

**Las Placitas Presbyterian Church
Stated Session Meeting Minutes February 10, 2020**

Class of 2020

Christine Mink
Virginia Watkins

Class of 2021

Janice Langdale
Matt Lewis
Pat Thorpe

Class of 2022

Jill Hensley
Trip Jennings
Roger Moose

MEETING OPENED **7:02** Moderator Rev. Bill Humphreys

DEVOTION Janice Langdale Presidents' Day

DECLARATION OF QUORUM Carl Allen

Session Members Present:

Session Members Absent: Roger Moose, Trip Jennings

Session voted to grant voice to Jacque Fletcher (Elder-Elect) and Diane Shepard (Building Committee Chair)

DOCUMENT APPROVALS

***** DRAFT Stated Session Meeting Agenda Monday February 10, 2020**

APPROVED

***** DRAFT Called Session Meeting Minutes Sunday January 26, 2020**

APPROVED

***** DRAFT Stated Session Meeting Minutes Monday January 13, 2020**

APPROVED

***** CONFIRM ON-LINE VOTE TO CALL A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 23 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING NEW DEACONS**

APPROVED

OLD BUSINESS

CHURCH USE POLICY – An ad-hoc committee was formed, including representatives from the Fellowship, Grounds, Finance and Building Committees (in consultation with other stakeholders) to establish usage fees for church property. The ad-hoc committee will also determine and list appropriate uses of church space and other related issues.

1 OR 2 MORE MEETINGS ARE EXPECTED.

POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY NEAR LPPC – Jill Hensley will prepare a recommendation for Session as to whether this is a strip of land that LPPC should consider obtaining. Rev. Humphreys will send contact information to Jill, who will research and report back to Session.

JILL IS STILL TRYING TO GET INTO COMMUNICATION WITH THE OWNER

NEW BUSINESS

PRESBYTERY COMMISSIONERS - Session elected Commissioners to attend Presbytery meetings in 2020.

Presbytery Meetings February 22 La Mesa, Albuquerque

CHRIS AND VIRGINIA

July 18 First United, Las Vegas

VIRGINIA AND JANICE

October 17 - 18 Ghost Ranch

VIRGINIA AND JACQUE

REPORTS

* **Interim Pastor's Report** – Bill Humphreys

What?! It's February already? Here's my report for January, 2020. Happy New Year!

The month/year began with a couple of meetings with the Personnel Committee co-chairs and the soon-to-be Parish Associates, to clarify Ken's stepping back a bit in his hours and adding the Rev. Anne Hays Egan to the pastoral leadership team, primarily for pastoral care connections with the congregation and occasional worship leadership. The conversations were productive, with the Presbytery's COM approval of the job descriptions. Ken and Anne have visited several times with several members of the congregation with telephone calls and in-person visits.

Related to pastoral care and a couple of my hospital visits, it was a joy to welcome Tim Maday, first, and then Evelyn back to Sunday morning worship following Evelyn's two trips to the hospital for coronary care. Both of them seemed pleased to attend the new member orientation and reception on Sunday, January 26.

Related to new membership: I was glad to offer and lead two member orientations with Session reception of new members on Sundays, January 12 and 26, with 6 and 4 new members, respectively. On both occasions, the newly received members were welcomed to membership with a brief introduction and liturgy in the Sunday worship services on January 12, 19 (for two who couldn't be present for worship on the 12th), and January 26,

The new member orientation/reception schedule was encouraged by the coming Annual Meeting of the Congregation on January 26. Many thanks to Carl Allen, Clerk of Session, for his work compiling the reports for the Annual Meeting, and to Karen Cox in the office for getting it all printed up, collated and stapled leading up to the meeting. My assessment of the meeting itself is that it was a bit long, although the comments about the individual reports all seemed to go well, with good attention and appreciation by the well-fed members who were present for the luncheon and meeting.

Looking ahead to the Annual Meeting and the election of officers, I met with/about the Nominating Committee in the recruiting and planning for the nomination of returning and new officers. I think that we've figured out where everybody fits in the schedule of class years for serving!

The Young Adult Volunteers currently serving in the Presbytery, along with the staff coordinator for that program, Luke Rembold, attended the Adult Ed. program and led worship on Sunday, January 19. It seemed that they were very well prepared for comments in the sermon time, and that they were well received by the congregation.

Storage issues for church use and use by outside groups took a bit of my time and energy in January, as the amazing improvements in the Lower Room came to near-completion, "Green Room" concerns surfaced, and storage for gifted pictures as well as the yoga program requests created space and priority conflicts along with communications issues. I think that at least the communications issues have been well-addressed if not completely solved, at least for LPPC decision-makers. Concerns for the best, appropriate use of limited available storage space for church and outside groups continue to demand attention

On Sunday, February 2, I met with the more-or-less executive committee of the Mothers Day Out program, primarily to discuss the Session recommendation that they consider a 3% raise in the salary for Diane Stueber. They agreed with the Session recommendation. The conversation also included concerns and ideas for advertising the program, inspired in part by the space available at this time for new MDO participants.

Looking behind one Sunday and ahead for more: Ken Cuthbertson led worship on Sunday, December 29; I was ON for January with the exception of preaching on January 19 when the YAVs led that time in worship. Current plans are for me to be absent on February 16 for a 2/13-2/18 trip to tropical Wisconsin, Anne Hays Egan is scheduled to lead worship and preach. The following Sunday, Ken Cuthbertson is ON for worship leadership and preaching; I plan to be present and participate as assigned! I plan to be absent (for S.F. hand bell ringing!) on March 22 and April 26, with Ken and Anne splitting/sharing the leadership and preaching schedule.

I'm happy to repeat this next paragraph: I am enjoying my time at LPPC, serving with energetic, genuinely committed and generally opinionated members and friends participating in events and programs of ministry and service in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ.

BILL WILL LEAD A NEW OFFICER TRAINING PROGRAM ON SATURDAY FEB 29

* **Parish Associate's Report** – Ken Cuthbertson

Parish Associate Report to Session - Feb. 10, 2020

The big thing in January was the shift in Parish Associate arrangements, as I (Ken) shifted from my previous "up to 40 hours" a month, to a new "up to 30 hours a month" arrangement, with the Rev. Dr. Ann Hays Egan coming on as a second Parish Associate committed to approximately 10 hours a month. Ann is assisting in pastoral care, and taking turns in the worship rota.

Much of my focus continues to be the Adult Forum, with the current series focused on "Ministry and Mission at LPPC" continuing through the end of February, with a Lenten

series on The Sermon on the Mount to follow in March and into April. We have been running at about a dozen participants in Adult Forum.

Other activities in January included hosting the church staff for the traditional "post-holiday gathering" on January 25.

I also took a "post-holiday" break in Oregon from January 14-20, with three days of that spent (with Doug) in personal retreat at the coast. After the intensity of the last year, it was overdue and needed.

I have made a couple of hospital visits, and other pastoral contacts during the month.

Coming up, Ann will be leading worship and preaching on Feb. 16, in Pastor Bill's absence. Pastor Bill has also graciously accepted my request to plan the service and preach on Feb. 23, for LPPC's 126th birthday.

At Pastor Bill's suggestion, I am sending an invitation for LPPC to join other Albuquerque area Presbyterian Churches in participating in the LGBTQ Pride Parade in June.

MOTION TO AFFIRM PUTTING LPPC'S NAME ON THE LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE JUNE 2020 ALBUQUERQUE PRIDE PARADE

APPROVED

MOTION THAT ALL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PRIDE PARADE BE BORNE BY SLEF-SELECTED PARTICIPANTS.

APPROVED

* **Clerk's Report** – Carl Allen

I submitted a report, requested by the Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Programs, resounding to questions about the congregation's experience with Rev. Henry's sabbatical. Rev. Henry prepared a report on his experience as well as the grant's financial details, and submitted the combined report.

Letter from the Placitas Artists Series President (Feb 3, 2020), including an updated letter of agreement between LPPC and PAS for Session Review.

**REFERRED TO BUILDING USE AD-HOC COMMITTEE (MATT) FOR RECOMMEN-
DATION TO SESSION**

**Draft Covenant of Mutual Ministry between the Cuba Presbyterian Church, LPPC, and
Rio Rancho Presbyterian Church for Session Review.**

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE CLERK TO SIGN

APPROVED

I plan to attend the annual Presbytery's Records Review and Clerk of Session Training events that will be held March 7 in at the Presbytery Office in Albuquerque.

I will submit the 2019 Church Statistical Report to PCUSA February.

**THE CLERK WILL RESEARCH THE ATTEMPTED BREAK-IN AT MDO AND RE-
PORT BACK TO SESSION.**

**DIANE REPORTED THAT, AS A RESULT OF THIS ATTEMPT DAVID WALKER IN-
STALLED A FACEPLATE ON THE DOOR AND IMPROVED LIGHTING OVER THE
DOOR.**

* **Building** – Diane Shepard

- Continued attention to safety, maintenance, functionality, and aesthetics of all Church areas; by working to do most repairs ourselves, we save Church monies.
- Continued concern about septic system - 3 maintenance (plumbing) service calls in as many months. Future diagnostic work to be done on February 4, 2020.
- We need to have a discussion about water use - and waste- in the church. Septic tank which was emptied 2 months ago, almost full. Sanctuary toilet leaking and water waste from Kitchen RO system uses a lot of water. We are monitoring the use to find out how much is wasted each day.
- Signage to be installed in all toilet stalls to help reduce flushing of feminine hygiene products (cause of some plumbing clogs)

- Barry Barker to help supervise and maintain heater and boiler systems - taking over from Leland
- Cost of paper products reduced by shopping at Costco (especially when products are on sale)
- With David Walker's medical condition requiring him to reduce activities, we are looking for a Building Co-Chair to take his place
- Dignity Kit Committee has requested use of storage in the storage area of the basement (behind half door)
- Joan Fenicle (community member) is actively working to frame and hang donated photo prints on walls of the basement

MOTION TO INFORM THE YOGA INSTRUCTOR THAT LPPC CAN NO LONGER ACCOMMODATE STORAGE OF YOGA EQUIPMENT.

APPROVED — MATT WILL COMMUNICATE WITH INSTRUCTOR

- **Proposal to record and sell CD's of Mindy Sampson's sacred music as a fund-raiser for LPPC**

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE DIANE TO DISCUSS WITH MINDY.

APPROVED

* **Casa Rosa** – Claire Harrell

No report

* **Christian Education** – Trip Jennings

No report

* **Deacons** – Sue Hoff

No report

* **Earth Care Fellowship** – Don Turton

The Earth Day service is scheduled for Sunday April 26.

Don Turton is compiling information to apply for renewal of LPPC's designation as an Earth Care Congregation.

* **Fellowship** – Joan Dennis

No report

* **Finance** – Matt Lewis and Mike Potter

Our operating income for the month of January totaled \$15,601. January operating expenses totaled \$12,264 for a net gain of \$3,337 for the month.

Combining this \$3,337 net gain with the year-beginning operating reserves of \$20,378 gives the church a total liquidity of \$23,715.

The mortgage balance for the roof replacement and solar panels project loan is \$79,857.56.

MOTION TO PROVIDE DESIGNATED FUND FOR THE EARTH CARE FELLOWSHIP

APPROVED

* **Grounds** – Jill Hensley

The Grounds Committee Chair provided the update for 2019 at the Annual Meeting. The summary is included in the Annual report. The Grounds Committee Chair is hoping to create a more active committee of members in 2020. An email invitation will be sent out to regular volunteers and other members who express interest in assisting with the grounds in the Time and Talent survey taken at the Annual meeting. In January, the gravel in the parking lot was re-graded due to increasingly uneven areas along the perimeter of the parking lot and highway. No other grounds committee activities occurred this month.

- * **Membership** – Wendy Ingram

No report

- * **Mission** – Sue Hoff

No report

- * **Mother's Day Out** – Debbie Stueber

No report

- * **Nominating Committee** – Virginia Watkins

A Congregational meeting will be held on February 23 to elect new Deacons.

- * **Pastor Nominating Committee** – Jill Hensley

During January, the PNC received Commission on Ministry's (COM) approval of the Minister Information Form. Following approval, the PNC had to make two amendments involving contact information for references. A revised version was distributed to both the Session and COM as a result, and the corrected version was used to create the position announcement in the Church Leadership Connection (CLS) on-line system. The position announcement for a Pastor for a Designated Position is now live in the system, and also posted, along with the Minister Information Form, on the Las Placitas Presbyterian Church Web site. The PNC has established an evaluation scoring system for candidate applications when received, and will use the scoring to determine candidates of top interest for possible follow-up, including interviews. The Administrator of the Presbytery will notify the PNC when responses are received; as of the end of January no responses were reported. February will consist mostly of screening candidates to determine interest for further communication.

PNC Timeline

July 2019	Aug- Sep	Oct- Nov	Dec 2020	Jan 2020	Feb- Mar	Apr- May	Jun July 2020
Update Mission Study	Obtain Congre- gational input and conduct analysis	Write Minister Information Form (MIF)	Obtain Session and COM approvals	Submit MIF and establish evaluation/ interview process	Screen candidates reference	Select candidates and conduct interviews/ checks	Finalize and approve nominee

* **Personnel** – Pat Thorpe and Roger Moose

**LPPC MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORT
January 2020**

PERSONNEL

- The Personnel Committee met briefly Sunday, January 12. A review of the final budget was presented and the committee was briefed on the addition of one new Parish Associate.
- One committee member has resigned. The committee agreed to continue with present members without adding a replacement. Pat will act as a liaison with the Music staff.
- Personnel remains active in the Finance committee.
- A brief synopsis of the year 2019 in Personnel was presented at the Congregational meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Thorpe & Roger Moose
Personnel Committee Chairs

* **Stewardship** – Janice Langdale and Virginia Watkins

Number of Pledges: 61
General Operating Fund: \$155,486.
Added special gifts: \$2560
Total Pledge amounts: \$158,046.
Special pledges:
Casa Rosa: \$880
Christian Ed: \$80
Memorial Garden: \$400
Building: \$1,000
Mission: \$100
Youth: \$100

I hope to give a Stewardship Minute at the beginning of worship quarterly, but Bill Humphreys and I have yet to discuss a forthcoming Sunday for the first one.

MATT INTENDS TO PRESENT/ORGANIZE WEEKLY “MINUTES FOR PER CAPITA” IN MARCH

* **Worship & Music** – Chris Mink

The Worship and Music Committee met with the Reverend Bill Humphreys on February 3. We discussed the worship service calendar for Lent and Easter as follows:

February 26 Ash Wednesday service at 7 PM
March 1 First Sunday in Lent, Ordination and Installation of Officers will be conducted at the 10:30 AM service
March 8 Second Sunday in Lent
March 15 Third Sunday in Lent
March 22 Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 29 Fifth Sunday in Lent
April 5 Palm Sunday
April 9 Maundy Thursday service, 7 PM in Fellowship Hall
April 12 Easter Sunday

Palms for Palm Sunday have been ordered. We will continue planning for the Lent/Easter season and have more details next month.

Average attendance for January: 8:30 service - 14; Adult Forum - 10; 10:30 service - 78

CALENDAR

Presbytery Meeting	February 22	La Mesa, Albuquerque
Congregational Meeting	February 23	
Officer Training	February 29	
Session Meeting	March 9	

Devotion and lock-up schedule

February	Janice Langdale
March	Trip Jennings
April	Virginia Watkins
May	Carl Allen
June	Pat Thorpe
July	Matt Lewis
August	Jill Hensley
September	Roger Moose
October	Chris Mink
November	Jacque Fketcher
December	Virginia Watkins

SESSION MEETING ADJOURNED WITH PRAYER 9:58

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED – CARL ALLEN, CLERK OF SESSION