

March 9, 2021  
Regular Meeting of the Session  
First Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, IL

The Session meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by the Moderator, Rev. Adam Quine. Present were Elders Cherie Aper, Bob Chamberlain, Paul Kasa, Stuart Churchill, Jim Alexander, Cathy Tiffany, Keith Leesman, Mary McLaughlin and Bill Opper. There were no absences. A quorum was declared.

March meeting agenda amended by adding the hiring of the music director to New Matters. Motion made, seconded and approved to accept the amended March meeting agenda.

Rev. Quine presented a prayer to transition into the March agenda.

Motion made, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes from the February 9, 2021, Session meeting.

Clerk of Session Report—Clerk Bill Opper referred Session members to the written report included in the meeting packet. Activities since Feb. 9 included filing for real property tax exemptions on the three parcels comprising the original building, the Christian Ed building and the parking lot, handling the contract and deposit with Fabry Organ Repair for the upcoming work, and examining local CD interest rates to compare with those of the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program.

Pastor's Report—The written Pastor's report was included in the meeting packet. His oral report added that he will be taking off on April 18 and requesting that Session and the Ministry of Heart team work together to conduct the worship service that day. He also discussed the apparent vandalism resulting in a broken protective covering over one of the second-floor stained glass windows. When the window is repaired, we should be able to confirm whether or not an object was thrown into the protective cover.

Team Report of the Ministry of Hands: Ministry and Outreach—The written report was included in the meeting packet. Current projects include participation in the Summer Food Program, the Food Pantry, a Mission Booklet, Habitat for Humanity, and the Christmas Shopping Project. The Team also discussed the Prison Ministry endowment fund under development.

Team Report of the Ministry of the Heart: Worship, Spiritual Formation, and Fellowship—A written report was included in the meeting packet. Activities included planning for Fat Tuesday and Ash Wednesday, the purchase of a banner to be used during Lent, and the search for a music director.

Team Report of the Ministry of Resources: Administration and Treasurer's Report—The Treasurer's Report and a written report of administrative activities were included in the meeting packet. The discussion focused on the prison ministry endowment and the hiring of the music director.

Mary McLaughlin presented wording to describe the appropriate expenses for which the fund could be used. Paul Kasa will contact Gary Davis for clarification of his vision concerning the use of the fund, and to share the description prepared by Mary with Gary Davis. The fund will be available for contributions from others.

The meeting packet contained a recommendation from the music director search committee to offer the position to David Young at an annual salary of \$9500 effective April 1, 2021. Motion made, seconded, and approved to accept the recommendation.

A written report from the BBQ committee was included in the meeting packet. The committee reluctantly recommended to not have the BBQ this year.

Motion, made, seconded and approved to accept the three team reports, and clerk's report, the Pastor's report, and the BBQ committee report.

## New Matters

The meeting then turned to deliberation concerning returning to in person worship. A consensus was reached on the following:

- The church will be open for in person worship starting April 4, Easter Sunday.
- During the pandemic the use of electronic media to broadcast worship has resulted in participation by people who were not attending prior to the pandemic closure.
- FPCL will continue to develop and present the broadcast worship in addition to in-person worship. Hybrid services will be a worship and outreach tool on a continuing basis.
- In-person worship will be conducted using current safety recommendations of the government and Presbyterian Church USA. These currently include, but are not limited to, double masking, no congregate or choir singing, and no congregate recitations.

Motion made, seconded and approved to return to in-person worship on April 4, Easter Sunday, with appropriate safeguards.

## Departure

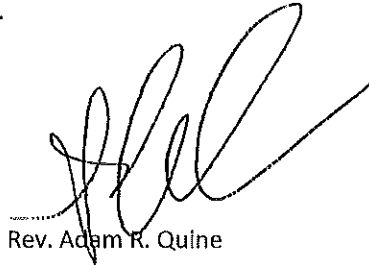
Motion made, seconded and approved to adjourn.

Jim Alexander concluded the meeting with a devotion and prayer based on Jeremiah 29:11. The message is to not fear the future and to trust in the plan God has for our future.

Respectfully Submitted



Bill Opper, Clerk of Session



Rev. Adam R. Quine