

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2017**

1. The session of First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, December 4, 2017, at 7 pm in the lounge of the church located at 508 Franklin Ave. in Grand Haven, Michigan. The clerk, Bill Bussell, determined a quorum was present. Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon called the meeting to order.
2. **Attendance:**
  - 2.1. Elders Present: Carroll Bennink, Bill Blessing, Bill Bussell, Marge Coffey, Sandie Enders, Megan Hayes, John Heritage, Keith Konarska, Andrew LeFurge, Nancy Levenburg, Paul McNergney, John Nametz, Katie Neitring, Carrie Rivette, Rick Skodack, Michele Smith, Alishia Terrill, Sue VandenBosch, and Tina Vander Wall.
  - 2.2. Elders Absent or Excused: Jack Jansma and Abe Overway.
  - 2.3. Teaching Elders Present: Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon and Rev. Jill VanderWal.
  - 2.4. Teaching Elders Absent or Excused: None.
3. **Call to Worship:** Rev. VanderWal started the meeting with a devotional essay written by Madeleine L'Engle and offered the meeting's opening prayer.
4. **Clerk's Report:** Bill Bussell reporting:
  - 4.1. Upon motion and support, session approved the December 4, 2017 meeting docket.
  - 4.2. Upon motion and support, session approved the minutes of the November 6, 2017 session meeting and the November 12, 2017 congregational meeting.
  - 4.3. Upon motion and support, session approved moving Chuck Jennings and Carol Jennings to "Other Participant" membership status at their request.
  - 4.4. Upon motion and support, session accepted the following new members: Clark Baker, Scott Curtis, Sarah Curtis, Dustin Fisher, Ken Jackson, Karen Losee, Leah Johnson, Mike Johnson, Ann McLaughlin, Larry McLaughlin, Gail Miner, Robert Miner, Linda Needham, Randy Needham, Zachary Russell, Joshua Ver Hage, and Melissa Ver Hage.
  - 4.5. Upon motion and support, session approved the November 2017 membership report.
  - 4.6. The clerk noted that officer training was held on November 10, 2017 for both the elders and deacons.

First Presbyterian Church Membership Report  
November 2017

<b>Membership as of October 31, 2017</b>	786
Deaths:	1
New Members Received:	0
Restored to Active Roll:	0
Removed from Active Roll:	0
Transferred from Active to Inactive Roll:	0
Transferred by Letter	0
<b>Membership as of November 30, 2017</b>	<b>785</b>

		Member #	Notes
<b>Additional Registers</b>			
	<b>Baptisms:</b>	1	
11/26/2017	Max Patrick Ozzello, son of Jason & Kaitlyn (Konarska)		Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon
	<b>Deaths:</b>	1	
November 2017	Fran Wilson	4552	

**Communion:** 11/5/2017

**Home Communion:** 11/5/2017

Pat Austin	Sue McClellan	Flo Sluiter	Norma Vyn
Harvey Beute	Sue Roper	Gerry VanStratt	
Sandy Beute	John Planteroth	Carol Winton	
Laurel Hendrick	Jan Planteroth	Evelyn Wood	

12/4/2017	<b>Approved at 12/4/2017 Session Meeting</b>		
	Session Action Item: Proposed move to Inactive		
	Chuck Jennings	4265	Per his request
	Carol Jennings	4266	Per her request

12/4/2017	<b>Approved at 12/4/2017 Session Meeting</b>	
	Session Action Item: Proposed New Members <i>Admission at both services, December 10, 2017</i>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Method</b>	
Clark Baker	Confession of Faith	
Scott Curtis	Reaffirmation of Faith	
Sarah Curtis	Reaffirmation of Faith	
Dustin Fisher	Confession of Faith	
Ken Jackson	Reaffirmation of Faith	
Karen Losee	Transfer: Countryside Presbyterian, Saginaw, Michigan	
Leah Johnson	Reaffirmation of Faith	
Mike Johnson	Reaffirmation of Faith	
Ann McLaughlin	Transfer: United Methodist Church of the Dunes, GH, MI	
Larry McLaughlin	Transfer: United Methodist Church of the Dunes, GH, MI	
Gail Miner	Reaffirmation of Faith	
Robert Miner	Reaffirmation of Faith	
Linda Needham	Transfer: St. George Lutheran Church, Brighton, MI	
Randy Needham	Transfer: St. George Lutheran Church, Brighton, MI	
Zachary Russell	Transfer: Faith Lutheran, Okemos, MI	
Joshua Ver Hage	Reaffirmation of Faith	
Melissa Ver Hage	Reaffirmation of Faith	

5. **Committee of Focus** – Marge Coffey discussed the Worship Committee’s responsibilities and activities.

6. **Treasurer’s Report:** Andrew LeFurge reporting:

6.1. Andrew advised that 2017’s current year positive financial performance has nearly covered the accumulated prior years’ deficits for the General Fund and Joyful Noise.

6.2. Andrew also pointed out that this year’s General Fund Revenues include \$96,000 of designated funds, as budgeted.

Financial Recap as of October 2017:

	<u>Oct. Actual</u>	<u>Oct. Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
General Fund Revenues	\$91,913	\$72,000	\$753,648	\$748,000
General Fund Expenses	\$60,996	\$70,951	\$726,205	\$747,076
Joyful Noise Revenues	\$56,075	\$61,465	\$611,983	\$602,806
Joyful Noise Expenses	\$48,309	\$55,270	\$535,251	\$574,942

6.3. Upon motion and support, session accepted the Treasurer’s report.

7. **Order of the Day** – John Nametz presented Trustees’ recommended 2018 budget. Following motion and support, the budget was discussed. The budget projects total revenue of \$957,500 with the same amount of budgeted expenses. The session approved this budget and thanked the Trustees for their diligent work.

8. **Omnibus Motion:** Upon motion and support, the following written committee reports were accepted by omnibus motion:

8.1. Adult Education minutes of November 13, 2017.

- 8.2. Board of Deacons minutes of November 27, 2017.
- 8.3. Children's minutes of November 14, 2017.
- 8.4. Generosity minutes of November 14, 2017.
- 8.5. Hospitality minutes of November 21, 2017.
- 8.6. Joyful Noise Board minutes of October 24, 2017 and November 21, 2017.
- 8.7. Trustees minutes of November 7, 2017.
- 8.8. Youth minutes of November 14, 2017.

**9. Committee Reports withheld from the Omnibus Motion:**

- 9.1. Nominations Committee: John Heritage reporting:
  - 9.1.1. Upon motion from this committee, session approved its 2018-19 session committee assignments:
    - Adult Education – Carroll Bennink and Keith Konarska
    - Children's – Megan Hayes and Abe Overway
    - Generosity – Alisha Terrill and Tina VanderWall
    - Hospitality – Calvin Clark
    - Joyful Noise – Andrew LeFurge
    - Mission – Jack Jansma and Paul McNergney
    - Nominations – John Heritage and Sandie Enders
    - Personnel – Bill Blessing and Nancy Levenburg
    - Trustees – Charlie Parker and Rick Skodack
    - Worship – Marge Coffey and Michele Smith
    - Youth – Lynne Bosch and Jay Neitring
  - 9.1.2. Upon motion, session elected Carrie Rivette to serve as Clerk of the Session for 2018-19.
  - 9.1.3. Upon motion, session elected Andrew LeFurge to serve as Treasurer for 2018-19.
  - 9.1.4. Upon motion and support, session elected the following two corporate officer designations:
    - Rick Skodack to serve as President for 2018-19.
    - Charlie Parker to serve as Secretary for 2018-19.
- 9.2. Personnel Committee: Nancy Levenburg reporting:
  - 9.2.1. Upon motion, session approved the following absences for Rev. Hauser Brydon:
    - October 16-22, 2017 – vacation (retroactive)
    - December 26-31, 2017 – vacation (coordination with Rev. VanderWal)
    - January 8-20, 2018 – study leave, missing one Sunday
    - TBD- Two weeks of study leave, taken as vacation days, in June 2018
- 9.3. Worship Committee: Marge Coffey reporting:
  - 9.3.1. Upon motion, session approved the 2018-19 communion schedule:
    - February 4, 2018
    - March 4, 2018 (Intinction)
    - March 29, 2018
    - April 8, 2018
    - May 6, 2018
    - June 3, 2018
    - July 1, 2018
    - August 5, 2018 (Intinction)
    - September 2, 2018
    - October 7, 2018 (Intinction)
    - November 4, 2018
    - December 2, 2018
    - January 6, 2019
- 9.4. Upon motion and support, session accepted the reports of Nominations, Personnel, and Worship.

**10. Unfinished Business:**

- 10.1. John Nametz shared a report addressing church campus security. John explained that the report is preliminary, this will be an evolutionary process, and require thoughtful communication with members and those who worship here. In a separate paragraph, the report also commented on the Fifth Street house and that a long term facilities plan is appropriate before a recommendation(s) is presented to session.
- 10.2. Session continued to discuss this church's public position on acts of violence.

**11. New Business:**

- 11.1. Upon motion and support, the session approved scheduling elder and deacon installations on January 21, 2018.
- 11.2. Rev. Hauser Brydon discussed the "Congregational Conversation" which will be held on January 21, 2018 in the lounge between the two worship services.
- 11.3. Upon motion and support, the session approved scheduling the annual congregational meeting on January 28, 2018 at 10 am.
- 11.4. Upon motion and support, session authorized Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook to officiate at the October 6, 2018 wedding of Jamie Lynn Jullie and Charles Christopher Waite.
- 11.5. Upon motion and support, session approved Rev. Hauser Brydon's 2018 housing allowance of \$30,000 annually (unchanged).

**12. Associate Pastor's Comments** – Rev. VanderWal updated session on her and deacons recent work. She then excused herself from the meeting.

**13. Moderator's Comments** – Rev. Hauser Brydon reporting:

- 13.1. Rev. Hauser Brydon prompted session to start to think about a long term church facilities plan and the need to have a called and installed associate pastor.

**14. Action Items Recap:**

- 14.1. Approved the December 4, 2017 meeting docket.
- 14.2. Approved the minutes of the November 6, 2017 session meeting and the November 12, 2017 congregational meeting.
- 14.3. Approved changing the membership status of Chuck and Carol Jennings to "Other Participant".
- 14.4. Approved new members: Clark Baker, Scott Curtis, Sarah Curtis, Dustin Fisher, Ken Jackson, Karen Losee, Leah Johnson, Mike Johnson, Ann McLaughlin, Larry McLaughlin, Gail Miner, Robert Miner, Linda Needham, Randy Needham, Zachary Russell, Joshua Ver Hage, and Melissa Ver Hage.
- 14.5. Approved the November 2017 membership report.
- 14.6. Accepted the Treasurer's report.
- 14.7. Approved the 2018 budget.
- 14.8. Under omnibus motion, accepted the following written reports: Adult Education, Deacons, Children's, Generosity, Hospitality, Joyful Noise, Trustees, and Youth.
- 14.9. Approved 2018-19 elder committee assignments.
- 14.10. Elected the Clerk, Treasurer, President, and Secretary for 2018-19.
- 14.11. Approved Rev. Hauser Brydon's vacation and study leave.
- 14.12. Approved the communion schedule for 2018-19.
- 14.13. Accepted the reports of Nominations, Personnel, and Worship.
- 14.14. Scheduled elder and deacon installations.
- 14.15. Scheduled the annual meeting.
- 14.16. Approved Rev. Dr. Thomas Cook to officiate at a wedding to be held at FPC on October 8, 2018.
- 14.17. Approved Rev. Hauser Brydon's 2018 housing allowance.
- 14.18. Adjourned the meeting.

**15. Adjournment:** The session adjourned at 8:33 pm with a closing prayer by Rev. Hauser Brydon. The next scheduled meeting is January 8, 2018 at 7 pm in the church lounge.

William Bussell  
Clerk of Session