

## **First Presbyterian Church**

### **Session Minutes**

**February 18, 2019**

A Quorum was present: Scott DeBlock, Pastor; Marty Davis, Chris Hunter, Eve Kenyon, Meg Knight, Maureen O'Connor, Sue Pangie, Jeanise Richards, Deb Seifert, Peter Wilson, and Judy Toelle, Clerk.

Scott called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. and opened with prayer.

The minutes of the January 21, 2019 meeting and Agenda for February 18, 2019 were approved.

Standing Reports received via CONSENT AGENDA

#### **Clerk's Report**

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated: February 3, 17

Special Services/Activities: Ordination/Installation of Elders and Deacons, February 3

Communications:

Baptisms, funerals, deaths:

New Members Received: Michael Rezsnyak, February 3

Church Calendar Review: Presbytery Pulpit Exchange, February 17 (Michael Burkely from Rockwell Falls Presbyterian Church, Lake Luzerne will be preaching), March 16 Wedding (Sarah Pozefsky/Michael Sheridan)

#### **Team Reports**

Personnel (Jenny Killian, chair)-

Love In Action/Mission (Meg Knight, liaison)-Bev and Marty made several home deliveries in addition to deliveries made to the schools.

Christian Education Team (Tom Carter, chair, Sue Pangie, liaison) - met February 17. A garage sale to be held the same weekend in June as the town-wide sale was discussed. Possibilities are to sell kids' toys, rent space to other vendors such as for a flea market. Scott advised that we use a vendor agreement form for rentals.

Stewardship & Finance Team (Debbie Seifert, chair; Eve Kenyon, liaison)-finance report ending January 31

Buildings and Grounds Team (Peter Wilson, liaison)

Worship (Eve Kenyon, liaison)- Feb 27

Deacons (Ken Killian, chair; Marty Davis, liaison) - met February 10, 2019

Pastor's Report follows the minutes.

#### **Housekeeping Items**

Albany Presbytery has moved out of their offices and the staff are all working from home to save money. Meg noted that the Presbytery has approved a bottled water resolution whereby bottles of water will no longer be available at Presbytery meetings unless tap water is unsafe in order to help reduce plastic waste. She is going to compose a document for our Session to approve. It will then be shared with the congregation. Meg also reported that the church needs to be safeguarding our non-profit status. She will research the details but it seems as though allowing non-church related functions to use our space without making a donation could endanger our non-profit status.

#### **Next Presbytery Meeting: Saturday, March 20, 2019**

Session meetings will be February 18 and March 18 at 6:30 pm. We will need a moderator for each meeting in April and May after Scott leaves. We will also need a moderator for the Congregational meeting at which we approve our new pastor.

#### **New Business**

Pulpit Supply for April and May: The Reverends Stuart and MJ Pattison will be here for April through May and

possibly the first Sunday of June, if necessary, at \$150 per Sunday plus mileage; Scott will confirm with them.  
Completion of Interim Pastor contract will occur March 31, 2019

#### Old Business

Committee assignments and interests – Scott discussed his presentation of the assignments. Chuck Seifert will be going on Personnel; Elders /Deacons classes are listed; Teams/ministry 2019, Chris Hunter will be the Session liaison for Personnel, Nominating Team still needs an elder and deacon. Maureen volunteered to be the Elder and also the chair. Scott will provide a printed hand out for the congregation. It will also be on the website and on the bulletin board.

TSL –Scott has talked to Tom Stiles about the future plans of TSL. They are not going to continue using our church next year because they have taken over the Cohoes community center. Another possibility is that Captain wants to use classroom space for youth development. Scott suggested forming a task force to reach out to outside groups for use of space available within our church building.

January 27 Annual Meeting: Judy will write and distribute the minutes before the end of February.

Sanctuary Carpet Recommendation: An estimate from Mohawk Valley was \$1200 higher than \$6,399 from Ballston Spa Carpet; this cost includes the removal of one pew on either side; carpeting the side aisles, front and back of sanctuary but NOT the platform. A recommendation was made and seconded to take out 4 pews instead of only two. This was approved with a suggestion that there be a review during the progress to determine whether we actually need the extra space provided by removal of all four pews.

Congregation Check-In: Lisa Kieper has breast cancer, Stella Oliphant will be doing stem cell treatments, Harry Scott has a procedure tomorrow. Peter saw Tom McCartney yesterday at Maplewood, Esther Castano is home.

PNC update – timeframe –the committee is going to hear a candidate on March 24 at a neutral pulpit. The earliest the person could come here to speak would be the end of April, maybe the 28<sup>th</sup> which would be candidate weekend when he would meet the officers of the church. The earliest that he could begin his work as our permanent pastor would be June 1.

Prayer and Adjournment at 8:06 p.m.

Elder on Call Schedule: February-Sue Pangie; March-Peter Wilson; April-Eve Kenyon; May-Meg Knight.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Toelle, Clerk of Session