

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Minutes - Stated Meeting of Session

September 22, 2020

### Class of 2020

X Kerri Powell (Y6) CE  
X Matt Loesche (Y5) Fin  
X Marie Hills (Y3) WM  
EX Bruce Jacobs (Y3) Prop  
EX Carolyn Weichers (Y2) CE

### Class of 2021

EX Mickey Waschkat (Y5) Per  
X Dean Thede (Y5) Prop  
X Jo Broadston (Y5) M  
X Felicia Cass (Y2) Fin  
X Tasha Knight (Y2) CE

### Class of 2022

X Judy Kester (Y4) M  
X John Speas (Y4) Fin  
EX Karen Siler (Y4) N  
X Cody Alberts (Y1) Prop  
X Jodi Fabrizio (Y1) Per  
X Ryan Greve (Y1) WM  
X Regina River (Y1) M

X Rev. Dan Voigt, Associate Pastor, Moderator  
Also present: Rev. Ian McMullen, Interim General Presbyter;  
Rev. Johnny Janssen, COM Liaison

X Gary Iversen, Clerk

### The Ministry of Session

- The Elders gathered in the Shared Life Center and by Zoom (Greve) at 7:00 p.m. for the September Stated Meeting of Session. Rev. Voigt presented a devotion based upon the Golden Rule and the parable of the Good Samaritan as well as reading a tribute from Cameron Trimble to those who have died due to COVID-19 in the country. The Stated Meeting of Session was called to order by the Moderator at 7:11 p.m.

### Presbytery Presentation

- Rev. Ian McMullen introduced himself and Rev. Johnny Janssen who will serve as the Committee on Ministry liaison as the search process for a new Head of Staff proceeds. Emphasis was placed upon the fact that the entire process should be viewed as a spiritual journey and not just a business activity. Elders had previously been provided with a PCUSA publication entitled "On Calling a Pastor." A general discussion of the process was reviewed. The recommendation from the Presbytery is that WPC seek an Interim (now generally referred to as a Transitional Pastor) to serve during the search process. The typical Transitional Pastor search takes 3-6 months, followed by a 12 month contract, reviewable at the end of that period. Presbytery assists in locating a Transitional Pastor. **Motion Cass/Second Speas** to seek a Transitional Pastor during the Head of Staff search process. Motion passed. **Motion Speas/Second Cass** to direct a Search Committee of 3 to seek the Transitional Pastor, consisting of one member each from Personnel, Christian Education and Worship & Music. Following some discussion **Motion Kester/Second Broadston** to amend the motion to increase the size of the Search Committee to 5, consisting of 2 members from Personnel and one each from Christian Education, Finance and Worship & Music. Following additional discussion, the Motion to Amend was passed. Motion as amended passed.
- Discussion occurred regarding the need to fill the pulpit periodically during the period before a Transitional Pastor is found. Rev. Janssen and Rev. McMullen indicated their willingness to

assist. Rev. Voigt announced that he was previously scheduled to be gone one week in October and had secured Rev. Brad Braley to preach. Rev. Voigt was encouraged to keep the Session, and Committee Chairs in particular, advised as to his workload during the transition period. Future Session Dockets will include an item regarding Gaps in Coverage that need to be addressed.

- Discussion regarding the formation, responsibilities and actions needed regarding the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) was undertaken with Presbytery personnel responding to questions and describing the process. After considerable discussion regarding the process and prior Westminster practice, **Motion Kester/Second Broadston** to direct Nominating to select a slate of 9 persons, 3 of which are current elders for presentation to the congregation for election. Discussion occurred regarding the Book of Order requirement that the committee be reflective of the congregation as a whole and the possible difficulty of finding 9 persons willing to serve. **Motion Thede/Second Alberts** to amend the Motion to reduce the number to 7, with 2 being current elders. Motion to amend passed. Motion as amended passed.
- Clerk advised the Session that it would be advisable to amend the Bylaws regarding the possible attendance and voting at congregational meetings using Zoom or other electronic methods as the current pandemic continues. Rev. McMullen indicated he would provide the Clerk with some PCUSA/Presbytery guidance on the matter. Clerk indicated he would return to the Session with possible amendments.

#### Approval of Minutes

- **Motion Powell/Second Fabrizio** to approve the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of Session of August 25, 2020. Motion passed.

#### Clerks Report

- **Motion Powell/Second Speas** to approve the baptism of Piper Arickx on September 13, 2020 and the baptisms of Jaydin, Michael and Isabella Klein-Bacon on September, 13, 2020. Motion passed. Clerk also reported that the baptism of Samuel Budensiek (previously approved by Session at its March 2020 meeting) which was delayed due to the COVID-19 situation was performed on September 20, 2020.
- Clerk's Report was accepted as presented.

#### Motions for Discussion and Vote

- **Motion Thede/Second Fabrizio** to ask Rev. McMullen and Rev. Janssen to remain for the next Docket Item. Motion passed. Rev. Voigt introduced the issue of the intersection of faith and politics and some current conflict in the church. Some members have raised concern about signs placed upon church property by our youth supporting the black lives matter movement and some social media posts interpreted as anti-law enforcement. Rev. Voigt had provided Elders with a link to the denomination's position regarding the current unrest related to the country's legacy of minority group inequality. Considerable discussion occurred regarding the possible resolution of the conflict and misunderstandings. Rev. McMullen challenged the Elders to prayerfully consider ways to provide the leadership to determine and express the church's position on equality issues and support of law enforcement personnel. Specific discussion took place regarding the need for a more complete social media policy. Motion **River/Second Alberts** to create a Task Force from Christian Education and Personnel to develop a Social Media Policy for consideration by Session at its next meeting, if possible. Motion passed. Rev. McMullen and Rev. Janssen excused themselves from the remainder of the meeting.

- Rev. Voigt asked for Elder input on the issue of continuing the Contemporary service outside during the month of October, or the possible move of that service back inside the church building. Options of moving the service into the Sanctuary to allow for live-streaming of the service or returning to the Shared Life Center were discussed. The consensus was to continue to have the Contemporary service meet outside through October and ask Worship & Music to report back with recommendations at the October Session meeting.
- Rev. Voigt suggested that discussion of possible reduction of minimum committee size be deferred to a later Session meeting due to the length of the meeting.

#### **Committee Minutes and Reports**

- **Finance – Motion from Committee** to accept the August Financial Statement. Motion passed.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

- October Committee Meetings
  - Monday, October 5: Worship & Music – 5:30 p.m.; Personnel – 7:15 p.m.
  - Monday, October 12: Mission – 6:00 p.m.
  - Monday, October 19: Finance – 5:30 p.m.; Property – 7:15 p.m.
- Deacons - Monday, October 19 - 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45p.m. by reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary D. Iversen, Clerk

**Next Session Meeting: October 27, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**

# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Clerks Report, September 22, 2020

- A. Baptisms – Piper Arickx 9.13.20, Jaydin, Michael and Isabella Klein-Bacon 9.13.20, Already approved but rescheduled Samuel Budensiek 9.20.20
- B. Deaths –
- C. Membership –
- D. Home Communion –
- E. Communion Dates Served – 9.13.20
- F. Ordinations and Installations –
- G. Correspondence Received –
- H. Denominational Relations –
- I. Worship Attendance and Offering –

<u>2019</u>			
8/26	119 62	9:00 11:15	\$8,448
9/1	147	10:00	\$20,063
9/8	196	10:00	\$4,941
9/15	130 106	9:00 11:15	\$5,544

<u>2020</u>			
8/23	63	9:30 Outside	\$3,392
8/30	81	9:30 Outside	\$5,474
9/6	60	9:30 Outside	\$14,936
9/13	100	9:30 Outside	\$