

Bonhomme Presbyterian Church
14820 Conway Road, Chesterfield, MO
Stated Meeting of the Session
January 15, 2019

Moderator: Rev. Phil Hargrove
Acting Clerk of Session: Cheryl Holland

Place: Chapel
Time: 6:30 pm

Ruling Elders Present: Mike Boland, Fred Breitenwischer, Jenny Brown, Pam Douthit, Lisa Hartshorn, Jim Kilby, Jeanne Luther, Jenni Stecher, John Steffen, Cliff Van Ittersum, Keith Whittemore

Teaching Elders Present: Rev. Phil Hargrove, Rev. Don Everts

Staff and Others: John Green, Jennifer Breitenwischer, Kerri Shuert, Sharon Rinklin

CALL TO ORDER:

Following a shared dinner and fellowship time, the meeting was called to order and a quorum was declared. The meeting was opened with prayer.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND UPDATES:

Preschool and KDO - Sharon reported that the Preschool which opened in 1969 will be celebrating their 50-year anniversary next year. This 50-year anniversary could be tied into our Unite service in the fall by inviting past directors and perhaps former families and children who went to the preschool. The preschool is thriving, meeting the needs of all of its children, and at full capacity.

Keri Shuert reported the finances of the Preschool are in good shape. Some of the expenses that the Preschool encountered in the last year was a mural, a new washer/dryer, new school room furniture, playground equipment, and their building usage increased. On their wish list they are wanted to put in bullet proof windows and doors and to do a more natural playground.

MOPS – Jennifer Breitenwischer reported that last year they had 30 women signed up and had an average of 16 to come. This year they have 45 signed up and have an average of 20 women who come. Nine of those women are Bonhomme members, 8 have gone through Alpha (with their husbands), 24 moms participated in the ShoeBox ministry in November, and another member of MOPS, who is not a member, has started a Game Night here at Bonhomme on Friday Nights. Jen also stated that all of these moms are encouraged, prayed for and even hugged when needed.

The session encouraged and celebrated these programs. Jeanne Luther then prayed for the Preschool, KDO and MOPS. Sharon Rinklin, Keri Shuert, and Jennifer Breitenwischer were then dismissed.

Human Resources – Mike Boland updated the Session on Karen Roche and Tom Hobson. He also reported that the Search Teams for the Children’s Ministry Director and the Associate Pastor position were going as well as expected at this point. Vanderblomen has received several resumes for both positions and should have something to the teams shortly. Fred Breitenwischer suggested that updates be given to the congregation on the progress of these searches. Mike asked Phil to give an update on the progress of the three positions that we are searching for (Associate Pastor, Children’s Ministry, and Contemporary Worship director) in the Pioneer Press and the Eblast.

Children’s Ministry – Jeanne Luther stated that they have a ministry good team. Attendance remains steady in Sunday School classes. Lillian Saltmiras will begin meeting with the VBS Co-Op soon.

Contemporary Worship – Phil Hargrove update the session on what is happening in Contemporary Worship. For two weeks each month Bonhomme’s worship team will lead worship and the other two weeks will be led by worship teams from the outside. Phil also stated that any rumor of Contemporary Worship going away is not true. Should the plan for Contemporary Worship be communicated to the congregation and if so how?

Budget and Finance – Jim Kilby report that we had a good year in 2018. Pledged money amount went down in 2018 but the non-pledged amount went up. Bonhomme has no debt. We had a successful Barnabus/Stewardship campaign for 2019. Jim went over the budget with Session. A motion was made to approve the budget and then seconded. The motion was voted on and passed.

NLL – Cliff Van Ittersum stated that NLL is having a hard time getting people to become Deacons but the search for Elders is going well. Cliff asked if the ministers could make a plea from the pulpit for candidates.

River Tree – Cliff gave an update on River Tree. Stated God is doing good things there.

Adult Ministry – Lisa Hartshorn reported that Wednesday Night Dinner attendance is down, but money wise all is well. The SEALS programs are doing well. The SEALS sent care packages to college students. They also had a pizza party for college students to which 15 students came. Alpha is going to The Haven of Grace. Bonhomme will be doing a Lenten Book Study. There will be a Women’s Ministry Simulcast on Saturday, April 6. The speaker will be Priscilla Shirer. Expecting a large crowd.

Student Ministry – Fred Breitenwischer stated that Student Ministry is in good hands with Cam as director. Cam will be starting seminary this summer. Trivia Night is coming up and also

Middle School and High School mission trips. New AV equipment is being installed in the Student Lounge.

Worship – John Steffen reported that all is going well.

Community Care – Jenni Stecher reported that 35 stockings were filled and then distributed to home bound residents.

Guest Ministry – John Green reported that Pam Douthit, Jenny Brown, Elizabeth Harris, and Mary Bruning are helping with Guest Ministry. Phil is sending a note to visitors each week. Guest Ministry is implementing the plan that Don and Colleen created. Don Everts will also be helping when visitors indicate that they wish to know more about a relationship with Christ.

Missions – Keith Whittemore reported that Missions Sunday will be on January 27th in both the Commons and in Steffen Hall.

Pastor's Report – Phil Hargrove indicated that there will be Night of Worship (NOW) on March 10 at 7:00 pm in Steffen Hall. Phil also let the session know that he has established a Pastoral Advisory Team, with whom he will meet on a regular basis.

Phil asked that each elder put together a report consisting of 2 -3 bullet point about their ministries that can be included in the Packet for the Congregational Meeting.

Phil also wants elders to submit a small report or the minutes of their ministry meetings that can be distributed along with the Session packets on the Friday before each session meeting.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS:

The Session approved that 275 people at the Traditional Services and 248 at the Contemporary Worship service were served communion on January 6, 2019.

The session approved the removal of Cal Solla and Dale Orrick from our rolls due to their deaths.

The session approved the removal of Rachel Messina and family from our rolls due to their own request. They have found a new church that is a better fit for them as a family whole.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 with Pam Douthit closing in prayer. Peace and harmony prevailing.

Approved by Session:

February 19, 2019

Cheryl H. Holland
Cheryl Holland, Acting Clerk of Session