

Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church, Iowa City Iowa
Regular Session Meeting for September 20, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Attending elders: Mark Beerends, Tim Benson, Sarah Brakke, Jeff Charis-Carlson, Dave DeGroot, Kathy Duys, Myrna Farraj, Ann Ford, Bethany Lagani, Cecilia Norris, Beth Anne Pigge, William Sparks, Bruce Walker, Joe Whitney, Doug Wildes

Excused elders: Margaret Heidger

Pastors: Danie DeBeer, Kyle Otterbein

Guests Jan Rippentrop, Kathi Anderson, and Bob Lamkins

Danie opened with devotions and prayer at 7:00 He read from 1 Peter 20:10 from The Message version. I Peter: 5: Special concern for church leaders. Living joyfully is sometimes hard if we feel burdened by church duties.

Amend/Approve Agenda

Motion to approve agendas

MSC

Movement Ministry – Bob Lamkins, Kathi Anderson, Tim Benson. Their mission is keeping bodies strong and healthy for service. They are request that Session authorize expenditures to make the MPR safe for various activities by finishing the room soon: better floor, striping for games, etc. They have made a plan for materials, pricing and timing. The colored Pulastic floor by Robbins is a hard surface rubber padding, which could be in blue with orange striping for us. We could put in basketball hoops which can be lowered, a pickle ball court, and a volleyball court. These costs have been checked and estimated by Anderson Ladd, which has the whole project estimated at \$125,000. The Movement Ministry has pledges for over \$75,000 already. They are asking Session to authorize paying the remaining \$50,000 from the cash reserves in the building fund.

They hope to start the project in January 2019. Apex is still owed about \$100,000, and we do have some money in the building fund.

Tim said finance team has looked at this. We also need to look at the insurance situation. This funding proposal must be deferred for now.

Motion That Session approves the general plans the Movement Ministry has presented as a goal for the MPR.

MSC

Session also tasked Pastor Donnie to work with the Building and Finance teams to compile a list of similar projects for maximizing use of the building. Once that information is compiled, Danie should call a special session meeting to discuss. (no vote was taken on this question, however.)

Just Church: Jan Rippentrop was here for Just Church, a project to describe and implement justice. They have been working to reform some laws, such as the new Iowa law

which allows detention of a person who may be undocumented. Just Church worships in ancient ways, with the eucharist celebrated every week, chants, kyries, and silence. They received a grant from PCUSA, sponsored by Saint Andrew PC. They try to reach people at the margins, people who are excluded or feel excluded from churches. Their partner is the Lutheran Church (ELCA). The services are held at 5:00 p.m. Saturday evening at Merge downtown. They see themselves as post-denominational or pre-denominational, not linked to any particular denomination, but back to Christian basics.

Consent Agenda (as posted)

MOS report

Approval Minutes: Meeting August 23, 2018

Approval Minutes: Special Session Meeting August 29, 2018

Rev Dr Matt Paul: Response

Motion: approve the agenda and minutes

MSC

Clerk's Report – Ann Ford reported on attendance at communion September 2nd and reported numbers for each week since Christmas. Communion 2 Sept = 315: a sheet of 2018 attendance numbers for Sundays was sent around the table. The average attendance during the first quarter of 2018 was 295, 2nd quarter was 338, 3rd quarter was 268.

Correspondence: we all received a copy of an e-Mail from Patti Benson

Leadership Team Reports

Interim Senior Pastor : Danie said we will be using the Kennon Callahan book for discussion (*Twelve Keys To an Effective Church*). We will have discussion sessions with this book as our guide. The Steering Committee meeting will be Friday, 9/21 a.m.

Associate Pastor's Report : Kyle Otterbein reported that Michael Cooper and Camille Cooper, his daughter, are both very ill. Jessica Cray Nunez's new baby has SKID, so she has no immune system and will need a bone marrow transplant when she is old enough at 60 days.

Director of Musical Ministries: Matthew Penning sent notes to Jeff: they have a good turnout with some new children participating. They are making plans for organ use and concerts.

Director of Children and Young Family Ministries

Teachers list

Child Safety/liability (again) see document. Children must be supervised when they are in the building. Feed my Starving Children packing coming up. Problem of 2 adults supervising children, and outside groups, e.g. AA with children. Celia will talk with her team about this. Further questions regarding church policy were referred to the child protection policy team.

Rocket Docket : Cecilia has been in contact with Deacons and CRC, about clothing distribution Thursday and Friday, Oct 11 & 12, from 9:00 until 3:00. Volunteers are needed for the distribution, which will be at two churches – contact Janet Maas or Cecilia to help. Bruce added that the Iowa City location is Kingdom Center...Beth Anne reported that the mattresses were distributed out for Houses into Homes. Dave said fixes are ongoing and an equipment shed is planned. Kyle said the kitchen electrical work was completed today, countertops will be installed in early October. then the sink, next week, appliances. Jeff on adult education classes said Matthew is doing lessons on the organ, and he (Jeff) has started teaching a class on being a Presbyterian. Mark is stepping down as a ETC leader.

Finance Report (Dashboard) –Tim reported on the budget, as prepared by John Benson and posted on the Session page. He has projected the budget for next year, adding 3%. The \$400,000 in our cash reserves is our cushion for mortgage payments, annually \$360,000.

Land Sales Team –It has been nearly 90 days since the clock started ticking on the purchase agreement for Outlot A. Bill Wittig, representing both St. Andrew and the buyer, reports that discussions with the city officials continue to be positive. Pastor Danie did receive a letter from James Nepola and Dave Heck, our neighbors to the north, stressing that they have not yet agreed to any specific cost-sharing agreements on a road between our properties. Facilitating such an agreement is part of the contingencies for the Outlet A purchase, and the land sales team remains optimistic that some form of agreement can be reached among the buyer and our neighbors.

Anniversary/dedication events: Jeff Oct 18th community party. Cards have been sent out. We are trying to get the information out and answer questions that come in. Special shirts have been ordered. Homecoming Parade meet up.

Buildings and Grounds

Motion: The Session changes the Building Use Policy (BUP) to allow organizations who are in for-profit businesses to rent space for meetings, conferences, etc. **MSC**

Other Action Items 3 Baptisms:

- Julien Robert Tabi-Chou Ebot, on 9/2/18. Father: Leonard Arrey Ebot, Mother: Amy Sue Ebot
- Moses Floyd Bish, on 9/2/18. Father: Sheldon Floyd Bish, Mother: June Ofundem Ebot-Bish
- Clara Katherine Domke, on 9/9/18. Father: Ethan Brock Domke ,Mother: Mindy Joanna Olson

Motion Approve these baptisms

MSC

New Members

Kent and Joy Short, presented by Danie DeBeer September 9th attended by elders Dave, Kathy Duys, Ann Ford, Cecilia Norris, and Beth Anne Pigge. Ken and Joy answered the required questions and were welcomed.

Session Discretionary Fund

Motion: Session approves the use of \$3,000 from the Session Discretionary Fund by the Anniversary / Dedication Team for expenses that they incur by organizing the events.

MSC

Next meeting: For our next Session meeting Oct 25th, we will invite Stewardship, Capital Campaign and Finance teams to attend and we will talk only about finances

Old Business

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Next meeting: Oct 25th

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Ford, Clerk of Session

Danie DeBeer, Moderator