



Rooted in Faith, Growing to Serve

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
140 Gathering Place Lane | Iowa City, IA 52246
www.saintandrew-ic.org

Session Meeting Agenda

April 24, 2025 | 7 pm

Moderator: Pastor Carl Anderson

Attending Members: Becky Benson, Helen Bryce, Don Burch, Scott Fisher, Aaron Gibson, Eric Goers, Mary Hausler, Virginia Ibrahim-Olin, Austin Kannegieter, Emily Neddermeyer, Josh Schilling, Jon Swearingen, Munir Tanas, Gretchen Van Iddekinge, and Bruce Walker.

Moderator: Pastor Carl Anderson

Excused Members: Gregs Thomopulos, Patti Benson

Scheduled Guests: None for this meeting.

Devotions & Opening Prayer: Pastor Carl Anderson engaged members in a discussion regarding desires for a new pastor. Elders should email Carl if there are concerns that he can help manage now, before a new pastor arrives.

Amend/Approve Agenda Amended to move the nominating team discussion earlier.

- **Nominating Team**
 - **Slate of Church Officers for the 2025/26 program year**
 - **Elders**
 - Chloe Goers (Class of 2026)
 - Don Burch (Class of 2028), continuing
 - Helen Bryce (Class of 2028), continuing
 - Jon Swearingen (Class of 2028), continuing
 - Judy Swafford (Class of 2028)
 - Paula McCue (Class of 2028)
 - **Deacons Class of 2028**
 - *Ask in Action* (Class of 2026)
 - Dave & Kathy Duys (Class of 2027), continuing
 - Allison Van Iddekinge (Class of 2028)

- Cindy Seyfer (Class of 2028)
- Laurel Cruisinberry (Class of 2028)
- Rick Graf (Class of 2028)
- Vern Dengler (Class of 2028)
- **Personnel Team (at large)**
 - Ernie Found (Class of 2028)
 - Mindy Egeland (Class of 2028)
- **Nominating Team (at large)**
 - Kyle Bernard (continuing)
 - Paul Heidger (continuing)
 - Toni Van Voorhis (continuing)
 - *Ask in Action* (continuing)
- **Discussion of Pastor Nominating Committee** COMV will be talking directly to the Nominating Team to give directions and advice on managing our search. Number of members will be larger than the last time.

Approval of Session Minutes:

- **March 27, 2025 Session Meeting Minutes**

Electronic Motion-to seek permission from COMV to form a PNC for St Andrew.

Proposed, moved, and seconded April 2, 2025.

MSC

(April 6, 2025, with 15 affirmative and 1 elder not responding)

Minutes and receipt of the electronic vote results both approved.

Consent Agenda (*Any item can be pulled from the consent agenda to be considered separately.*)

- **Team Reports:**
 - **Personnel Team** had no meeting this month. Still accepting applicants for the Building Manager opening.
 - **Act Justly** is meeting every other week on Thursdays at 5 pm including April 24, no report at this time.
 - **Deacons**
 - **April Report**
 - **Worship Team:**
 - **Worship Attendance Report**

Leadership Team Reports

- **Transitional Pastor:**
- **Ministry Directors:**
 - **Staff Notes (March 25; April 1, 8, 15 & 22)**

- **Children and Family Ministry**
- **Music Ministry**
- **Director of Communications & Media Ministry**
 - St. Andrew's staff members have been working with pastors and team leaders to update the church's planning guides for weddings and Celebration of Life services (whether funerals or memorial services). If you have any feedback on the drafts below, please send it to office@saintandrew-ic.org.
 - **Updated Wedding Policy & Guidebook**
 - **Updated Funeral/Memorial Policy & Guidebook**
 - **Motion: To authorize St. Andrew's pastors (Carl Anderson and Colette Soultz) to be able to serve communion at memorial services when the family requests the sacrament and the pastors agree all other requirements of the Book of Order are met. (This blanket authority would preclude the need for a last-minute electronic vote seeking permission to hold communion at a Celebration of Life service.)**
 - **Motion approved as written.**

Clerk's Report: Clerk Pro-Tem Virginia Ibrahim-Olin (approved March 2025 session meeting) reporting in absence of clerk Patti Benson:

- **Communion Stats:**
 - Pastor Carl Anderson oversaw communion on Sunday April 6, 2025, for 249 participants, in person, with 35 devices logged in, for a total estimated congregation of **324**.
 - Pastor Carl Anderson oversaw communion on Thursday April 3, 2025, for **43** participants, in-person, as part of the monthly At the Table worship service.
- **Baptism, New Members, and Roll Changes:**
 - Requests have been received to make the following changes in St. Andrew's membership rolls:
 - To reinstate the membership of former members **David (#1888) and Karen Drake (#1772)** by request.
 - To reinstate the membership of former member **David Meyer (#1999)** and welcome **Abe Meyer** as a member, both by letter of transfer from Winchester Presbyterian Church in Virginia.
 - To transfer, with regret, the memberships of **John (#2380) and Julie (#2381) Lavelly** to Kalona United Methodist Church, at their request.
 - **Motion to accept the adjustments to the rolls as noted passed.**
- **Correspondence:** none this month.
- **Presbytery:**
 - **From Presbyterian News Service:** Amendment 24-A wins approval from a majority of presbyteries. The amendment, approved by the General Assembly last year, adds "sexual

orientation” and “gender identity” to categories protected from discrimination to the PC(USA) Book of Order.

■ **News Story**

Action & Discussion Items From Teams:

- **Mission, Outreach, and Service**
 - **Report**

- **Finance**
 - **Monthly Finance Packet**
 - **Team Meeting April 22, 2025**
 - **Motion: That session approve an additional three-year capital campaign and empower the Stewardship Team to implement. Contributions to new capital campaign would need to start Oct 1, 2025, to continue servicing our existing mortgage, so gathering pledges would need to happen ahead of that.**
 - **Motion passed as written.**

- **Building and Grounds**
 - **April Report**
 - **New Door Lock System Proposal**
 - **Motion: To approve a new door system for the building and to authorize the Building and Grounds Team to get official contracts and schedules for final cost and schedule of install, with cost being approximately \$15,000.**
 - **Motion passed as written.**

New Business

- **Celebration of Pastor Mark’s 55th anniversary of ministry will be in September (50th anniversary was in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic).**
- **Prayers for the church staff during their retreat on May 6.**

Rocket Docket:

- **Reminders of upcoming events**
 - **Big Table: Mediterranean Cuisine | Friday**
 - **Spring Cleaning | Saturday morning**
 - **Melodious Harmony Concert | Saturday afternoon**
 - **Bike Drive | April 28 - May 12**
 - **At the Table | May 1**
 - **Meetup with Free Medical Clinic | May 7**
 - **Last Week of Sunday School | May 11**
 - **Senior Moments Coffee | May 20**

- **Meetup @ Friday Night Concert** | May 23
- **Food Market** | May 28
- **'Say Something Nice'** | June 1
- **Stronghold** | June 8-13
- **Vacation Bible School** | June 16-20
- Additional comments from teams with session representation.

Prayer

Next Meeting: May 15, 2025 at 7 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Ibrahim-Olin
Clerk pro-tem

Rev. Carl Anderson
Moderator