

Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church
Session Meeting
Heidger House 708 7th Avenue, Coralville
June 21, 2017

Elders present: Mark Beerends, Patti Benson, Sarah Brakke, Jeff Charis-Carlson, Kathy Duys, Gene Dierking, Margaret Heidger, Kelly Lamb.

Excused Elders : Cindy Kasper, Cecilia Norris, Jenny Pigge, Aaron Shileny, Cindy Vonderhaar, Bruce Walker, Jan Waterhouse

Guests Peg Hausler and Heather Woodin

Pastors present: Matt Paul, Kyle Otterbein

Started 7:10 pm and Quorum established.

Motion to adopt agenda

MSC

Approval of the following minutes:

May 17 Session Meeting (sent)

May 24 Special Session Meeting (sent)

June 3 Special Session Meeting (sent)

June 11 Congregational Meeting

Motion to approve minutes

MSC

Clerk's report : New members added for total membership of 805.

Angela Storm transferred from Zion Lutheran, Iowa City (member # 4811)

Douglas Storm transferred from Zion Lutheran, Iowa City (member #4812)

Allison Kannegieter transferred from St John Lutheran Church, Wheaton IL (member #4813)

Austin Kannegieter transferred from First Congregational Church, Parkersburg, IA (member #4814)

Bethany Lagani transferred from Franklin Presbyterian Church, Franklin, KY (member #4815)

Richard Marshall Lagani II transferred from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Covington, KY (member # 4816)

Brett Charles Crouse transferred from First United Methodist Church, Iowa City (member #4817)

Kristin Kay Enarson Crouse transferred from First United Methodist Church, Iowa City (member #4818)

Steven Sperry, by transfer of church membership from Golden Isles Presbyterian Church, St. Simons Island, GA., joined 5/14/17; member #4822

Karolyn Wanat, by reaffirmation of faith, joined 5/14/17 member #4821

Nancy Ann Barth, joined by profession of faith and Baptism, joined 5/21/17 member #4820

Annika Lynn Kopf affirmation of faith, joined 5/24/17 member #4819

Confirmands received at May 24th meeting

Rylie Lavaan Baldes member #4823

Annabel Skye Hendrickson member #4824

William Philip Hoeft member #4825
Kaitlin Michelle Lamkins member #4826
Margaret Sharon Penning member #4827
McKenna Nicole Proud member #4828
Heidi Marie Schmidt-Rundell member #4829
Grayson Hughes Tyler member #4830

A list of these new members was passed around.

Pastors' Reports

Kyle reported baptism requests for Austin Samuel Beerends and Caius Sperry.

We Proclaim God's Word: Matt read Psalm 86

Rocket Docket— Mark - Construction is proceeding well. Kelly – last Sunday the building tour was well attended and we ran out of hot dogs. Patti reported the need to rebuild loft to provide more space for organ due to a mistake in Elevate's design; we may be able to have organ installed earlier than Oct 9th if the space is ready; Kathy said Stronghold went very well and VBS was great; Faith Camp will be this week. Margaret reported on July 4th float. Cindy said Outdoor Ministry going well, report to follow during this meeting. Kyle - training for the hospitality team has started and it is important for transition. Kyle's marriage class still going well. Kyle talked about Deacons serving communion in addition to Elders, but we need more Elder participation. Matt is talking with staff about moving into the new building. 1st and 2nd Sundays open for "soft" opening, 3rd bigger and publicized. Sermon texts into Sept will be Abraham, Isaac, Joseph, about moving to new places. In Oct. we will have a series on 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.

New Business

- **Outdoor Ministry Update** Cindy, Peg Hausler

We were joined by team members to display and review current plans for the playground design and outdoor ministry spaces. The committee has a complete, well-developed plan worked out with the city requirements carefully followed. They have a bid from Forever Green and they have consulted with the city forester about types of trees. Matt heard unexpectedly from Lindsey B Wagle in South Carolina offering a complete concept and diagram for a playground plan, valued at \$2000-\$3000. It is unclear what prompted the donation of the plan.

Motion Spend up to \$100 from the Discretionary fund to send to Leslie Wagle to thank her for the plan **MSC**

Playground Heather reported that Bruce is working with the City of Iowa City and with the insurance company to explore the possibility of leasing the play area (or land) to the city for a public park but has no report at the moment. Heather is working with the designer who worked on Terry Trueblood park plan. Heather sent around a document with photos of possible equipment and a plan for the playground. We will work to make it wheelchair accessible.

- **Nursery Handbook and Caregiver Job Description** Heather Woodin Motions were in order to approve the handbook and job description (sent), and to authorize Personnel Team to work with Children's Ministry to interview candidates and fill positions as necessary. Kathy said the documents have been reviewed and approved. The positions are budgeted for up to 4 caregivers. Personnel Team recommends acceptance of the job description

• **Motion** to approve job description and hiring of 2-3 Caregivers

MSC

- **Finance Administrator Position Update** Kathy Duys reported that we need to replace Rebecca Schuchert. Job description has been updated so we can search. Outsourcing was suggested. Sunday Aug 20 between services we will recognize and thank Rebecca.
- **Financial Dashboard** We need to count attendance more accurately and remember to count every body of any age after first scripture reading, before children's message.
- **Agenda Planning Team**
Elders needed to provide mentoring relationships for the incoming session members: Tim Benson, Dave DeGroot, Steve Dunham (Sarah Brakke), Ann Ford (Margaret), Ethan Goers (Mark), and Bethany Lagani (Jeff). Note session supper for all Elders Wednesday July 19th, recognizing outgoing and incoming Elders
- **Strategic Planning Update** The committee Kathy Duys, Myrna Farraj, Wes Habley, Matthew Penning, Dave Dierks, Ann Ford, Matt Paul, and Kyle Otterbein They are working on a SWOT list (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) as a beginning.

Old Business/Items on the Back Burner

- Matt met with Deb and has talked with Deb about his evaluation and the next steps. He met with Jennifer Jennings and Harry Hoyt about what might be next. Matt would like to work through things together and that focusing only on Matt may not be the best way to work things out. As in marriage counseling, need to work with both sides, and blaming is not helpful. The June 27th meeting could clear the air, and we need full participation at that meeting. Matt has met with COM twice.

Meeting and Agenda Review. We did very well for this meeting, using the time efficiently and finishing on time.

We prayed together and sang the doxology. The meeting was closed in prayer at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Ford
Clerk pro tem

Matt Paul
Moderator