

Session – October 2023

During a special / e-meeting of Session on October 10, 2023, Bob Carlyon, Dottie Erb, Marge Rearick and Brian Rodabaugh were appointed to serve as our Music Director / Organist Search Committee.

The regular meeting of Session was on Tuesday, October 24, 2023.

Rev. William Meyer started by noting that he continues to talk to members of the pastoral relations team and congregation at large. The Reconciliation Taskforce has selected the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. They will start with workshops on December 1 and 2, with follow-up discussions on January 6. Childcare, meals and snacks would be provided. The Lombard group will collect information before the workshops. The workshops will not be an opportunity for members to vent their feelings. The workshops are directed at leadership, but members of the congregation will be invited. The focus will be reconciliation, not vindication.

Session then affirmed that the Deacons will supervise the ushers and that ushers report to the Deacons, who will appoint any head ushers or other usher roles as needed.

The final area of discussion was building use, including fees and liability insurance. A motion was approved, including an affirmation that extra liability insurance and rental fees for building use will not be expected from Westminster's organist and choir director for any single-teacher musical instruction ventures in the building. Musical lessons and programs in our building should be seen as creating evangelistic opportunities, extra exposure and positive neighborhood connections.

Preliminary unaudited data through September 30, 2023: actual revenues \$376,041; budgeted \$357,304. Actual expenses \$362,977; budget \$448,558. Net (actual revenues less actual expenses) is a surplus of \$13,064. However, this is largely due to interest income being well above budget and personnel expenses being approximately \$69,000 below budget (due primarily to the pastoral opening).

Dave Bodnar, Custodian, resigned for health reasons. Ads have been placed to seek a replacement. Various upcoming events were approved; details will be included in bulletins and the Script.

The next Session meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 28 at 7 pm.