Session Report: April 2026

Call to Order with Prayer
The April 27, 2026 meeting was held by Zoom videoconference. It was opened with prayer at 6:04 p.m.

Devotion
We discussed the reflection question: What has your experience been writing a vision down?

Clerk's Report
Communion was celebrated on April 5.

There were no member deaths reported.

Pastor's Report - Karen Kinney, Transitional Pastor
It has been a busy but rewarding month! Holy Week and Easter were wonderful reminders of the love God has for us. My week off after Easter was refreshing and re-energizing. Since returning, there have been many meetings – the results of which you will find on the Session agenda.

***Mission Study Team**:* Co-chaired by Kate Arrington and Kim Miner, this team has been busy during the month of April facilitating and/or acting as recorder for visioning sessions. A big thank you to the members of the team (Jan Bickford, Bob Hunsicker, Mike Kimmel, Bekah Masthay, Judy Smullen and Janet Stahl) as well as others who have been facilitators and/or recorders (Jo-Ellen Darling, Mike Jendzeizyk, Cynthia Simmons, Steve Simmons, Richard Smith, Ginny Smith, Jim Stahl and Gail Watts).

The visioning sessions have been going well with just a few negative comments – most have found the opportunity to have a voice and engage in conversation to be a positive for them. The number of letters with hopes/dreams/visions continues to grow. More than 100 folks have participated and that is amazing! The team is currently planning the May 17 retreat and analyzing data on community needs.

***Fund Endowment Committee**:* This committee, formerly under the auspices of the Board of Trustees, met on April 13 to determine its scope of work as a committee of Session. They are coming to the Session with their revised Administrative Guidelines for approval. Briefly, they will retain their stewardship of endowments as well as the grantmaking aspect of the work, while handing over the investment oversight (reviewing investment firms, etc.) to the Finance Committee. Belle Marks will be the person who oversees the grantmaking. Cynthia Hahn will serve as coordinator.

***Property Committee**:* This committee now also reports directly to Session since there is no longer a Board of Trustees.

***Preschool**:* The Preschool Governance Committee continues to meet monthly to steward the current preschool operations and finances, while the Next Chapter Team-Preschool continues to look for a new space and handle logistics such as cleaning closets, disposing of unused items, etc.

***New Sermon Series**:* Entitled "Wilderness: A Journey Into Hope," the series highlights Biblical figures including Elijah, Abraham, Hagar, Moses, and Jesus, who find themselves in the wilderness yet find a way to hope as part of their journey. We will end the series on Pentecost, May 24, exploring how a group of disciples in hiding, feeling very lost, are empowered by the Holy Spirit to go out and preach the good news of the Gospel. It is recorded that more than 3,000 were added to their number on that day! What can we learn from these stories about our journey?

Finance Committee Report
Session approved the Finance Committee motion to add Cynthia Hahn to the Committee.

Continuing Business

1. Deacon Update – Jane Masters reported that the Deacons voted to grant $600 to the Sulaimankhails, our Afghan family.

2. Strategic Mission Steering Committee Update
   Details of the final contract with Presbyterian Senior Living are being worked out.

3. Strategic Mission Steering Committee Next Chapter Preschool Team Update

   Since there are no viable spaces for a Summer 2026 relocation, and since a Winter Break relocation would be highly disruptive to student learning and very challenging for staff, the Session approved FPCB Preschool operations on-site for the 2026-2027 school year.

4. Strategic Mission Steering Committee Next Chapter Church Team motions

   JoAnne, Donna, and Lindsey presented motions from the Strategic Mission Steering Committee Next Chapter Team (NCT).

   Motion #1:

   That Session approved Kevin Konczyk and the Property Committee as the designees to coordinate the disposition of physical/material resources using the following initial process steps:

   - Empower Kevin and facilities staff to continue organizing low-value items for additional church yard sale(s); dates and pricing are at their discretion.
     - First requested dates: June 19/20
   - Gather quotes for services from area appraisers; select and recommend one who will assess if FPCB has any valuable items (furniture, artwork, etc.) for re-sale.
   - If the way be clear with PSL, empower Kevin and the Property Team to explore possible partners for salvage/deconstruction to better steward the building's resources for reuse (scrap metal, wood trim, pew wood, etc.).

   Next Chapter Team Motion #2:

   Session approved the appointment of a sub-team to bring a recommendation at next month's Session meeting regarding the report and request from Dave Macbeth to consider preserving components of our existing organ instrument for reuse and/or resale.

The recommended members for this sub-team are:

- Rich Hjorth (Worship Committee Chair)
- Joanne Kelhart (St. Paul's Organ Endowment Expert)
- Rich Gorton (Finance and Property Representative)
- David Macbeth
- Lindsey and/or Karen

4. May Presbytery Meeting – Elder Commissioner

We need to send an Elder Commissioner to the next Presbytery meeting. Kim is unavailable. Kari (alternate) said that she will check her calendar in hopes to be free to attend.

New Business

Fund Endowment Guidelines Revision

The fund endowment guidelines document was revised to remove references to Trustees and replace with "Session," as the responsibilities of the Board of Trustees have returned to Session. Session approved the Guidelines as revised.

Adjourn in Prayer
A motion was made to adjourn with prayer. The motion was seconded and carried by common consent. The meeting closed with prayer at 7:40 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on May 18, 2026 via Zoom videoconference. (This meeting was moved to the 3rd Monday as the 4th is Memorial Day.)

The next Presbytery meeting will be held on May 16 at Valley United Presbyterian in Waverly, NY.