

First Presbyterian Church
Session Minutes
October 16, 2017

A Quorum was present: Debbie Seifert, Meg Knight, Jenny Killian, Peter Wilson, Sue Pangie, Sue Getsch, Eve Kenyon. Pastor Scott DeBlock, Moderator.

The meeting, held in the church parlor, was opened at 6:41 pm with prayer and called to order. *The minutes of Sept 18, 2017 Session meeting were approved.*

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: October 1 and 15
- ❖ Special Services/Activities: none to report
- ❖ Communications: Email from Deb Seifert re: Session term
- ❖ Baptisms, funerals, deaths: none

Church Calendar Review:

New Member Classes- October 2017

Community Resource Fair, November 11, 10-2 pm

Consecration Sunday, November 12, with luncheon (Cathy Hall coordinating the lunch)

Care and Communication Network Meetings continue in late October/early November

Village Christmas Cantata at First Baptist Church, Dec. 10, 5:00 hors d'oeuvres, 6:00 cantata

Team Reports

Personnel (Jenny Killian, chair)- no report

Love In Action/Mission (Meg Knight, Liaison)- minutes from 9/24/17

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

Stewardship and Finance Team (Debbie Seifert, chair)- financial reports ending 9/31/17

Buildings and Grounds Team (Sue Getsch, chair)- no report

Worship (Eve Kenyon, Liaison)- no report

Deacons (Ken Killian, chair; Sue Getsch, Liaison)- no report

Pastor's Report - Nominating Committee update

Eve reported that the team has a meeting October 22 after church.

Housekeeping Items

Special Presbytery meeting on staffing November 1 at First Presbyterian in Troy, 6:30 pm

Next regular Presbytery meeting November 15 at New England Congregational Presbyterian Church in Saratoga Springs, 4:00 pm

The Worship Team is without a chair; Scott is managing the team for now. Sue Getsch expressed interest in chairing Worship Team once she is done with Session.

Session determined the following dates:

January 28 will be the annual congregational meeting.

Ordination and installation of officers will be held Feb 4.

A leadership meeting will be held Feb. 10 from 9-12 noon to gather/organize/vision

New Business

Interim Pastor 6-month evaluation

Session reviewed the summary of the evaluations they completed, and shared the scores with Scott. Session rated Scott very positively. There are some expectations that Session members didn't know much about; Session needs to be better informed in the future. Session asked for more communication from Scott through the Pastor's Report (for awareness, better dialogue, so we can support him), possible discussion of spiritual needs of the congregation at Session meeting, and his schedule (travel, when away). Each Session member spoke of the positives and needs they witnessed. It is appreciated how team meetings are run by the teams, not by the Pastor.

Consecration Sunday- Nov 12

On October 23 the first letter from Scott to members/friends goes out, followed by a second on November 3. A follow up letter will go to those that aren't in church/don't hand in a pledge card. Pledge cards are ready, and a shared giving ladder and tithing guide will be available. This year we are looking for equal sacrifice, not equal giving.

2018 Church Budget

The budget is in progress. Scott will talk to Sue G. about the Buildings and Grounds budget. Meg asked Session to consider that the church's giving/tithing to mission has stayed at 10%.

Deacons' meeting – The deacons are concerned about having enough Christmas Eve manpower.

Old Business

Care and Communication Network Meetings

Two meetings were held yesterday. Good conversations are coming from the gatherings. We hope everyone will participate.

Transition Team

The asset mapping activity is on the stage and will be out for several more weeks.

Presbytery Meeting review

Peter attended the speaker at the last meeting. During the meeting, there was discussion of salary increases for pastors and new pastors.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Jenny Killian, Clerk of Session

The next Session meetings will be November 20 and Dec.18, at 6:30 pm.

Elder on Call Schedule: April – Peter; May- Meg; June – Sue Pangie; July- Eve; August – Jenny; September- Sue Getsch; October- Peter; November – Deb; December – Meg; January 2018 – Sue Pangie; February 2018 - Jenny