

SESSION NOTES
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCUSA)
HELENA, MONTANA

December 18, 2018

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Helena met on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 6:30 PM at the Church. Rev. Scott Wipperman opened with worship and communion in the sanctuary. Reverend Wipperman (Scott) moderated the meeting.

There was a quorum with the following Elders present: Linda Bench, Marvin Carpenter, Kathy Chambers, John Coefield, Mary Craigle, Marshall Gingery, Dianna Goodman, Matthew Richards, Joe Steffens, John Warren and Mary Wright. Excused were Judy Birch and Dianna Goodman. Also, in attendance: Clerk of Session Elaine Gingery.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Printed report attached. Pastor Scott reminded us to be open to the gift of Christ.

CLERK'S REPORT: Thank you notes from the family of Mazie Radcliffe. There are presently 126 members of the church.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration Committee: Elder Marshall Gingery reported and a printed report is attached.

There is some concern about accounting procedures being followed to reflect the transferring of restricted funds to the General Fund to accurately indicate where they come from.

A second credit card for use by the Education Committee is being made available.

Building and Grounds: Elder Marvin Carpenter reported, and a printed report was distributed. Security cameras are being installed.

Education Committee: Elder John Coefield reported. A printed report is attached. The position description for the Director of Christian Education is being rewritten to be a weekend commitment.

The Sunday Camp presented a Christmas Pageant on December 16 with about 19 participants. They did an outstanding job.

There are presently two small groups and hopefully more will be added.

Congregational Fellowship: Elder Mary Wright reported. A printed report was distributed.

Congregational Fellowship committee will be changing their monthly meeting to the second Wednesday of the month.

A Work as Worship Retreat will be held on Friday, February 22.

BINGO will be held on Friday, January 11 and a Congregational Potluck will be held on January 20.

Mission Committee: Elder Kathy Chambers reported, and a printed report is attached. The Angel Tree has had a great response and many gifts have been donated for Westmont.

Thank you to Family Promise volunteers: Mary Craigle, Joy Edgar, Sandi Smith, Charlotte Meyer, Rose Leavitt, Lonna Weidemann and Kathy Chambers.

ACTION ITEM: The Mission Committee proposes Rose Leavitt as a member of the committee. Motion voted upon favorably.

The Mission Committee requested permission for this church to participate in the ecumenical blanket and towel collection for the homeless prior to Valentine's Day. Matthew Richards moved to approve. Motion seconded and carried.

Nominating Committee: Elder Marshall Gingery reported. Nominees for Elders for the Class of 2022 are Kathy Chambers, Linda Bench, Kapri Byrne and Karen Witte. Nominees for Deacon for the Class of 2022 are Rena Bumgardner, Louise Cramer, Elaine Gingery, and Arlyn "Butch" Plowman. These will be presented to the congregation at the Annual Meeting. Thank you to committee members: Elder Kathy Chambers, Deacon Julie Chaffee, Rose Leavitt, Melissa Stiles, Carol Stebbins, and Butch Plowman.

Personnel Committee: Elder John Warren reported. A printed report is attached.

The committee moved to approve the salary for the new organist and are proposing a 3% raise for other staff members. There has not been a staff raise for three years. The committee is also reviewing the pastor's terms of call for presentation to the congregation at the annual meeting.

Worship Committee: Elder Mary Craigle reported. A printed report is attached. Thank you to Mary Craigle for filling in as Accompanist during the first half of December.

Les has placed ads in the Independent Record to advertise our Christmas services.

Deacon Report: A printed report was attached detailing hospital visitations and home communion served as well as cards sent, and meals served. The minutes of the meeting of November 11 were also attached. The Deacons shared what they are doing for members of their flocks. There is concern for those members of the flocks who do not respond.

Unfinished Business:

Stewardship update: There are presently forty-six pledges for 2019 for a total of \$145,648.

New Business:

Congregational Meeting: The Annual Meeting will be held on January 27 following morning worship.

Annual Report: Annual Reports must be turned in to the office by January 13.

Budget Meeting: The meeting to set the 2019 budget prior to the Annual Meeting will be January 8 at 6:30.

Mary Wright moved to adjourn the meeting, motion seconded and carried. Mary Craigle closed the meeting with prayer.

Next Session Meeting: January 15, 2019 at 6:30 pm.

Elaine Gingery
Clerk of Session