

Westminster Presbyterian Church
Akron, Ohio
Tuesday, August 25, 2020
Minutes of the Session Meeting – FINAL

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

The regular meeting of the Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church was called to order by Moderator and Pastor Jon Hauerwas at 7:01 p.m.

Elders (+ present, * excused, - absent)

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

Also present: Pastor Jon Hauerwas, Moderator; guest Alec Works, Clerk of Session

Note: Due to restrictions on gatherings ordered by the Governor of Ohio to slow the spread of the coronavirus, a virtual meeting was held.

Opening, Declaration of Quorum and Extension of Floor

Pastor Jon called the meeting to order, welcomed the guest, and opened the Session meeting with prayer at 7:01 pm. The presence of a quorum was confirmed and declared.

Adoption of Agenda and Consent Agenda

A **motion prevailed** to adopt and approve the Agenda and the Consent Agenda.

Clerk's Report

Alec Works, Clerk of Session

The Consent Agenda as approved included the following motions:

2020-184 MOTION prevailed to approve the minutes of the regular Session meeting of July 28, 2020.

2020-185 MOTION prevailed to approve the minutes of the Special Session meeting of August 11, 2020.

2020-186 MOTION prevailed to receive the following report of all weddings, funerals, baptisms, and Communion that have taken place since Session's June 23, 2020 meeting

1. Weddings: none
2. Funerals: graveside committal for Martha Nelson, August 13, 2020
3. Baptisms: none
4. Communion: virtual communion 8/9/20; estimated participation to be reported later.

Average worship attendance for July (4 services) will be reported after a new Communications Coordinator is hired.

2020-187 MOTION prevailed to approve the membership statistical report for the month of July 2020:

Total Membership as of 7/1/20	359
Additions: none	0
Deletions: see list below	70
Deaths: Mary Jo Stasell (#4560)	1
Total Membership as of 7/31/20	288

July deletions: Sarah Shaughnessy Klopp (#7313), Bethany (Kauffman) Kungle (#7189), Walter (Judd) Limbach (#7279), Sandra Padgett (#6271), Scott (#7357) and Abby Anne (#7358) Schie, Rebecca Houk Shookman (#6680), Anne Trahey (#7259), Michael Trahey (#7191), Dr. Harold White (#6779), Sue Ann Wiseman (#7306), Henry (#7321) and Lisa (#7322) Braumbaugh, Jake Braumbaugh (#7416), Carolyn Breaux (#7323), Claire Riew Choi (#7392), Dana (#6998) and Kristy (#6999) Easterling, Keith (#6992) and Natalie (Christian) (#7153) Easterling, Sharon Easterling (#6969), Michael Eickoff (#7217), Mary Jane Emerson (#7331), Robert (#7039) and Elizabeth (#7040) Engels, Joanna Engels (#7227), Todd Feemster (#7406), Joseph Gray (#7032), Jeffrey (#7129) and Erin (Shackelford) (#6366) Grosenbaugh, Taylor Grosenbaugh (#7451), Wendy (Laria) Harris (#7109), Bevan (#7462) and Tia (#7463) Haynes, Ron Hazelett (#7135), Anthony Holcomb (#7387), Elizabeth Hyde (#6244), J. David (#6036) and Cheryl (#5472) Kalal, Michael Kauffman (#6981), Heather (Keane) Bhalla (#7491), Manohar (#6443) and Constance (Connie) (#5362) Lal, Rajiv Lal (#6363), Orlene Makinson (#7377), Sarah Marie (Traw) Mays (#7325), Elizabeth (Betsy) Melick (#7460), Timothy Mesecar (#7295), Jami Mesecar-Hope (#7296), Robert D. (#5958) and Janet (#5959) Metzger, Fallon Elizabeth Miller (#7430), Dallas (#7318) and Jessica (Traw) (#7320) Moyer, Robert H., Jr. (#7091) and Gail (#7092) Pierson, Susan (Haidle) Reef (#3835), Bruce (#4983) and Sandra (#4984) Shackelford, Daniel Shaughnessy (#6330), Mark Soucek (#7161), Wendy (DeYoung) Susi (#7025), Douglas Charles Porter (Charlie) Wagner (#7260), Susan Wallin (#7134), Douglas (#7115) and Barrie (#7116) Whittington, Frederick M. (Trey) Worrell III (#7194), David (#7221) and Nancy (#7222) Zeiger, and Lindsay Zeiger (#7224).

2020-188 MOTION prevailed to remove Martha Dixon Nelson (#3149, died August 7, 2020), Robert Heber Pierson (#5743, died August 9, 2020), and Harriet Yount Cutler (#4089, died August 21, 2020) from the membership roll.

2020-189 MOTION prevailed to remove the following from active membership: Louis (#7348) and Melanie (#7439) Curlee, Hannah Curlee (#7371), Isabelle Curlee (#7372), Grace Curlee (#7417), Julie Domenick (#7457), David Kuehls (#7328), James (#6077) and Dorothy (#5078) McQuigg, Sue Phillips (#4517), Kristen Uitenham (#7439). No activity for at least 2 years; letter sent 6/12/20, no response. [One letter returned as undeliverable.]

Former pastor of Westminster, the Reverend Dr. Harry W. Eberts, Jr., died on July 12, 2020 in Kalamazoo, MI.

Ginny Melver was commissioned last month to attend the September 1 virtual Presbytery meeting.

Committee Reports and Actions

Note: All committees have been or are working on proposed budgets for next year.

Personnel Committee (Report was attached; see motions below) Shelley Koutnik for John Childs

2020-190 MOTION prevailed to hire Adam Kalcic at \$19 per hour for up to 15 hours per week as Communications Coordinator, pending review of media portfolio and satisfactory references.

[Note: An in-person interview with a tour of the church is to be scheduled. The start date will be negotiated at the time of the offer.]

2020-191 MOTION prevailed to approve the Youth Coordinator Job Description dated August 25, 2020. [Notes: Hours are changed from 10 hours per week to 5 to 8 hours per week. The rate is revised from \$24.00 per hour to \$15 to \$18 per hour. The position does not require the education and experience levels of an associate pastor or ministry director.]

Discipleship Committee (August minutes were attached; no motions)

Sandy Gruneich for Kara Hauerwas

The committee continues to review options for various programs this fall given the in-person restrictions.

Finance Committee (August financial reports were attached; no motions)

Todd Willis

Through July, nonpledged contributions are \$20,955 under budget and loose offerings are \$2,862 under budget. These have been somewhat offset by prepaid contributions and larger endowment distributions and investment earnings. Total revenue is \$9,555 under budget. This has been offset by lower personnel, program and operating expenses. With total expenses \$72,460 under budget, we are in better shape than anticipated. However, concern remains for the rest of the year with contributions expected to remain below budget and the desire to resume programs and activities.

Outreach Committee (August were attached; no motions)

Becky Pool

Becky reported that the First Sunday Food Collection is continuing and the Third Sunday Dinner resumed in August with boxed meals available for pick-up.

Properties, Worship, Membership and Nominating Committees; Safety and Security Task Force; Kitchen Task Force; Deacons (No reports)

Note: Many of these committees are scheduled to meet soon.

Pastor's Report and Remarks

Pastor Hauerwas

Pastor Jon again noted that there have been many losses in the congregation lately; families are to be remembered in prayer.

Shelley reported that the Sound System Task Force is reviewing an opportunity to further improve the sound system in the sanctuary.

Old Business

Persons who have expressed interest in joining Westminster earlier this year have been contacted regarding a possible New Members Class via Zoom. Another option would be for some or all to meet with the pastor for the class, then with Session via Zoom. Pastor Jon will keep Session updated.

The unveiling of former pastors' portraits will be rescheduled after more normal activities resume.

New / Other Business

With the urgency of decision-making related to the pandemic lessened, the following motion was made, seconded and approved:

2020-192 MOTION prevailed to resume the regular meeting schedule (fourth Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.). Any special or e-meetings would be called as needed.

The next regular Session meeting (virtual) is scheduled for Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 7 p.m.

There was no other new business. A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved. The meeting was then closed with the Lord's Prayer at 7:27 p.m.

Alec Works, Clerk of Session

Pastor Jon Hauerwas, Moderator