

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2016**

1. The session of First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, November 7, 2016, at 7 pm in the lounge of the church located at 508 Franklin Street in Grand Haven, Michigan. The clerk, Bill Bussell, determined a quorum was present. Rev. Linda Male called the meeting to order.
2. **Attendance:**
  - 2.1. Elders Present: Lee Brink, Bill Bussell, Marge Coffey, Sandie Enders, Megan Hayes, John Heritage, Jack Jansma, Brigitte Kemink, Keith Konarska, Andrew LeFurge, John Nametz, Keli Olson, Abe Overway, Carrie Rivette, Craig Seaver, Tim Stoepker, Alishia Terrill, and Sue VandenBosch.
  - 2.2. Elders Absent or Excused: Bill Blessing, Nancy Levenburg, and Katie Neitring.
  - 2.3. Teaching Elders Present: Rev. Linda Male and Rev. Jill VanderWal.
  - 2.4. Teaching Elders Absent or Excused: None.
3. **Call to Worship:** Rev. VanderWal shared observations from her attendance of the Bast Preaching Festival at Western Theological Seminary and read from Lamentations 3. Rev. VanderWal then opened the meeting with prayer.
4. **Clerk's Report:** Bill Bussell reporting:
  - 4.1. Upon motion and support, session approved the November 7, 2016 meeting docket after noting page 4 was erroneously included with this meeting's packet.

First Presbyterian Church Membership Report				
October 2016				
<b>Membership as of September 30, 2016</b>				801
	Deaths:			3
	New Members Received:			0
	Restored to Active Roll:			1
	Removed from Active Roll:			0
	Moved from Active to Inactive Roll:			0
	Transferred by Letter			0
<b>Membership as of October 31, 2016</b>				<b>799</b>
<b>Additional Registers</b>			<b>Member #</b>	<b>Notes</b>
	<b>Marriages:</b>		1	
10/22/2016	Stacey Scanlan & Robert Erskin			Rev. Karin Fowler
	<b>Baptisms:</b>		1	
10/9/2016	Hadley Stella Baker, daughter of Clark Baker & Lauren Pofahl			
	<b>Deaths:</b>		3	
10/17/2016	Lillian Schroeder		1121	Rev. Linda Male, 10/21/16
10/7/2016	Larry Butterworth		3846	Rev. Karin Fowler, 10/29/2016
10/26/2016	Joanne Nordin		3677	
	<b>Membership Gains:</b>		1	
10/3/2016	Lauren Pofahl			
<b>Communion Served:</b> 8:45 & 11 a.m. Services		10/2/2016		
<b>Home Communion:</b>		10/2/2016		
Harvey Beute	Ruth Edward	Sue McClellan	Norma Vyn	
Sandy Beute	Millie Enders	Muriel Mersereau	Connie VanGeldereren	
Larry Butterworth	Laurel Hendrick	Sue Roper	Gerry VanStratt	
Charlie Davis	Ruth Mastenbrook	Ethel Slover	Carol Winton	
Don Edward	Fern Mastenbrook	Flo Sluiter	Evelyn Wood	

<i>Approved by November 7, 2016 Session</i>			
Action Items:			
Kim Arians	Move to Participant roll	adult child of members moved to participant list in Sept.	
Ken Kenrick	Move to Participant roll	adult child of members moved to participant list in Sept.	
Bill Kenrick	Move to Participant roll	adult child of members moved to participant list in Sept.	
Richard Rutherford	Transfer Request	transfer membership to Spring Lake Presbyterian Church	
Carol Rutherford	Transfer Request	transfer membership to Spring Lake Presbyterian Church	

- 4.2. Upon motion and support, session approved its October 3, 2016 session meeting minutes as presented.
- 4.3. Upon motion and support, session approved the moving Kim Arians, Ken Kenrick, and Bill Kenrick to the Participant roll.
- 4.4. Upon motion and support, session approved the transfer of Carol Rutherford and Richard Rutherford to Spring Lake Presbyterian Church.
- 4.5. Upon motion and support, session approved the October 2016 membership report.
- 4.6. The clerk reported that the State of Michigan non-profit report has been filed.
- 4.7. The clerk share the following correspondence:
  - 4.7.1. Presbytery of Lake Michigan is seeking nominees to serve in various capacities.
  - 4.7.2. Camp Greenwood update.
  - 4.7.3. Donation request from Tri-Cities Ministries for their capital campaign (Mission Committee to consider).
  - 4.7.4. Upcoming Presbytery meeting on December 6 at Westminster, Grand Rapids.
5. **Faith Biography/Committee of Focus:** Sandie Enders described how the Hospitality Committee and its numerous volunteers support the congregation.
6. **Shared Joys and Concerns –** The elders shared joys and concerns.
7. **Treasurer’s Report:** Andrew LeFurge reporting:
  - 7.1. Andrew’s comments centered on year-to-date results.
    - 7.1.1. Revenues continue to lag behind budget and year-to-date expenses exceed revenue by approximately \$60,000.
    - 7.1.2. The church received annual distributions from Alpha and Omega Funds held at GHACF.

Financial Recap as of September 2016:

	<b><u>Sept. Actual</u></b>	<b><u>Sept. Budget</u></b>	<b><u>YTD Actual</u></b>	<b><u>YTD Budget</u></b>
General Fund Revenues	\$61,307	\$71,406	\$614,168	\$682,446
General Fund Expenses	\$83,330	\$71,760	\$674,503	\$691,098
Joyful Noise Revenues	\$61,880	\$71,900	\$492,492	\$511,282
Joyful Noise Expenses	\$54,340	\$53,668	\$510,891	\$509,742

- 7.2. Upon motion with support, session accepted the Treasurer’s Report.
8. **Omnibus Motion:** Upon motion and support, the following written committee reports were accepted by omnibus motion:
  - 8.1. Adult Education minutes of October 11, 2016.
  - 8.2. Board of Deacons minutes of October 24, 2016
  - 8.3. Hospitality minutes of October 18, 2016.
  - 8.4. Mission minutes of October 17, 2016 (distributed at the meeting).
  - 8.5. Worship minutes of October 18, 2016.
  - 8.6. Youth minutes of October 11, 2016.

**9. Committee Reports Withheld from the Omnibus Motion:**

- 9.1. Generosity Committee: Sue VandenBosch reporting:
  - 9.1.1. The church has received 151 commitments to give totaling \$457,357 for 2017.
- 9.2. Joyful Noise: Andrew LeFurge reporting:
  - 9.2.1. Joyful Noise will be replacing some carpeting.
  - 9.2.2. Air conditioning for the church's basement will be evaluated in 2017.
  - 9.2.3. Joyful Noise's annual licensing will occur in February.
  - 9.2.4. There will be tuition increases in January 2017.
  - 9.2.5. Changes in the minimum wage will impact Joyful Noise adversely.
- 9.3. Nominations Committee: Brigette Kemink reporting:
  - 9.3.1. Following are nominees for elders: Carroll Bennink, Sandie Enders, Jack Jansma, Paul McNergney, Rick Skodack, Michelle Smith, and Tina VanderWall.
  - 9.3.2. Following are nominees for deacons: Randy Abraham, Ginger Aubrey, Kittie Blessing, Robin Boyer, Hal Fitzgerald, Jeff Hurley, Ron Mass, Katie Potter, and Warren Trimble.
- 9.4. Pastor Nominating Committee: Rev. Male reporting:
  - 9.4.1. Members of the PNC are listening to pastors preach and are evaluating candidates whose resumes and interests match with FPGH's Head of Staff opportunity.
- 9.5. Personnel Committee: Craig Seaver reporting:
  - 9.5.1. Upon motion, Meghan Heritage was approved to serve on the Personnel Committee as a non-elder member.
- 9.6. Trustees Committee: Lee Brink reporting:
  - 9.6.1. The boiler is operating with minimal and acceptable seepage at the TCM house.
  - 9.6.2. The Trustees evaluated various 2017 budget scenarios.
  - 9.6.3. The town hall meeting to seek congregation input into the future of the TCM house will be on November 13, 2016. All elders and committee members are encouraged to attend.
  - 9.6.4. The fall grounds clean-up is scheduled for November 19.
  - 9.6.5. The snow plow contract for this coming winter was changed from an annual contract to a "per push" contract.
  - 9.6.6. Upon motion, session was asked to approve the revised Standard Practices Bulletins which Lee Brink distributed electronically on October 24. An amendment motion was made to strike the words "and Trustees" from various paragraphs in Section 3.2. After considerable discussion, the amendment was withdrawn, and the motion was tabled. Invested parties are encouraged to communicate their desired changes with the Trustees.
- 9.7. Upon motion and support, session accepted the reports of the Joyful Noise Board, and the Generosity, Nominations, PNC, Personnel, and Trustees Committees.

10. **Unfinished Business:** There was no unfinished business.

11. **New Business** – There was no new business.

12. **Moderator's Comments** – Rev. Male shared that she is thankful for this engaging committee.

13. **Associate Pastor's Comments** – Rev. VanderWal reported on the positives that came out of the church retreat.

**14. Action Items Recap:**

- 14.1. Approved the November 7, 2016 meeting docket with one notation.
- 14.2. Approved the October 3, 2016 session meeting minutes as presented.
- 14.3. Approved moving Kim Arians, Ken Kenrick, and Bill Kenrick to Participant status.
- 14.4. Approved the transfer of Carol Rutherford and Richard Rutherford to Spring Lake Presbyterian Church.

- 14.5. Approved the October 2016 membership report.
  - 14.6. Accepted the Treasurer's report.
  - 14.7. Under an omnibus motion, accepted the following committees' written reports: Adult Education, Hospitality, Mission, Worship and Youth committees and the Board of Deacons.
  - 14.8. Approved adding Meghan Heritage as a non-elder Personnel committee member.
  - 14.9. Accepted the reports of the Joyful Noise Board, and the Generosity, Nominations, PNC, Personnel, Trustees Committees.
  - 14.10. Adjourned the meeting.
15. **Adjournment:** On motion and support, the session adjourned at 9:25 pm with the Lord's Prayer. The next scheduled meeting is December 5, 2016 at 7 pm in the church lounge.

William Bussell  
Clerk of Session