

Saint Andrew Session meeting
7 pm Wednesday, 16 August 2017
Heidger House

Elders present: Mark Beerens, Patti Benson, Sarah Brakke, Dave DeGroot, Kathy Duys, Ann Ford, Ethan Goers, Margaret Heidger, Bethany Lagani. Cecilia Norris, Cindy Vonderhaar, Bruce Walker, Jan Waterhouse

Excused Jeff Charis-Carlson, Steve Dunham and Tim Benson

Pastors present: Matt Paul, Kyle Otterbein,

COM: Kitch Shatzer,

Upcoming Events Next Session meeting 21 September 2017

Quorum established

Kitch Shatzer moderated.

Motion to accept the agenda/MOS consent agenda **MSC**

Approval of the following meeting minutes:

Motion to accept June 3rd special meeting **MSC**

Motion to accept June 21 **MSC**

June 27 correction: Lora there as advocate not elder. Motion to accept as corrected **MSC**

July 19 Session Meeting (absent Sarah, Jan) Deb will stay on *personnel team*... Kyle and Matt not listed as present but were.

Motion to accept minutes with corrections **MSC**

July 30 Congregational Meeting

Motion to accept July 30 minutes **MSC**

Membership motions to remove:

Molly Whiteside transferred to a church in Milwaukee

Paul and M J Klemme are attending Parkview

Suzanne Richerson inactive

David Lassen inactive

Motion to remove names above **MSC**

Pastors' Reports

Matt: posted his monthly activity report on webpage. Brody Sobolek, Jenny Wilcox's grandson, wants to be baptized.

Motion to approve **MSC**

Kyle met with new deacons Tuesday night. Mentioned members' surgeries. Stephen ministers will be having a retreat. Talked about role of Stephen Ministers and being proactive.

Matt: posted his monthly activity report on webpage. Brody Sobolek, Jenny Wilcox's grandson, wants to be baptized. **Motion** to approve **MSC**

Pastoral responsibilities for Matt Paul will be decreased. Matt wants to go to a 2-part ministry training in Richmond VA in November. Approve a pastoral retreat.

Motion accept Matt's 2 continuing education requests.

MSC

Baptism request for Caius Sperry for the 27 of Aug, son of Steven Sperry and Karolyn Wanat.

Motion to accept baptism

MSC

We Proclaim God's Word

Genesis 45:1–15 (NRSV) Joseph finds a new understanding of his life, after starting young, now has a degree of grace. Look at our past in a new way.

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. 2 And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. . . .

Commission on Ministry and their action

Kitch took over the meeting to talk about Commission on Ministry's action, which will remove MP from pastoral activities and responsibilities as of 31 August. 10 other churches in our Presbytery are currently looking for a new pastor. (Passed out motion text) Presbytery can follow a congregation's action with one of their own. Terms of agreement - still will be until 30 Nov. His presence might stand in the way of moving forward. Is it possible to change that decision? Asked by an elder. SAPC has no further voice, but some of us feel that it would help if MP stayed longer. Why is this better for SAPC? 6 weeks is considered optimum for moving on, and this was going to go on too long. Asked about going to Presb to appeal this. MP was asked and he said it's really not good to challenge their decisions. There is one pastor who has expressed interest in serving SAPC as interim pastor. This leaves us one more Sunday with Pastor Matt. Matt will have to absent himself from all activities and duties. Kyle said this feels like a further wounding of the congregation. And Presbytery has placed us in a difficult situation with the congregation. Kitch said we can ask for a meeting with COM and ask them to reconsider. Margaret moved that we ask for a meeting early to talk with COM. MP has concern about Presbytery's treatment of SAPC – that we are treated differently than the other churches. SAPC was shamed for proceeding with work before Presbytery had approved everything, but a similar situation soon afterwards was easily accepted by PEIA. MP advised against going to COM to ask that the action be rescinded. Staff is also concerned about the Aug 30th date:

Motion: Cecilia moved that session members meet with COM by Monday August 21st in executive session to ask them to reconsider or rescind their amendment which ends MP's pastoral relationship August 30th.

MSC

Orientation for new elders.

Motion: Move that we reschedule orientation training for new elders to a later date, not tonight.

MSC

Rocket Docket— Dave said Sept 15th can't be opening date for the new church. We need to find janitorial service etc. Sarah said children's ministry will start at north campus, still looking for nursery care givers. Jan for personnel team had meeting with staff. Karen Wieting has resigned to go back for teacher training. Ethan went with Pittsburgh Project and had a great trip. State Fair trip was also fun. Patti - Worship planning team is planning for single service for first

2 Sunday services at 11 am and 8:30 coffee. New church organ committee meeting soon, will have volunteers to help with organ. Cecilia wants a church member to replace Karen W for child welfare team. MOS didn't meet this month. Kyle spoke about deacons and Stephen Ministry. IKEA furniture trip was fun experience with many volunteers. Bruce on Gifts and Memorials policy, which is ready. Fellowship team will have a big screen showing of a football game. Empower Transition Team to dispose of anything not needed from storage trailers.

Motion Moved to empower Transition Team to dispose of church items no longer needed in a garage sale. **MSC**

Corporate Elections (as determined by our bylaws, in accordance with the Book of Order) (15 min.) President: Kelly Lamb (has agreed to continue); Clerk of Session: Ann Ford; Nominating Team Currently; Jeff Charis-Carlson and Sarah Brakke; Personnel Team Currently; Jan Waterhouse and Kathy Duys

Motion to elect those nominated

MSC

Team Assignments Elders generally serve on two teams. We went around the circle to express preferences for assignment to teams

Bruce Walker: Stewardship, mission, building nominating

Dave DeGroot: Buildings and grounds, CCBT

Cindy Vonderhaar: Youth ministry, hospitality

Sarah: Children's ministry, nominating

Bethany Lagani: Worship planning, adult education

Jan Waterhouse: Personnel, MOS,

Ethan Goers: Youth ministry, worship planning

Kathy Duys: Personnel, youth ministry

Margaret Heidger: Child protection, fellowship, hospitality

Patti Benson: Worship, child protection policy

Cecilia Norris: Child protection, adult education

Ann Ford: Clerk

Mark Beerens: Adult education, building and grounds

Tim Benson: Finance

Jeff Charis-Carlson: Adult education

Agenda Planning Team/Session Retreat Discussion Questions: Would session like to continue having an Agenda Planning Team to work with the moderator on forming monthly agendas? The team began as something incorporated in Pastor Matt's 2016-2017 goals. Kathy led this conversation.

Agenda: Kitch will work on the agenda planning. Pastor Matt recommends that all items for agenda will be sent to the clerk to work with moderator to plan. Kathy will help with agenda planning and so will Mark. Can meet to plan agenda.

Retreat: should we wait until November or do something in September? Wait for new building? We want to meet soon to build elders' cohesion. Will meet Sun Sept 24 after church, 1-4 pm.

Advertising/Promotion (sent out) flag signs would cost something, but the rest of the cost could be recouped. Brainstormed a number of things, group liked yard signs. Door hangers?

Motion to proceed with plan as set forth by MP (see document for motion).

MSC

Sign for church: Ann brought up Toni Van Voorhis' letter about \$1500 for replatting survey by HBK, so we could put up a sign for the church on Camp Cardinal Road, but only on our own property. It will go on the Docket for next meeting

Consultation of Religious Communities This was a follow-up to the conversation that MOS brought up in their report last month. Please refer to the July meeting agenda for web links for more information. MOS recommended St. Andrew join the Consultation of Religious Communities. Cecilia talked about what CRC does, the membership cost of \$150, and we will need a representative for committee.

Motion to join CRC coming from MOS.

MSC

Personnel Team Report (5 min.) Approval of revised Finance Administrator job description was tabled for later. Personnel Team recommends that Matt appoint The Rev. Kitch Shatzer to moderate regular session meetings in September, October, and November.

Personnel Team recommended that Matt appoint Kitch Shatzer to moderate regular session meetings in September, October, and November.

Kathy says PT has hired someone for the Finance Administrator job, replacing Rebecca Schuchert. Personnel Team worked hard on the job description. They have hired John Benson for the position, replacing Rebecca Schuchert.

Motion to accept John Benson for Finance Administrator...

MSC

Patti Benson abstained on the vote

Financial Dashboard discussed briefly.

Pastoral Transition Kitch Shatzer moderated this portion of the meeting, an open discussion of the pastoral dissolution/transition.

Kitch will be appointed as moderator by the Presbytery of East Iowa, with compensation for gasoline as previously discussed.

Ann read a letter from Presbytery which will be held for later consideration. It is posted on the supporting documents page. The Presbytery is planning to sell their office, and is asking their member churches if they have extra space for storage. (though deadline for forms offering space is September 15th.)

CCBT report

Report from Jack Prall was posted in Supporting documents for this meeting. Dave talked about details of Apex progress. The building won't be complete until mid-November. but Oct 3rd it will be ready for installation of organ. Not all of the windows are in but they are dehumidifying. Best thing to do for now is just to be supportive, not try to apply legal pressure (sue for late completion). Apex is doing a lot behind the scenes that we don't see, and making sure that there will be no preventable problems in the future. Organ installation requires a very clean

environment. Apex is a great group and they want to finish asap. Apex reported they were upset when an SAPC member came to the worksite and was cursing and threatening lawsuits.

Listening post doc sent around: several elders were available and open for questions last Sunday. Maybe have a team to work on this, since it is still an fresh wound. Have this open post regularly?

Motion Next listening post will be September 10th between services. **MSC**

Kitch Shatzer's contact information can be added to session doc site ph 319 461 90266, email revkitch@hotmail.com

Prayers of the People for students starting school, Madeline Otterbein in Scotland, and others. Ended with prayer and the passing of the Peace.

Adjourned ca. 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Ford, Clerk

Kitch Shatzer, Moderator