

Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church
140 Gathering Place Lane, Iowa City
Session meeting, February 22, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
Minutes

Attending Elders: Mark Beerends, Patti Benson, Tim Benson, Sarah Brakke, Jeff Charis-Carlson, Dave DeGroot, Kathy Duys, Ann Ford, Margaret Heidger, Cecilia Norris, Cindy VonderHaar, Bruce Walker, Jan Waterhouse

Excused elders: Ethan Goers, Bethany Lagani

Attending Pastor: Kyle Otterbein

Moderator: Kitch Shatzer

Kitch opened with prayer at 7:05.

Amend/Approve Agenda: add item from Bruce and item about Dungys. Elevate invoice and communication

Motion Approve Consent Agenda **MSC**

MOS report - the supporting material is online -- any item can be pulled from the consent agenda to be considered separately. Motion to approve **MSC**

Minutes approval: Jan 18th corrected: Personnel Strike 1st motion just to approve updated changes Jan 18th Dave not Dan in Rocket Docket. Congregational minutes reviewed. Approval will be at next Congregational Meeting

Motion Approve Jan18th minutes. **MSC**

Clerk's Report – Ann Ford

On February 4th, 282 received communion.

Motion: Approve baptisms for 1.) Owen Nelson Fiddelke, son of Jessica Malott and Scott Fiddelke at 11 am service Sunday, February 11th. Jessica is a long-time member of St. Andrew having grown up and been confirmed at St. Andrew. And 2.) Ayla Vashti Aghsae, daughter of Beckie (Hudson) and Payam Aghsae on Sunday, February 18. Beckie also is a long-time member of St. Andrew. **MSC**

Communications. Received and forwarded Out and About. Will send in PEIA forms for updated contact information for the church and Terms of Call for our pastors.

In further discussion of the December letter from Bruce Alexander commenting on our slow acceptance of gay marriage and needed welcome for LGBT persons, Jeff volunteered to contact Bruce with a Session response. Our membership record shows that Bruce had resigned his membership in December 2016.

Devotions In the spirit of Lent, Kitch read from *Light from Many Lamps* by Lillian Watson about reconciliation, and why it is important to do it now. Time for confession

and forgiveness. Do it now, don't hold onto it. And a farewell message at this, her last meeting to moderate our Session meetings.

(We took a 10-minute break to share refreshments and express our thanks to Kitch for her service and expertise since last summer. She has been a great help to Session and our congregation since last summer when we voted to seek a new pastor.)

Pastor's Report – Kyle Otterbein will be on vacation March 11-18 in Glasgow. We have 16-20 people who are interested in membership. Kyle will ask for some elders to help welcome them.

Rocket Docket – Dave for Buildings and Grounds: the contractor has a few items left on the punch list. B&G team has been meeting. Dishwasher hookup is coming. About the letter from Elevate regarding \$6000 invoice for baptistry plan, Dave told Jim that item #2 is not acceptable (it concerns dealing with Matt Paul) and they need to change that. Bruce for CRC: Mark Martin volunteered to be the contact for CRC. New Creation church will be the location for the CRC meeting.

Motion Approve Mark Martin as SAPC pastoral rep for CRC

MSC

Bruce about the Emergency situation document, will have some more about that at next meeting. Sarah on Youth and family ministry: we will put up staff photos and have a youth room policy on supervision. Cindy for Hospitality team, we need rules for sharing coffee, etc. Jeff for Adult Ed, Christian Caregiving coming up. Bethany began class on What would Jesus say? Film on last Sunday of the month evenings. Detropia was the first film. Cecilia for MOS – finished MOS series in adult ed. Welcoming kiosk - one of the 2 has been moved closer to sanctuary doors. Dobson came back and found they need to repair some of the organ pipes.

Finance Report (Dashboard) – Tim Benson – Income was above expenses in Jan. We have been paying interest on loans, principal payments start in June. Mission has been 14% of our budget but the new budget will be 13.4%. MOS \$6,500 less than last year, plan to give to MOS as budget excess is available. Our 1st MidAmerican utilities bill will be high, but we must keep HVAC and humidity stable for organ

Team Reports for action

Land Sales Team - Jeff Charis-Carlson

Motion: Because there is no current member of Session on the Land Sales team, the Session will expand the team's membership to four and appoint elder Jeff Charis-Carlson to serve. Team members Bill Wittig, Dan Steele and Kelly Lamb will continue their service on the team.

MSC

Motion: Request an update from the Land Sales Team when the Session holds a meeting in March or April to revisit the 2018 budget.

MSC

Amend motion so the report will come in March and set budget meeting for April.

Amendment

MSC

Nominating Team – Jeff Charis-Carlson

As a member of the Nominating Team and on behalf of the Session, Jeff Charis-Carlson conducted the training and examination of Myrna Farraj for Session (Feb. 6) and Mathews Jacob for Deacon (Feb. 10). They were found to be knowledgeable and ready to serve in their office.

***Motion:** That the Session receive the report of the examination and approve it, and ordain and install Mathews, and install Myrna (previously ordained) in their elected positions. **MSC**

Worship Team – Jeff Charis-Carlson on discussion of Holy Week services. Recommend Maundy Thursday will be with SPARK in MPR at 5:30, 6:15 with communion at tables in MPR. No Easter vigil service is suggested. Easter Sunday 6:30, 8:30 and 11:00. No communion on that Sunday, but on Maundy Thursday. Move communion to April 8.

Motion: Set the following times for Holy Week worship services:

Maundy Thursday: 6:15 p.m. worship service begins with communion service.

Good Friday: 7 p.m. worship service.

Holy Saturday: No service.

Easter April 1: Worship services at 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., without communion.

April 8: Serve communion at the 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services.

Motion: Set Reformation Sunday (Oct. 28) as the SAPC grand opening dedication and celebration for the Gathering Place Lane building and the restored Clapp Organ. **MSC**

Personnel Team – Jan Waterhouse and Kathy Duys

Preparation of a statement/response from St. Andrew in the event that the church is contacted by a prospective congregation considering Matt. Given what Kitch shared with Session in January about the status of negotiations between COM and Matt, we should anticipate that a congregation/PNC might contact St. Andrew to ask about Matt's performance as our pastor and the reasons for dissolution. We should have a statement prepared and instruct staff how to direct such a call. Kitch said a pastor lists only the references he wants to have contacted, and Matt is unlikely to list Saint Andrew. Jeff offered a draft statement to consider. Personnel will adapt it and bring it for the next meeting.

Matt's vacation payout: When Matt inquired about his vacation payout, John Benson referred the question to me. I consulted with Personnel Team members and also with COM and told Matt that it was my interpretation that his remaining vacation time was applied to the paid time off he received after October 11, which resulted in him having no remaining vacation balance to be paid out. I invited discussion with him if he had questions but he never responded.

Building and Grounds. Dave asks what expenses the team may authorize and what needs to come back to Session for decision. Kyle said that he understands it this way – if the cost is within the team's budget, up to \$1000, it can be authorized by the team. We will ask Finance for a clear guideline.

New Business

We have a request from Presbytery for St. Andrew to host the presbytery meeting Thursday November 15th, 1-5 p.m.

Motion to host Presbytery Nov17th Thursday

MSC

Kathy will plan a coffee for Danie and Annette on his first Sunday on March 4th

Discussion of removal of sign at old rental church which still says Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church. The day care there is closing.

Discussion of Camille Dungy's donation of prayer room glass. and Clay and Madgetta Dungy's expectation that there will be recognition of the gift. Refer to Gifts and Memorials team and have them contact Dungys about what can be done on the room's wall. Our gifts policy is that we are not putting up signs for such individual gifts. Bruce has registered Margaret's comment that she would like the team to reconsider.

The meeting was closed with prayer

Next meeting: March 22 unless Danie DeBeer would like one sooner.

Motion to adjourn 8:57and closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Ford, Clerk of Session

Kitch Shatzer, Moderator