

The Regular Meeting of the Session
First Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, IL
Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Rev. Adam Quine called the Session meeting to order at 6 p.m. with Debbie Schweitzer, Marsha Dallas, Pat Baker, Diane Osborn, Keith Leesman, Rob Harmon, Roger Boss, and Cathy Maciariello present. Excused was Cass Busby Elliott. A quorum was declared.

The evening prayer was given and the agenda and minutes of the May Session meeting were approved. There was no meeting in June.

The clerk reported May attendance of 1)93; 8) 98; 15) 89; 22 & 29, not recorded in Deacon book; and June attendance of 5) 50; 12) 61; 19) 62; 26) 70.

There were no deaths or new members in May or June.

Communion dates included May 1, 8 & 15 and home communion May 15 for Diane Dill. Communion was served June 5.

Communications included:

Email vote approving proposal for our high school graduates to serve Communion during Worship service May 8.

Email from Pastor Quine giving emergency contact information while he is attending the Credo Conference.

Email Presbytery report requested from Gary Davis: The Assembly voted to install Dr. Alan Finnan as the next General Presbyter. His Ph. D. is from Southern Seminary in Louisville, KY and his research is in the area of the Old Testament.

An experienced pastor, he is also a retired superintendent (warden) of a state correctional facility in Indiana, and has considerable training in conflict management and experience as a member of the Wabash Valley Presbytery Committee on Ministry. He will be formally installed Saturday, Aug. 20, when the Assembly meets in Springfield.

The plight of small churches and the high volume of situations being addressed by the Committee on Ministry were discussed. The Summer Kick-off Block Party in Lincoln was announced and could be partially supported by Presbytery mission dollars. Julie Kasa played for the worship service.

The Assembly voted to send the Rev. Adam Quine for transitional ministry training.

Email from Gary Davis commending Pastor Quine and Julie Kasa for their support of the Presbytery. Gary said the denomination is much stronger due to their efforts.

Email from Keith Leesman clarifying check register copy machine expenses.

Invitation to the Ministry Partnership Banquet (formerly appreciation dinner) at the Lincoln Christian Church June 16 including a tour of the new Grace Point short-term rehabilitation facility. This was referred to the Mission Committee.

Email from Rev. Quine entitled, "Something to Ponder."

Letter from Church Mutual informing the Barbecue has been added to our policy.

Email from Pastor Quine inviting Elders to offer Prayers and Blessings for Mission Trip participants and to participate in the 6 a.m. June 12 send-off.

Letter from a Morton Adoption Agency promoting a meeting for those interested in adopting. This was posted on the Parlor bulletin board.

Monmouth College Presbyterian scholarship information was also posted on the bulletin board.

A donation request from the Presbyterian Historical Society was referred to the Stewardship & Finance committee.

Email received by Gary Davis from Kimberly Gilmore requesting permission for Head Start to set up a stand and/or hand out flyers at our BBQ.

The Clerk reported signing a payroll prenote for Roger Boss and initiated the June 8 payroll.

Emails concerning Janis Klockenga's request for Days Off June 24 for tests due to the recurrence of her husband's Cancer and June 28 until 11:30 a.m. due to his Pet Scan. Debbie Schweitzer will be office volunteer June 24 with Keith Leesman June 28.

Email from Janis for failing to order Father's Day flowers for Jaye Diersing. Phone calls of complaint had been voiced by Jaye and Pat Diersing.

Letter from Ken Kuszpit, land agent for Invenergy, informing the annual payment for each wind turbine has been increased from \$3,500 per megawatt to \$5,500. This increases the estimated annual payment to \$1,100 per turbine per year. He said a wind turbine takes about 1.5 acres of land out of production.

Invenergy, which has an interest in our church farmland, will be opening a downtown Lincoln office in late July. We received an invitation to its open house buffet meeting July 20 from 4 to 8 p.m. which is during the BBQ. To discuss the leasing of our land, an Invenergy spokesman may be contacted at 616-813-5861 and is available to meet with us. Lyndall Dallas, farm committee chairman, has been in contact with Invenergy.

Email from Rev. Quine informing of a motorcycle accident hospitalizing Jody Bottles' parents, Jill and Rodney Alberts, at St. John's.

Email from Cathy Maciariello informing Diane Dill has sustained broken ribs as a result of her bone Cancer.

Email from Janis stating the Session Minute Book is up to date pending receipt of a copy of the approved audit report and signatures. She informed the cost of a new minute book plus 2016-17 planning calendars for staff and Session members amounted to \$322.

Email from Life Touch that a complimentary military page will be offered with our next church directory order. A 20 percent discount is available toward purchase of photos by those having served in the military.

Email asking the church to be a donor contributor to the Art Fair. This was referred to the Mission Committee.

Email from Keith Leesman informing the reimbursement for personal vehicle mileage has been reduced from 56 cents to 54 cents a mile.

Email invitation to a Community Action informational luncheon meeting July 7. Adam planned to attend this.

Letter from Ken Thompson, Orkin Inspector, informing his June inspection of our church and specifically, the attic, revealed a large amount of health hazardous guano and two live bats in the woodwork.

He requests we set up an informational meeting to discuss what can be done to solve the problem, keep it from recurring, and how we can help insurance pay for the bat damage.

Email from the pastor informing Elders he expects them to upload reports to Drop Box for future meetings. He also asked members to contact the Stewardship and Finance committee prior to meetings about any check register concerns.

Insurance information from Guide One was given to the Stewardship & Finance committee.

The Clerk reported an update to the church directory is being prepared but a number of names had been omitted. Following review by Session members the administrative assistant was requested to include these names in the updated listing. The update is to be given to the congregation during the annual meeting. The Clerk's report was approved.

Pastor Quine asked Session members to consider, "What we are excited about as a church?" He also reported on Community Action plans to keep records on various agencies' contributions to those in need, to avoid duplications. He also queried, "Who are we investing in as a community?"

Rev. Quine has contacted Ed Tibbits of **Hope Grows** Neighborhood Center who would like to see another house built in another part of town for those needing assistance.

From Oct. 31 to Nov. 4 Pastor Quine will be in St. Louis training in **transitional ministry**, level one equipping interim pastors. He will then be able to assist other churches as well as develop additional leadership skills.

In addition he has applied at Eden Theological Seminary for a **Doctoral Degree** as well as at McCormick Theological Seminary.

He reported the **Mission Trip** was very worthwhile and that home Communion was served in the Bad Lands. The youth plan to write thank you notes and will be participating in the Aug. 7 Worship service. A luncheon will follow.

During the **Credo Conference** Pastor Quine said he explored his evaluations, had health and financial coaches, and explored how we can help each other.

He has written a **Letter to the Editor** as a member of the clergy, concerning this past week's sermon on worldwide unrest and violence. He also announced Dropbox training will be Tuesday, Aug. 2, at 3 p.m. His annual evaluation is scheduled for October.

The **Mission Committee**, Marsha Dallas, chairman, reported Ken Schweitzer, Cince Bowns, Bob Chamberlain, Gary Davis, and Connie Boss assisted with the **Habitat for Humanity** House. Deacons from our church provided food.

She said there were more than 20 donors at the **Blood Bank** we sponsored and that the committee has been in conversation with **Hope Grows** to investigate future opportunities for service in the low-income area of Lincoln near the Logan County Fairgrounds.

A subcommittee has met with Chris Allen to discuss **Food for Thought** and the impact the merging of Jefferson students into Northwest will have on the program.

The committee has received a \$500 Food for Thought **grant** from Walmart. Expenditures for the 2015-16 school year totaled about \$9,300 with 3,940 bags of supplemental food for children. Karen Davis has submitted a grant application to Eaton. The program has provided food bags for 112 students each week. Several committee members attended the Oasis luncheon, including Ruth Kapik, liaison.

The **Spiritual Life & Worship Committees**, Cathy Maciariello chairman, reported receipt of a \$1,000 Presbytery **grant** to help with the **Block Party**.

The Worship committee plans to meet the first Sunday in August and the Spiritual Life Committee plans to meet on the third Sunday.

Worship in the Park June 5 was very well attended.

The Rev. Bruce Allison Memorial **Scholarship** was awarded to Clay Olson and the Carrie Belle & Corrine Houston Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Ellie Martin. Each received \$1,000.

Artwork gifted by Crissy and Greg Hoffert was **dedicated** during a June worship service with the committee hosting a reception.

Session members offered a brief blessing service for youth and chaperones departing June 12 on the **Mission Trip**.

An **informal dinner** at ElMazatlan with visiting Broadway artist Robert Lupone is planned for 6:30 p.m. July 13.

The Choir is singing on the first Sundays of July and August and will return in the Fall.

Table Talk is being held Wednesday's at noon in the CE Building during July and features a discussion of the Parables.

The **Buildings & Grounds** committee, Pat Baker chairman, reported **the bakers** using the kitchen are aware of the Gaffney funeral and the Barbecue. She said they plan to continue to use the kitchen into September due to major construction work continuing at their future location site.

Jeff Curry has installed **spotlights** on the cross constructed by Greg Hoffert in the parlor.

Concerning the report of **guano** being found in the church attic, it was noted it is not harmful to health unless it is disturbed. She is contacting another expert for a second opinion.

The committee has received a bid of \$2,000 to replace the **porch and steps** to the office. Rick Whiteman has proposed constructing an entrance ramp which would run parallel to the alley, next to the sidewalk, and up to the office for \$42,000.

Pat has recommended that due to little anticipated usage and the lack of potential increase in contributions that this project be tabled until the number of people requiring accessibility increases. At this time she is recommending we provide personal wheelchair assistance at the existing ramp for every program and service.

The nursery and youth area upstairs have been cleaned out. The Christian Education building closet used for Worship and Spiritual Life supplies has been organized. The kitchen is being organized and the garage cleanup is planned following the Barbecue. A Scout Leader has asked to **paint** the walls in the room they most frequently use.

Mark Landers has been **contracted** to clean the flower bed around the Sanctuary and to apply mulch to non-gravel areas. The Eagle Scout project is awaiting approval by the Scout Council.

The committee is looking into a building usage request by Becca Deilkes.

The **Stewardship & Finance** committee, Keith Leesman chairman, provided Session members with a copy of the **2014 audit**. No problems were found with the records. The audit/review was conducted by Sandy Blane, Rob Harmon, Bill Opper and Keith Leesman.

It was noted Ashley Welch is continuing to work on **web development** and would like photos for use on the website. It was suggested Ann Klose be contacted about this.

Wibben Computer Service has set up a file to **back up** the office computer. The procedure for backing up has begun on a regular basis.

Stewardship of the Hands was conducted Pentecost Sunday with commitments received from 34 members. Committee and project chairmen have been given spread sheets to assist in determining service in various areas.

The committee did not meet in June. The next meeting is July 27.

Treasurer Melody Anderson reported a June General fund balance of \$99,528; a Memorial fund balance of \$43,565; and a Capital Improvement balance of \$3,192.

She said pledges are running ahead of year to date projections. However, expenses are slightly exceeding income likely due to the mission funds being paid out earlier than usual.

In July the General fund balance was \$92,043; Memorial fund, \$43,566; and Capital Improvement fund, \$3,192.

Farm rent was received July 1 for the farm account, \$24,465, and the farm trust account, \$5,635. Disbursement checks to the General fund and the Union Cemetery will be written later in the month.

Year to date expenses continue to exceed income, but are lower than budgeted.

All but one staff member is now on **direct payroll deposit**.

Session members reviewed the check registers for June and July.

Debbie Schweitzer indicated there might be changes in the Barbecue format next year due to difficulties encountered this year.

Session members decided the **joint meeting** of the Deacons and Elders will be Aug. 8 at 6 p.m.

The following **motions** were approved:

To approve the 2014 **audit**;

To approve the **baptism** of Jeris Rae Leesman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Leesman, Aug. 28;

To begin the process of **hiring** a temporary secretary to fill in for Janis on her days off. Adam was authorized to begin an exploratory conversation with Ashley Welchel about this position and is to notify Janis about this.

And to receive the committee reports.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. with prayer given by Pat Baker.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Cherry Osborn, Clerk of Session

The Rev. Adam R. Quine, Pastor

