

First Presbyterian Church
Session Minutes
March 19, 2018

A Quorum was present: Meg Knight, Jenny Killian, Sue Pangie, Maureen O'Conner, Jeanise Richards, Peter Wilson, Eve Kenyon, Marty Davis. Pastor Scott DeBlock, Moderator.

The meeting, held in the church parlor, was opened at 6:34 pm with prayer and called to order. The minutes of February 19, 2018 Session meeting were approved and the agenda was revised.

The Standing Reports received via the Consent Agenda were approved and are as follows:

Clerk's Report

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated: March 4, 18

Special Services/Activities: Lenten Lunches and small groups

Communications: Letter from Clerk to Presbytery Leadership Development Committee regarding Tom Carter as Commissioned Ruling Elder. By email, completed by March 16, *motion was made and passed to authorize Sue Getsch or Meg Knight to offer the Lord's Supper for Sunday, March 18 worship service.*

Baptisms, funerals, deaths: Betty Austin (Dennis Little's mother)

Church Calendar Review:

Lenten Lunches – March 21 our church is in charge of lunch and Rev. DeBlock is speaking
Lenten small groups - continue

Team Reports

Personnel (Jenny Killian, chair)- no report

Christian Education Team (Tom Carter, chair, Sue Pangie, Liaison)- no report

Stewardship & Finance Team (Debbie Seifert, chair)- financial reports end 2/28

Buildings and Grounds Team (Sue Getsch, chair)- meeting Feb 19

Worship (Eve Kenyon, Liaison)- no report

Deacons (Ken Killian, chair)- minutes from Jan. 14, Feb 18, March 10

Pastor's Report - attached

Housekeeping Items

Next Presbytery meeting: April 21st at Cambridge United Presbyterian Church

Registration/Sign-in Begins: 8:30 a.m. Albany Presbytery Business Meeting: 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Presbytery-wide Training: Bridges Out of Poverty: 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Registration required.

Bring your own lunch or purchase soup and bread for \$8.00. Drinks provided.

Session meetings will be April 16 and May 21 at 6:30 pm

New Business

Melody Stasik facility usage request – Melody works with Campbell House and is requesting space to provide counseling services two days week 8:45-10:45 am for the 2018-19 school year. Session discussed where she could be in the building, and a suggested donation for building usage of \$20/week. *A motion was made and approved for the usage request with \$20/week suggested donation and certificate of liability to be provided.*

Baptism request for Lindsay Carter April 22, daughter of Tom and Heather Carter- *A motion was made to baptize infant Lindsay Carter on April 22, 2018, and approved.*

On behalf of Love in Action/Mission Team, Meg Knight requested there be a mission presentation during the worship service on the 2nd Sunday of each month. *A motion was made to support a mission presentation at the worship service on the 2nd Sunday of each month, and approved.*

Old Business

Deacons gathering for Albany Presbytery- This event is being planned in connection with Presbytery, and will likely be held in the fall 2018.

Session Team assignments- The teams were reviewed and revised. Some changes still need to be made to the document, which Scott will fix and send out. Scott is also working on a job description for the Clerk of Session position, to recruit a new Clerk from Session or the congregation.

Transition Report

Innovation Grant Application- Maureen and Scott are still working on the grant application. They will have it for us to review at our April meeting, to submit in May.

Mission Statement- Session discussed possible changes for our mission statement and brainstormed some options (see end of minutes). The PNC needs to put our mission statement in the MIF. They could use the current mission statement and explain that we are in the process of making a change and/or simplifying the one we have to make it more accessible.

TSL usage request- Scott has negotiated a fee of 20% of TSL's gross income for their summer usage of our facilities with a \$1,000 security deposit.

New Care and Communication Network Teams- The teams are in part to keep an eye on who is absent, watch for illness/hospitalization, keep lines of communication open and hold a social gathering at least once annually. Elders and deacons should get together to decide how they want to address their list. Scott will write a script for callers to use to touch base with those on the list that haven't been around church for awhile.

PNC update- The PNC has met twice already and will be commissioned this Sunday. Co-chairs are Donna Martin and Bev Davis, Secretary is Eve Kenyon, and Internet Communicator is Carrie Minner.

Worship Planning- If Scott is not available to provide the Lord's Supper at worship, Meg Knight or Sue Getsch should be asked to conduct communion. *A motion was made to authorize Meg and/or Sue to serve communion when Scott is not leading worship, and approved.*

Session discussed whether the church can financially support Justina as she continues her bookkeeping class. *A motion was made to assist Justina in her bookkeeping class with \$500, and approved.* Scott will work with the Treasurer to see how we can do that.

Session discussed the Deacons' large monetary balance and expressed concern that the funds be used not kept in the bank. Marty, the new liaison to Deacons, will take the concern of Session to the Deacons, and ask if there is a donation coming for BACA from Deacons.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:58 pm. Respectfully submitted: Jenny Killian, Clerk of Session

Elder on Call Schedule: March- Peter; April-Eve; May-Meg; June-Sue; July-Marty; August-Jeanise; September-Maureen

Notes from mission statement brainstorming:

Grow disciples that adore God, Belong to each other in Christ, and commit to serve by the spirit in the world

Trinitarian

Glorify God
Share the Good News of Jesus Christ
Serve by the Holy Spirit

Go and make disciples

Love God- worship
Love others- Relationship
Serve the world

Worshipping our Living God
Caring for God's Creation

Vision- to bring others to Christ through his love and action

Sharing the love of God and Jesus Christ with Community

Glorify God, Teach his ways and share his love

PASTOR REPORT FOR 031918

WORSHIP

- Led worship March 4,11
- Offered Communion on March 4

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- Leading Lenten Study on Sunday Mornings
- Preparing for BACA Wednesday Lenten Series on March 21

PASTORAL CARE

- Check in phone calls
- Email communications with members
- Hospital visits—Jean McClelland
- Conducted Funeral Service for Betty Austin

WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Albany Presbytery Personnel Committee meeting here on 031218
- Marriage Service preparation meeting for outside wedding
- Attended Student and Teacher Walkout at Ballston Spa High School on March 14

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Worked with Chuck Seifert on worship survey
- Continued “office hours” of Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday
- Review and response to emails
- Resourcing PNC with materials
- Received Bids from Fire Alarm Companies regarding installation of new system
- Met with TSL on usage agreement

TRANSITION WORK

- Working on Innovation Grant Application-met with Maureen O'Conner

ON THE HORIZON

- Need to share completed staff evaluations with staff
- Prepare for Holy Week Services
- Tom Carter preaching April 8

SELF CARE

- Trip to Texas Feb 21-March 1
- Vent Fitness at least three days per week