

First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan, Wyoming
Minutes of Regular Session Meeting

January 17, 2017
MEETING

The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan, Wyoming convened a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 7:03 p.m. in Westminster Fellowship Hall. Pastor Doug Melius moderated the meeting.

QUORUM

Ex Officio: Pastor Doug Melius, and Financial Secretary Dennis Heizer, C.J. Clem, Minister to Youth and Children

Elders present: Mary Ludemann, Jon Botten, Linda Luegge, Janis DeVore and Kim Kozel, Jerry Saunders, Carla White, Teresa Williams, Peggy Blaha, Beth Bailey, Jeri Joy, Bryan Luedtke, Chad Quarterman, Loren Ruttinger, Doug Moore

Elders absent: Sam Herring, John Lundberg, Aaron Gray, Dennis Schreffler, Tina Anderson

WORSHIP

Pastor Doug opened with an interesting discussion about Psalm 8 and with some thoughts of the writing of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Pastor Doug opened the meeting with prayer.

INTRODUCTION

Pastor Doug asked for an introduction of all current and new session members. Current session members reported on committees on which they serve. There are nine church committees including Clerk of Session. Pastor also reported to new members that our church is a tithing church, tithing 10% as a faith statement. An organizational chart of the church showing committees and leadership was passed out. Pastor Doug explained that we are not a business, and that we are here to answer to the Holy Spirit, not the congregation.

The **AGENDA** was approved.

CLERK'S REPORT

The clerk's report and minutes of the last meeting were approved as corrected. A motion for approval was made by Teresa Williams, seconded by Janis DeVore, and carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dennis Heizer presented the financial reports. He reported a loss for December of \$4,406.96 and a YTD gain of \$8,344.51. The December 2016 Balance Sheet reflects the following:

Total assets:	\$3,768,341.83
Total liabilities:	\$ 54,579.78
Reserves (Retained Earnings):	91,620.76

The Treasurer's Monthly Report also reflected the following:

December 2016 Income:	\$24,181.49
December 2016 Expense:	\$28,588.45
December Net Income:	- \$ 4,406.96
YTD Net Income:	\$ 8,344.51

Dennis explained the budget to new session members, further explaining the budget vs. real money shown in accounts on various reports. He explained the budgeting process and that session approves the budget, not the congregation. He also explained the estimates of giving and how they relate to budget. Our annual financial reviews were explained as well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget Finance & Stewardship Jan. 10, 2017

Teresa Williams reported and referred to the written report. She reported a November loss of \$4,406.96 with a YTD income of \$8,344.51. A new deposit process was explained, and the role committee members will have in assisting Dennis Heizer with deposits.

Personnel Jan. 10, 2017

Jon Botten reported. He referred to the written report. A motion came from committee to raise the salary of C.J. Clem to compensate her for duties as director of staff. The increase is stated in committee minutes. The motion carried. Additionally, the committee voted unanimously to approve Pastor Doug's terms of call for 2017. Session had already approved the terms when it passed the 2017 annual budget. Jon reported on the extensive process of hiring an interim pastor. While the process is primarily confidential, it was stated that we have received a letter of interest from one candidate. The interim committee is going forward with contact to that candidate. It was reported that Kathy Lundberg wishes to be replaced as a pianist at the 8:00 service due to medical issues with her thumbs.

Fellowship Jan. 10, 2017

Kim Kozel presented and referred to the written report. She reported on many activities in the month of December. Activities in January included movie nights and ice skating. There will be a chili cook off on Feb. 5, 2017. She reported the PIGGS groups will begin again sometime in February or March. Additionally, a progressive dinner is being considered for fall. A family game night is also a tentative activity being considered.

Properties Jan. 10, 2017

Bryan Luedtke reported. He reported on issues of ice buildup around the church and in the lot. This is expected to improve with warming conditions. He also reported on the need to repair or replace one of the sliding doors in the fellowship hall, and to replace the flooring in the fellowship hall. Various other repairs were discussed which are listed in the report.

Membership and Evangelism Dec. 13, 2017

Mary Ludemann reported and referred to the written report. A motion from committee was made to remove the name of Rosemary Brower from the church rolls, as she passed away recently. Pastor Doug gave an explanation of how and when members come off of the church rolls.

Mission and Outreach Jan. 10, 2017

There was no written report presented. However, Jerry Saunders gave an oral report to new members about the mission committee. He stated what the committee does, what is expected of members, and how the committee analyzes and commits to giving donations toward mission.

Worship Jan. 10, 2017

Peggy Blaha presented an oral report, as well as the written report. An usher list was passed out for sign up. Usher duties were explained to new session members. John Trohkimoinen and Thayer Shafer were recognized for their service in choir. Training is ongoing for our new AV equipment. There will be a "Super Bell Saturday" in February with Louise Semino and many bell ringers attending. The training will be held in Casper. The committee is exploring ways in which the chains hanging our video screens can be covered.

Christian Education Jan. 10, 2017

C. J. Clem reported. She reported LOGOS will begin Jan. 18th, and it is the 18th anniversary of LOGOS. There is still money in the Camp Story camping assistance account to help with scholarships for camp. Souper Bowl Sunday will be Jan. 29th.

Presbyterian Women January 2017

No report was given.

C.J. Clem, Minister to Youth and Children Report January 2017

C.J. referred to her written report and reported on many activities. A confirmation class will begin Feb. 12, and confirmation will be April 16th on Easter Sunday. Jan. 18th is the 18th anniversary of LOGOS. C.J. will be attending a conference in Denver Jan. 23-28. . Other activities are outlined on her written report.

Pastor Doug's Report January 2017

Pastor Doug presented a written report and referred to it. His report includes activities for the past month. In anticipation of his retirement, he and Robin have placed their home on the market for sale. Doug reported he will conduct funeral services for Rosemary Brower on Jan. 27th. Presbytery will meet in Saratoga on Feb. 10th – 11th. We will host the ministerial group on Feb. 24th. The following session member committee assignments were made:

Budget and Finance:

Teresa Williams
Tina Anderson
Beth Bailey

Christian Education:

Aaron Gray
Janis DeVore

Mission & Outreach:

Peggy Blaha
Jerry Saunders

Membership & Evangelism:

Mary Ludemann
Linda Luegge

Fellowship:

Dennis Schreffler
Kim Koziel
Chad Quarterman

Personnel:

Jon Botten
John Lundberg

Properties:

Sam Herring
Bryan Luedtke
Doug Moore

Worship:

Jeri Joy
Loren Ruttinger

Clerk of Session:

Carla White

Other Business

REFLECTION

Pastor Doug led a discussion about where we have seen the glory of God. Some suggested they had seen it in individuals nearing death and their acceptance of it. Others suggested the glory in our surroundings. Others mentioned personal growth they see in some of our congregation members.

CAMP STORY DISCUSSION

C. J. Clem reported that there was a Camp Story Commission in Gillette Jan. 12th. She attended as well as several others from Sheridan. She reported that Presbytery is sorting out details of the matching grant offered to Camp Story. It could be less than originally thought. She reported that the Camp is looking for camp counselors and perhaps someone to act as a nurse/counselor. At this point, we are aware of one returning counselor. Camp Story will celebrate its 100th anniversary this summer in August. There is a tentative fundraiser and decade dress dance planned. Jerry Saunders has resigned from the commission, and Sherry Laughton was appointed as his replacement. The next commission meeting will be April 28th at Camp Story.

WORSHIP

CLOSED WITH PRAYER

Peggy Blaha closed the meeting in prayer.

SESSION ADJOURNED at 9:10 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carla J. White, Clerk of Session