

Session Summary **September 24, 2019 Stated Meeting**

Following is a summary of the highlights of the September 24, 2019 Session meeting. For further information or clarification, please contact one of the Elders listed at the end of this summary.

Rev. Hylton called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with prayer.

Devotion and Prayer as a Session

Dwayne Dobschuetz presented a devotion based upon his deeply felt reaction to Facilities Manager, Jim Moore's, collapse at the Church on September 12, the miraculous intervention by Caryl Weinberg to save Jim's life, and the exemplary response to this emergency by other members of the staff. Dwayne referenced his own amazement at the providential outcome of this event, and also referred to many bible verses where ordinary people and Jesus' disciples were amazed by Jesus' teaching and actions. Dwayne then expressed his own awe when contemplating Jesus' power and authority, his need be aware of the Lord's constant protection and the blessing of comfort and peace that Jesus offers through faith in Him by the Holy Spirit.

Dwayne closed the devotion with prayer.

2020 Preliminary Budget Report

Clark Robinson presented the Preliminary Church Operating Budget for 2020, which had been discussed and approved by the Board of Trustees at its September 17, 2019 meeting. The Preliminary Budget presents a deficit of \$193,350, which is more than the Trustees' recommendation of a deficit of \$188,000, and the approved 2019 budget deficit of \$189,420. A lengthy discussion of the Preliminary Budget and the Proposed Council Budgets followed. It was determined that the Proposed Council Budgets would be presented and discussed at the October 22, 2019 Session meeting and future meetings, if necessary, prior to the presentation of the 2020 Operating Budget to the Congregation for its approval. It was agreed that the Proposed Council Budgets should be reviewed and evaluated by the Councils in terms of their high (essential), medium (necessary) and low (aspirational) priorities. Rev. Coates was appointed as chair of a Task Force that would draft a Narrative Budget for presentation at the October 20, 2019 congregational meeting.

Pastors' Report

Rev. Coates reported on and led a discussion of the stewardship plans and goals for 2020, which included the passing out pledge cards to the Elders. Rev. Coates will present a brief report on stewardship at the congregational meeting to be held on October 20, 2019.

Church Governance/Council Realignment Report

Dan Shiau and Alexis Langlois presented the Church Governance/Council Realignment Report. A discussion of the Report followed.

The motion was made and seconded to designate the Church Councils as follows: Community Life and Pastoral Care Council, Discipleship Council, Our Children-Our Families Council, Worship Council, Mission Council, Personnel Management Council, Leadership Council, and Resource Management Council. The motion carried

Bylaws Revision

Mr. Klemt presented the revised draft of the Amended and Restated By-Laws of First Presbyterian Church and Society of Evanston, Illinois. Major changes included: the elimination of the Board of Trustees; the Session to act as the Board of the Society, which holds title to and manages all Church property; the establishment of the Resource Steward Council, which would perform many of the duties, responsibilities and management functions formerly performed by the Board of Trustees; the inclusion of the President and the Treasurer of the Society as members of Session; the reduction of the number of elders serving on Session to be within a range of 12 to 18; and the reduction of the number of Deacons to be within the range of 18 to 36. A discussion and several questions from the elders followed.

The motion was made and seconded to approve the Amended and Restated Bylaws as presented, subject to any further minor editing changes that may be necessary, and to submit the Bylaws to the Congregation for approval at the Congregational Meeting scheduled for October 20, 2019. The motion carried.

Non-elders were informed that the Session would be moving to executive session and they departed at 9:50 p.m.

Executive Session

The motion to move to executive session was made and seconded. The motion carried. The motion to end executive session as made and seconded. The motion carried.

Questions and/or comments regarding Board/Council Minutes

None

Joys and Concerns

None

How Did We Do?

No discussion.

Adjournment in Prayer

The meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer by Rev. Hylton at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

LeRoy Klemt, Interim Clerk

2019 Session**Ordained Pastors**

Rev. Dr. Raymond Hylton, Senior Pastor and Moderator of Session

Rev. Henry Coates, Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Fellowship

Ruling Elders

LeRoy Klemt, Interim Clerk of Session

Daniel Allen, Children's Ministry Council

Bob Bastian, The Counseling Center

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 & Development Council

Nominating Committee

Matt McLeod, Adult Discipleship Ministry Council

Hugh Parry, Personnel Ministry Council

Dan Shiau, Adult Discipleship Ministry Council

Barb Smith, Evangelism & Membership Development 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