Getting our house in order for the next head of staff.
- Knowing what to change and what to leave alone.

**Closing prayer at 3:00 pm by Rev. MacMillan.**

Bourbon L Zeigler

Clerk of Session