

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Akron, Ohio  
Minutes of Annual Congregational and Corporation Meeting  
Sunday, March 21, 2021 - FINAL

**Notes:** Due to restrictions on gatherings ordered by the Governor of Ohio to slow the spread of the coronavirus, a virtual congregational meeting was held, with members participating via the Zoom application. Time was allocated after the 10:30 a.m. virtual worship service for members to sign into the application.

Also present: The Reverend Jonathan Hauerwas, Pastor; Alec Works, Clerk of Session

The Annual Congregational and Corporate Meeting of Westminster Presbyterian Church was called to order by Moderator the Reverend Jonathan Hauerwas at approximately 11:50 a.m. Alec Works, Clerk of Session, explained that members would be asked to raise their hands (in view of their camera) to vote on the motions presented. A simple majority of those present is required to pass a motion.

Pastor Hauerwas opened the meeting with prayer. He then noted that, per our Code of Regulations, ten percent of our membership must be present to have a quorum. Alec reported that, based on current membership as of February 28, 2021 of 279, a quorum is 10%, or 28 members. By counting the names and faces of known members on the Zoom full screen view, he counted at least 35 members present and declared that a quorum was present. [Note: The number of people signed on varied some through the meeting. At least 32 were present at any time, with 42 counted for most of the meeting.]

Pastor Hauerwas then moved to the first order of business, to receive the report from the Nominating Committee. James Gray, Moderator of the committee, presented the following full slate:

Elders, Class of 2023 (3 year term):

- Ellen Daugherty, Shelley Koutnik, Brian Rodabaugh, Alec Works

Deacons, Class of 2022 (2 year term):

- Elizabeth Crabtree, Donna Goring, Mike Grau, Steve Harp, Kevin Melver, Debra Tondra

Endowment Committee (Class of 2023, 3 year term):

- Kyle Vuchak,

Nominating Committee (Class of 2021, 1 year term):

- Stephanie Blaha, Ed Labbe, Jim Shriner, Margo Works

With no nominations from the floor, a motion was made and seconded to elect the individuals named above to serve as elders, deacons, members of the nominating committee, and endowment director by unanimous ballot. **MOTION C-2021-01 prevailed to elect the slate of nominees as presented.**

The meeting then proceeded to the Ordination and Installation of the newly elected elders and deacons. Pastor Hauerwas and Clerk Alec Works proceeded with the Affirmation of Gifts, Statement on Ordination and Installation, Constitutional Questions, to which the newly elected officers responded, the Affirmation of the Congregation, Prayer, and Declaration of Ordination and Installation.

The next item of business was a review of items from the 2021 Annual Report. Copies of the Annual Report were made available electronically as part of the emailed Sunday worship announcement and bulletin.

Pastor Hauerwas called attention to pages 36-38 of the Annual Report, where copies of the minutes for the 2020 congregational meeting were included. The minutes from this meeting had previously been approved by Session. A motion was made and seconded from the congregation to receive and approve these minutes. **MOTION C-2021-02 prevailed to receive and approve the minutes from the 2020 Annual Congregational Meeting.**

Pastor Hauerwas explained that each committee was asked to write a report of activities from the previous year. These reports were also included in the 2020 Annual Report.

Pastor Hauerwas then called Treasurer Shelley Koutnik forward to presented the 2020 Treasurer's Report on behalf of the Finance Committee. Shelley directed attention to pages 24-28 of the Annual Report. With both revenues and expenses under budget due to restricted operations, we ended with a surplus of \$86,349. This amount was added to the Reserve Fund, bringing its balance to \$190,038. This fund can cover operations for 3 or more months if needed and help cover any short-term budget deficits. With no questions from the congregation, a motion was made and seconded to receive the report. With no further discussion, **MOTION C-2021-03 prevailed to receive the 2020 Treasurer's Report.**

Shelley then presented the 2021 budget, as included on pages 29-30 of the Annual Report. This budget had been approved by Session on February 23, 2021. The budget includes revenues of \$536,672 and expenses of \$575,896 for a projected deficit of \$39,224. These figures reflect, among other factors, lower pledged income and lower operating costs. The expenses do presume a return to normal activities at some point. The deficit would be funded by \$11,000 of principal from the Rowley Fund and \$28,224 from the Reserve Fund. With no further discussion or questions, a motion was made and seconded to receive the 2021 budget. **MOTION C-2021-04 prevailed to receive the 2021 Budget as presented.** There were no further questions for the Finance Committee.

Pastor Hauerwas next invited John Childs, Moderator of the Personnel Committee, to present the Pastor's Terms of Call for 2021. Pastor Hauerwas then excused himself and his wife Kara from the meeting. The proposed 2021 Terms of Call for the pastor as approved by the Personnel Committee and then by Session on January 26, 2021 were presented via a shared screen and reviewed by John. As with other staff members, there is no increase proposed over compensation for 2020. This reflects the uncertainty in anticipated revenues and activities. Besides this having been a very challenging year in dealing with the coronavirus pandemic, Pastor Hauerwas has also progressed to the Final Project phase of his doctoral work. Several members noted that such doctoral work is often pursued on a full-time basis. Resumption of in-person activities will require renewed attention at re-establishing connections. Following the brief open discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the 2021 Terms of Call. With no further discussion, **MOTION C-2021-05 prevailed to approve the Pastor's 2021 Terms of Call as presented.** Details of the Terms of Call are available to members of the congregation upon request.

Pastor Hauerwas then returned and resumed duties as Moderator. He asked if there were any questions for him or other committees. He was thanked for his work for the church this past year while continuing work on his doctoral Final Project. Pastor Jon remarked that Westminster has been quite fortunate given that many churches have been struggling financially and with membership. Regarding resumption of in-person activities, he noted that we cannot eliminate all risks, but will reasonably mitigate what we can. A task force has been discussing what measures can be taken. Session will be discussing this in more detail at its next meeting. Suggestions from the congregation are welcome.

With no other questions or new business, Pastor Hauerwas called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was so made and seconded. With no further discussion, **MOTION C-2021-06 prevailed to adjourn the meeting.** The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Pastor Hauerwas at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Alec Works, Clerk of Session

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The Reverend Jonathan Hauerwas, Moderator