

Session Meeting May 28, 2019

The session meeting was held a week later than normal due to inclement weather.

The gathering opened with dinner and fellowship. The "Pass The Peace" and worship followed.

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was declared by the moderator. Prayer followed.

Phil Hargrove Keith Whittemore Debbie Hawley Jeanne Luther Pam Douthit John Steffen
Fred Breitenwischer Cliff Van Ittersum Mike Boland Jenny Brown Jim Kilby Chad Schrieber
Rita Peterson John Green Thomas Hernandez Katelynn Freese Steve Lucas

New elders were recognized: Chad Schrieber, Debbie Hawley, Rita Peterson and Fred Breitenwischer

Outgoing elders were recognized and gratitude was expressed for their service: John Steffen, Jim Kilby and Lisa Hartshorn

Thomas Hernandez, Children's Ministry Director, shared his vision for the ministry to have an awesome kids ministry with great programming for all children that come through our doors.

Human Resource Commission reported on the selection of Robby Cella for Executive Director of Discipleship and Mission and the most current organizational chart that depicted the ministries under discipleship and mission.

The session voted their concurrence for extending an offer to Robby Cella as the Executive Director of Discipleship and Mission.

Worship: John Steffen reviewed the Dana Allyn report from the previous engagement with ECO. To grow from our current average worship attendance of less than 500 to 800 where Bonhomme previously was, it would require program changes, a culture of discipleship, and adding a worship service targeting Millennials. A graphic depicting the decline in attendance was shared. John Steffen will forward to all in attendance the Dana Allyn report.

Adult Ministry: Pam Douthit shared that the progressive dinner drew 60+ attendees, members as well as non-members.

Budget and Finance/Building and Grounds: Jim Kilby stated that the church was debt free. YTD net operating income was positive. Giving patterns have changed due to the recently enacted tax laws. All surety deposits with the city of Chesterfield have been returned in full. Last payment of \$48,000+ just received. Jim shared the following concerns: disproportionate share of large givers are older. Capital reserves are underfunded for major projects such as roof replacements, parking lot, and Old Stone Church erosion issue on Creve Coeur Creek. It was stated that a long range plan with budgetary requirements should be developed to have these concerns adequately addressed.

The status of the audit recommendations was reviewed and will be reviewed again next month. A “Conflict of Interest” policy was approved. The 501©(3) filing with the IRS was discussed and a “Conflict of Interest” policy was approved.

The Pastor’s report: Phil expressed optimism for the future and the progress with staffing. Minutes from the previous session meeting were approved, June baptism for Helen Calvert, daughter of Caroline Calvert was approved, and communion on May 5th was reviewed with 292 people in Traditional and 177 in Contemporary receiving the elements.

The meeting closed in prayer.