

The Regular Meeting of the Session
First Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, IL
Tuesday, March 8, 2016

The Session meeting was called to order by Moderator Adam Quine at 6 p.m. with Elders Diane Osborn, Pat Baker, Marsha Dallas, Roger Boss, Keith Leesman, Cass Busby-Elliott, Rob Harmon, and Cathy Maciariello present. Excused was Elder Debbie Schweitzer.

Following evening prayer, a quorum was declared present and the agenda and minutes of the February meeting were approved.

The Clerk reported February attendance of 7) 98; 10) 30; 14 (70); 17) 12; 21) 74; 24) 15; and 28) 103, Lincoln College Chorale;

Deaths: none; new members, none; Communion dates of 7; 14; 17; 21; 24; 28; home communion for Dorothy and Emory Gaffney and Dorothy Harrison;

Communications included an email from Pastor Quine, "Attractional Church No Longer Works,";

The Clerk of Session reports were sent to the Presbytery Feb. 17;

Receipt of Certificate of Transfer of Carole and Darrell Holladay from Third Presbyterian Church, Springfield, IL;

The Clerk signed the Mission Trip contract 2/18;

Email from Pastor Quine entitled, "Nine Things That Worked in The Church a Decade Ago that Don't Work Today.";

Email from Presbyterian Church USA concerning the Presbyterian Mission Agency certification Earth Care Congregation program; flyers from the Presbyterian Foundation on mission-driven investments and environmental stewardship; and informing the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation plans to revise and introduce the, "50 Ways to Save the Earth," publication in June. The Collaborative Agenda of the Six Agencies will be presented at the Summer General Assembly. These were referred to the Buildings and Grounds committee;

Email from Keith Leesman, Stewardship and Finance committee, directing the church secretary not to issue Mission committee project checks until authorized by the committee chairman;

The secretary was also informed that Spiritual Life and Worship committee reimbursement forms will be authorized by the committee chairman prior to payment. The forms will include the billing account numbers to be utilized;

A request for reinstatement of membership was received from Mary McLaughlin;

An email was received from Keith Leesman requesting the secretary and treasurer setup budget income and expense lines for the Boy Scout pass through monies.

The clerk attended the installation service for the Rev. Ben Manley at First Baptist Church and welcomed him on behalf of our congregation.

It was noted the church secretary is in the process of updating the minute book through the end of 2015, but is unable to proceed until the 2015 audit is completed to be included with the annual reports. The bulletins for 2015 are being sent for printing.

Pastor Quine updated Elders on the coming Youth Mission trip and referred to a Lincoln Christian Church massive Easter promotional entitled, "All Our Eggs in One Basket." He also reported on the Presbytery meeting where he said the Mission of the Church through the years was reviewed, noting we have to rethink our practices.

Rev. Quine asked Session members to ponder, "Who is in charge of the church?" and "Where is God moving among us? Pastor Quine said he is continuing to work on the Session committee structure and noted 20 spots remain open for the **Mission Trip**. Other churches have been invited to participate.

Next year the Mission Trip will be a joint venture with Springfield Westminster Church. The janitor has requested all church functions be listed on his calendar. Ruling Elders were each given a copy of, "Why Leaders Are a Pain."

The **Spiritual Life** and **Worship** committees, Cathy Maciariello chairman, reported two **Ash Wednesday** services were conducted including the imposition of ashes. **Ashes to Go** was cancelled due to the illness of the pastor.

The **Lincoln College Choir** sang for morning worship Feb. 28. A prayer service was conducted in the Chapel at 7:30 a.m. Monday-Friday during **Holy Week**. A foot-washing service is planned for Kirk Night. Two performances of, "In The Upper Room," are to be presented Maundy Thursday. There will be Good Friday Prayer Stations, a Tenebrae service; and an Easter sunrise and 10 a.m. service.

Sunday School teachers for March were Gary Davis, youth, and Cass Busby-Elliott, children. An **Easter Egg Hunt** is planned following worship Palm Sunday. There will be a congregational coffee prior to the 10 a.m. Easter Sunday service. The Worship Committee is scheduled to meet at 11:30 a.m. March 6.

A booklet linking **Lenten** activities and a guide to Lenten reflections and practices has been distributed to the congregation.

Cass Busby-Elliott hosted the March **Coffee. Flowers** for Sunday worship services will consist of dried or fresh arrangements prepared by the committee if there is no flower donor. The secretary is to confirm flower donors and send invoices if the church has not been reimbursed. f

The **Buildings and Grounds** committee, Pat Baker chairman, presented proposals for the purchase of black stackable chairs for the Chapel at a cost of \$1,000 and for a wooden ramp at an estimated cost of \$7,822. Action on both proposals was tabled.

Repair work to the Pekin Street entrance is estimated to cost \$1,400. Elder Cass Busby-Elliott is to check with Brian Camp, a structural engineer, about this. The chairman was also asked to contact a contractor about repairing a CE building window which is not opening properly.

The **Treasurer**, Melody Anderson, reported a general fund balance of \$96,819, Memorial fund balance of \$39,559, and a capital improvement balance of \$3,192. A separate income line has been added to the budget for Youth Mission. An expense line was also added for the website. The new account number is 809 under operating expenses.

Corrections were made to gifts, offering and pledges to accurately reflect that income. For the year to date all income is ahead of the projected budget. Farm rent income was received and deposited March 1.

The **Stewardship and Finance** committee, Keith Leesman chairman, noted envelopes for **giving** have been placed in the pews. An internal **audit** meeting is scheduled in April. Bill Oppen is putting together a monthly list of expenditures for each committee chairman to use as a tool for review.

Beginning in March the **Mission** committee chairman will authorize payments for all mission projects. The Administrative Assistant has been encouraged to consult with the appropriate committee chairman if she is unsure of which account is appropriate.

It was noted a line was added to the budget to provide information on copy machine expenses.

Elders were presented a copy of a proposed Farm Committee Policy including committee responsibilities, organization, and duties. The farm committee is to consist of from 3 to 5 members knowledgeable in agricultural practices and finance and be active participants in the Church Family. They are to be nominated by the Stewardship and Finance Committee and ratified by the Session. The farm committee will report to the Stewardship and Finance committee.

The committee has determined it will not put a limit on how much money a committee can spend prior to requiring authorization by the Session.

The following motions were approved:

--To reinstate Mary McLaughlin;

--To approve the transfer of Carole and Darrell Holladay;

--To hire Todd Spellman for design, launch, and maintenance of our website at a fee of \$50 an hour up to five hours. Training is also to be provided. Online giving is being established. Pastor Quine is to contact him.

--To repair the Narthex ceiling;

--To approve the new Farm Committee Policy; and

--To receive all reports.

The closing prayer was given by Marsha Dallas with Rob Harmon to give the prayer next month. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Cherry Osborn, Clerk of Session

The Rev. Adam R. Quine, Pastor