

Westminster Presbyterian Church
Akron, Ohio
Wednesday, January 20 2021
Minutes of Session E-meeting - FINAL

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

The e-meeting of the Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church was called to order by the Moderator, the Reverend Jon Hauerwas at 5:36 p.m. on January 20 by email.

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 email: Pastor Jon Hauerwas, Moderator; Alec Works, Clerk of Session.

New Business

Pastor Jon reported that he just spoke on the phone with Westminster Presbyterian Church member Ann Wiggins. Her husband, Loye Pierce, entered eternal life on January 18. Loye was not a member of Westminster. He served as a business person and as a minister in another denomination. While Ann is still working out the details for Mr. Pierce's funeral, she asked if Pastor Jon would take part by speaking at the occasion. As she explained it, Ann is not presently planning a formal funeral service. However, in the event that she changes her mind and asks him to officiate at a worship service at the funeral home, Session approval would be needed. She is anticipating that the service will take place either late next week or during the first week of February. Pastor Jon is asking for a motion approving this request, in the event that Ann may make it. This would allow him to begin the planning process with her without delay. Preferably, the motion would not include a date or time frame for the service. This would allow flexibility in scheduling, which is especially helpful in the age of Covid-19.

Next, Pastor Jon has been in conversation with representatives from the United Presbyterian Church in Cuyahoga Falls (UPC) for the past two weeks. UPC is presently without pastoral leadership, and they have asked if their confirmation students can join our Zoom confirmation class now in progress. Pastor Jon has discussed this with our Discipleship Committee and with our confirmation parents. All have been supportive of this joint ministry opportunity. The proposal has also been approved by the Christian Education Committee, confirmation parents, and Session at UPC. At this point, we are anticipating approximately 5 students from UPC to join our 5 students this year. UPC is hoping that their students can join us this Sunday evening. They will have two classes to make up, and I will make arrangements to provide them with that information. Pastor Jon is requesting a Session motion that we grant this request.

The following motions were then made, seconded and voted on. Nine elders responded, all approving the motions.

2021-001 MOTION prevailed to approve having Pastor Hauerwas officiate at a funeral service for Loye Pierce, husband of member Ann Wiggins, if she so requests his services, at a date and time to be determined.

2021-002 MOTION prevailed to approve having the confirmation students from the United Presbyterian Church in Cuyahoga Falls join our Zoom confirmation class, now in progress.

The e-meeting was adjourned by Pastor Hauerwas at 4:46 p.m. on January 22, 2021.

Alec Works, Clerk of Session

Pastor Jon Hauerwas, Moderator