

Westminster Presbyterian Church
Akron, Ohio
Tuesday, April 21, 2020
Minutes of Special Session meeting - FINAL

Be adaptive, engaging, generous, inclusive and relevant. Be faithful. Be Westminster!

Note: To continue to address any issues or concerns during the current health crisis, Session decided at its regular meeting on March 24, 2020 to meet every Tuesday as needed, either by virtual (Zoom) or e-meeting, as needed for the foreseeable future.

Elders (+ present, * excused, - absent)

Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
+ Michael Dunbar	+ Phil Fry	* Rob Gilbert
+ Brad Hall	+ Nancy Keogh	+ James Gray
+ Shelley Koutnik, Treasurer	+ Becky Pool	+ Sandy Gruneich
* Todd Willis	+ Don Rearick	+ Ginny Melver

Also present by videoconferencing: Pastor Jon Hauerwas, Moderator; Alec Works, Acting Clerk of Session.

Opening and Declaration of Quorum

The special meeting of the Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church was called to order by the Moderator, the Reverend Jon Hauerwas at 7:00 p.m. on April 21, 2020. The presence of a quorum was confirmed and declared. Pastor Jon reported that Todd Willis contacted him, saying he was unable to attend but approved all of the proposed motions. Rob Gilbert also reported that he would be unable to attend. The meeting was opened with prayer.

New Business

Two items were presented for action. First, the following motion was made, seconded and approved: **2020-099 MOTION prevailed** to elect Alec Works to serve as Clerk of Session for Westminster Presbyterian Church, Akron, Ohio for the remainder of calendar year 2020. The term commences on April 21, 2020 and concludes with the election of a new Clerk of Session in January 2021.

The most recent updates from the Governor and Director of Health of Ohio indicate that any re-openings will likely be gradual. Social distancing is expected to be encouraged for some time. The following motion was made, seconded and approved:

2020-100 MOTION prevailed for Westminster to suspend on-site activities, including in-person worship, through June 1, 2020. Our office will publicize this information on the church website, through Constant Contact, Sunday updates, and on the church reader board. The office will remain open from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday-Friday to answer phone calls and address business matters on-site. Worship services will continue to be broadcast virtually.

Activities and schedules beyond June 1 will be decided at a later time, as we know more of the health event situation at that time. The Discipleship and Worship Committees are scheduled to meet soon.

Pastor Jon reported that he has contacted a number of folks who are interested in taking part in a virtual Bible study. He will begin offering that next Monday night at 7 p.m. He will send you a link to anyone expressing interest. He also noted that he will be on study leave next week, continuing to work on his doctorate, but is available for the regular Session meeting (April 28).

There being no other old or new business, a motion was received, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was closed by all joining in the Lord's Prayer at 7:25 pm.

The next Zoom / regular Session meeting is planned for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28, 2020.

Alec Works, Clerk of Session

Pastor Jon Hauerwas, Moderator