

Session Summary
April 23, 2019 Session Meeting

Following are **highlights** of the April 23, 2019 Session Meeting. *For further clarifications and/or questions, please feel free to contact one of the elders listed at the end of this summary.*

After a delicious dinner provided by our cooking crew, Pastor Ray opened our meeting in prayer.

Devotion and Prayer as a Session

Pastor Ray began the devotion time by presenting readings from Matthew, Luke, John, and Acts. These passages spoke of the time after the resurrection. A short discussion followed focusing on the following points: the mission of Jesus is outward facing; the mission of Jesus is risky; the mission of Jesus requires power greater than we possess; the mission of Jesus requires obedience; the mission of Jesus is focused on reaching people for the kingdom of God. The time ended in prayer for the church, its mission, and our Session.

Design Team Timeline and Action Plan

Strategic Plan Design Team member Jon Phillips acknowledged that it has been six months since the inception of the Ministry Architects Design Team. A number of proposals and items will come to Session and require prompt decisions to be made. Among them are the upcoming Stewardship Summit, the Hospitality Proposal, the report on the Church Ministries Survey, and the Unicameral Governance Model Proposal. Upon approval of these items, transition plans will need to be made. The church bylaws will also need updating.

Ministry Council Restructuring Proposal

Jon Phillips then distributed a draft proposal for restructuring the ministry councils. Several existing councils would be wrapped into new councils with more interconnection between ministries. A time of extended feedback and questions followed.

Strategic Plan Leadership Task Force – Board of Deacons Proposal (Second Reading)

Picking up from last month's discussion, the elders voted to accept the Leadership Task Force Board of Deacons Proposal with the change to have the number of deacons added each year from at least eight to ten to twelve.

New Church Mission Statement

The elders voted to adopt the following as the First Presbyterian Church of Evanston mission statement: *“First Presbyterian Church of Evanston exists to know Jesus Christ and to grow in Him as we serve and make disciples in Evanston, the Chicago area, and the world.”*

Personnel Items

The Session approved the recommendation from the Personnel Ministry Council that the children's ministry and youth ministry positions be combined into one. The new title would be Minister of Children and Youth and a job description was also approved. Upon recommendation from the PMC, it was agreed that Rev. Amanda Golbek be offered the position which would be a temporary contractual position renewed yearly.

The search for a Praise Band Director has been reopened. Kon Savoy will chair the committee.

Laurie Kaeser, Clerk of Session

2019 Session

Ordained Pastors

Rev. Raymond Hylton, *Senior Pastor & Moderator of Session*

Rev. Henry Coates, *Designated Associate Pastor*

Ruling Elders

Laurie Kaeser, *Clerk of Session*

Daniel Allen, *Children's Ministry Council*

Bob Bastian, *The Counseling Center Board*

Sonia Bodi, *Worship Ministry Council, Chicago Presbytery Commissioner*

Bryan Carmody, *Worship Ministry Council*

Dwayne Dobschuetz, *Youth Ministry Council, Stewardship Committee*

Katie Duke, *Pastoral Care Ministry Council*

Susan Hood, *Youth Ministry Council*

Laura Jones, *Pastoral Care Ministry Council*

Kim Klamm, *Personnel Ministry Council, Budget Committee*

Rosemary Mauck, *Evangelism & Membership Development Ministry Council, Nominating Committee*

Matt McLeod, *Adult Discipleship Ministry Council, Nominating Committee*

Hugh Parry, *Personnel Ministry Council*

Dan Shiau, *Adult Discipleship Ministry Council*

Barb Smith, *Evangelism & Membership Development Ministry Council, Chicago Presbytery Commissioner*

Marge Stromberg, *Children's Ministry Council, Chicago Presbytery Commissioner*

Dick Warnecke, *Mission Ministry Council*

Sharyn Wilson Woods, *Mission Ministry Council, Chicago Presbytery Commissioner*