

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION STATED MEETING
March 21, 2017

The Session of Second Presbyterian Church met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 in Fellowship Hall. After prayer at 5:25 by Rev. Robert Woodruff, Session shared a potluck dinner, and RE Reme Molo lead the Session in devotions and prayer. Moderator Rob Woodruff called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present: *Teaching Elder* Rev. Robert Woodruff, Moderator

Ruling Elders: Anita Abeyta, Don Bixby, Pat Gilberto, George Huggins, Kris Johnson, Abel McBride, Reme Molo, Ruth Montoya, Martha Powers, Anita Romero Torres, Anna Torres, John Van Dyke

Guests: Francis Chang and Susie Change, Youth Leaders; Kelly Van Anandel, Deacon representative; Luke Rembold, Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator for the Presbytery

The Clerk reported that a quorum was present.

Session **APPROVED** the agenda by unanimous consent.

Session **VOTED** to grant privilege of the floor to Luke Rembold, Youth and Young Adult Ministry (YAV) Coordinator for the Presbytery of Santa Fe, for purposes of hearing his introduction and conversing with him concerning the duties of his position.

CONVERSATION WITH LUKE REMBOLD

Luke Rembold described his duties as site coordinator for the Young Adult Volunteers (YAV) group being established in Albuquerque, and as Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator for the Presbytery of Santa Fe and provided his email and phone number: youth@santafepresbytery.org, 505-226-8552.

Session **directed** the clerk to send an email to Luke thanking him for his introduction and conversation.

YOUTH LEADERS' REPORT - Susie & Francis Chang

The Joy Junction Event (Sunday, March 19):

Our kids (mid-high) gathered belongings from home to bring with us to Joy

Junction as a donation. They gave 6 large plastic bags filled with clothes and personal items! Joy Junction was discussed during their Sunday School time the week before with Eugenia Bencomo teaching the class. Kudos to Eugenia for her leadership!

We had 10 kids and 6 adults participate. The number of small children was rather disappointing at first but then our kids got into the reason we were there and started sharing their expertise with anyone interested in learning how to create balloon shapes and animals. We also took sugar cookies for kids to decorate and that was a big hit. Our kids took the decorated cookies around the huge room, offering treats to anyone who wanted one.

We were there approximately 1 ½ hours and it was quite the adventure!

Our Annual Mother's Day Gourmet Pancake Breakfast is still a go. The funds raised from this event will help facilitate the Mission Trip to Carlsbad in June, which currently has 12 youth scheduled to go.

We visited with Stephen Daniels from Emmanuel Church in Peñasco and he assured me that the Spanish Dinner is still on so our youth will travel to Peñasco the second week in August to help with this event. This will be our third time working at the Spanish Dinner and all the kids look forward to it!

DEACONS' REPORT – Kelly Van Andel

1. A sign-up sheet was circulated for Ruling Elders to serve communion in April.
2. 95 were served communion on February 26, 2017. Communion was served by intinction on Ash Wednesday, March 1, 2017. 138 were served communion on the First Sunday of Lent, March 5, 2017.
3. Kelly reported on visits made by the Deacons and provided updates on members who are unable to attend regular Sunday services, and asked Session to notify the Deacons of any members or friends who want a visit or in-home communion.
4. Kelly requested that copies of the church newsletter be made available to the Deacons during their in-home visits.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Session **VOTED** to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2017, Session Stated meeting, with the corrections of including Session demographics.

Session **VOTED** to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2017, Session Called meeting.

CLERK'S REPORT

The clerk reported that Records were found to be deficient during the annual Records review due to the absence of a Financial Review.

The clerk provided a summary of documents available thru website the church website secure login page. Session requested that invitations be re-sent.

Incoming Correspondence:

1. 03/06/2017 – Letter from Session of First, Farmington, expressing concern over letter to editor
2. 03/08/2017 – Letter from COM notifying Pastor Rob of assigned liaison
3. 03/09/2017 – Letter from Menaul School President listing recent achievements of school

Outgoing Correspondence:

1. 02/22/2017 - Parish Associates' contracts sent to COM

PASTOR'S REPORT

Rev. Rob Woodruff:

1. Reported on the visits he has made since the last report, and updated Session on the status of some that he visited.
2. Reported that the Taquería, that submits a fee to us to park in our South parking lot, had a pickup truck stolen on Saturday morning, and another had a broken windshield. The thieves were caught. Session requested that Building and Grounds inquire to our Security service on any possible ways to improve coverage of the South parking lot by our security cameras.
3. Suggested that an All-church photo would be appropriate with a possible date of May 7. Session **VOTED** to designate Sunday, May 7, 2017, as the day for the photo and requested the Membership Committee to arrange the details.
4. Reported that he is working with the Personnel Committee to update the Pastor's job description.
5. Reported that he will providing pulpit services in the Ancho Community Presbyterian Church and Corona Presbyterian Church, in Corona, NM, on April 30, 2017.
6. Stated that he is considering attending *The Festival of Homiletics*, to be held in San Antonio, TX, May 15-19, 2017.
7. Reported a very meaningful experience attending CREDO (a Latin word meaning "I give my heart."), a conference to provide transformative opportunities for clergy to reflect on their journey, discern God's presence and calling deep within, and renew, reaffirm, and recommit their passion and conviction for their authentic vocation. There were deep conversations with others and great advisor resources. He was especially touched with the story of how a three-year-old daughter is positively impacting a congregation's attitude on diversity.
8. Took a poll to determine the availability of Session members to participate in the annual Session Retreat, July 7-8, 2017, with Friday being a full day.

9. Reported performing the marriage of Brad Brown and Michael Griego, in Albuquerque, NM, on Monday, March 20, 2017.

PASTOR EMERITUS/PARISH ASSOCIATE REPORT

Rev. Jaime Quiñones reported his in-home visits for February, 2017: Lena De Herrera, Raymond & Elsie Chavez, Barbara Trujillo, Josephine Ringling, Bernie Vasquez, Joyce Leavitt, Tillie Arellano, Ernestine Arndt, Maria Barela, Tom Gonzales, Alfred Sanchez

BOOKKEEPERS REPORT

John Van Dyke reviewed the monthly income and spending reports.

We discussed the balances and disposition of funds in various building funds, and requested the Stewardship and Finance Chairs to consider appropriate actions to consolidate and/or simplify the building fund accounts and make any recommendation(s) to Session.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Anita Romero Torres provided an overview of the duties and activities of the Nominating Committee. Session **VOTED** to elect Ruling Elders Reme Molo and Martha Powers as 2017 Co-Chairs of the Nominating Committee.
2. Session discussed the arrangements with Overeaters Anonymous for them to use Fellowship Hall for their meetings. Session **VOTED** to host them thru May, then review the arrangements. RE Kris Johnson will ask the congregation for a regular representative from the congregation to support the group.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. LiveWire – George Huggins

Session VOTED to modify the first paragraph of **COMMUNICATION (AMONG THE MEMBERSHIP) GUIDELINES** on page 26 of the Policies and Procedures

FROM:

“A monthly newsletter exists, for most of the year, with the purpose of communicating matters of interest within the Church community. All members are encouraged to utilize this channel of communication.

Constant interaction among the Pastor, parishioners, elders, and deacons is necessary for effective communication among the congregation....”

TO (change in ***bold italics***):

“A monthly newsletter exists, for most of the year, with the purpose of communicating matters of interest within the Church community. All members are encouraged to utilize this channel of communication. ***Church policy is to publish known birthdays in the newsletter unless the celebrant requests the date and/or month NOT to be published. This is to provide for some protection against identity theft. If you do NOT want your birth month/date to be published, please notify the LiveWire committee via email at livewire@secondpresabq.org or by notifying the Pastor or Office.*** Constant interaction among the Pastor, parishioners, elders, and deacons is necessary for effective communication among the congregation....”

LW did not meet since the last Session meeting, and LW continues to virtually consult and collaborate. Activities since the last Session meeting are below.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Distributed 10 items to the Announcements mail group, which has 159 members.

CHURCH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

LW plans to begin the reviewing and evaluating of a Church Management Systems (CMS, or Church Management Information System) later in 2017.

DIRECTORY

Occasionally made adds/edits to Instant Church Directory (ICD), which are propagated to the app. Assist with an occasional request for support of installation and activation of the app.

FACEBOOK

One post reached 81 readers.

NEWSLETTER

213 copies of the March newsletter (NL) were mailed at the bulk mailing rate. Expense for paper and ink was \$56.00. Two of us, along with three late arrivals, completed folding and taping in 80 minutes. Distribution of the PDF version of the NL via the email group went to 61. Still researching cheapest and easiest method of printing. \$30.56 of postage paid thru bulk mailing account at Post Office, which required renewal of bulk mailing account with \$250.00 payment.

WEBSITE

Updated HOME page with current activities and added documents to pages that require LOG IN.

BUDGET

“Newsletter Postage” is red, PO required \$225 to renew the bulk mail account. Monthly postage is about \$31, so seven months are “prepaid”.

OTHER

Continued posting “agenda” style calendar to bulletin boards around the building. Purchase 2TB USB drive for storage of the complete worship videos. Only excerpts are posted to the website. The full length worship video is approximately 12GB.

2. Worship – Anita Romero Torres, Don Bixby

Ash Wednesday

A joint worship with First Presbyterian Church was held with choirs from both churches performing and James Yeager conducting, Rev. Stephanie Kremmel preaching, Rev. Woodruff and Rev. Miller as Cantors, piano by Karmen Van Dyke, cello by Ryan Chavez, flute, Rev. Kay Huggins, oboe, Jori Smith and guitar by George Huggins. Thanks to Ruth Montoya and Abel McBride for the ashes and David Lopez for the fire pit. We greatly appreciate having all these individuals participating to bring us a rich and lovely celebration on this evening.

Celebration of the Life of Rev. Carlos Lopez

Family, friends and Congregation members gathered after Church services on March 5, 2017 to share memories and stories as they celebrated the life and spirit of our 15th Pastor. Thanks to George Huggins for the photo presentation.

Lent

In recognition of the 500-year Anniversary of the Reformation we have been focusing on one of the Five Points of Calvinism (acronym TULIP) during the Sundays of Lent. During the Gathering we are using two hand bells to call the Congregation to quiet and prepare us to worship, also the children of the Congregation have processed in with water for the font, a Bible, and the Communion plate and cup. Pastor Rob has greeted us, as Calvin did, by saying,

“Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.” These changes have been well received.

UPCOMING:

Holy Week

The Worship Committee met on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 to plan Holy Week. This is a busy time with much to do and many details to cover. As in the past the following celebrations are planned:

1. Palm Sunday Drama
2. Maundy Thursday Soup Supper & Service
3. Good Friday Evening Service
4. Easter Sunday-Sunrise Service in Peace Garden with Breakfast to follow
5. Easter Sunday-Celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord with Mariachi music

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2017

3. Personnel – Kris Johnson

The Committee will meet on Sunday. Personnel is working to capture and document the job description update changes for the Pastor.

4. Evangelism & Membership – Pat Gilberto

The committee met on Tuesday, March 15. In attendance were Beverly Chavez, Phyllis Nunns, Pat Gilberto, and Susan Romero Chavez.

We discussed plans for the 2017 year. They include the following:

- Updating membership lists
- Honoring the 90+ year olds who are members and those who have been members of 2nd Church for more than 50 years. We would request two dates from the worship committee for summer recognitions. Already have pins, thanks to Abel McBride. May 7 is Older Adults week. Probably celebrate the 90+ on May 7.
- Possibly setting up a new members' class this spring.
- The updating of the Memorial plaque.

5. Mission –Anna Torres

Members present at March 15 meeting: Anna Torres, Pastor Rob Woodruff, Martha Powers, Alicia Gilliam and Maria Martinez.

- Twelve people are scheduled to attend the trip to Guatemala on May 30. Three people will attend from Second Presbyterian Church are Abel McBride, Martha Powers and Pastor Rob Woodruff. Three people from Camino de Vida and six from First Presbyterian Church will also be attending. Some of the work they will be doing while in Guatemala is providing dental clinics and building chicken coops. Commissioning at Second Presbyterian Church is scheduled for May 28. Fundraising to assist with costs for the trip and to purchase supplies will be held, if approved by the Session. A stock sale is being proposed where shares will be sold during fellowship hours after church.
- Curriculum for Sunday School was requested by Pastor Beidy at our partner church in Matanzas, Cuba. Anna Torres was able to download curriculum to a thumb drive and sent to Cuba with cousins traveling to Cuba on March 15.
- Mission Committee voted to support the New Mexico Coalition for Immigrant Justice by awarding the agency with \$250.
- Mission Committee voted to support *Circo for the Community*, a New Mexico Conference of Churches Benefit Event on April 1, 2017 from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. The event includes a reception, dinner, organization presentations and jazz. The committee voted to spend \$250 to buy “a table of 8” for the event. Proceeds will benefit the following organizations:
 - Migrant Services of Catholic Charities
 - New Mexicans to Prevent Gun Violence
 - New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light
 - Interfaith Hunger Coalition
 - Mujeres en Accion
- We are concerned that the First Sunday food donation has not been supported as well as it could be. The committee recommended the inclusion of an announcement in the church bulletin more regularly and Pastor Rob suggested bringing in Brad Brown to do a Minute for Mission on Sunday morning.
- Mission Committee has agreed to prepare and deliver sack lunches for 30-35 volunteers for Habitat for Humanity at a cost of \$75-\$85. The Mission Committee plans on serving these lunches during the month that we do not provide casseroles for Project Share. The fourth Saturday of the month in May is May 27th and the committee will provide sack lunches on that day.

- Ruth Montoya is scheduled to open the church facility for WINGS for Life Program in April.
- Volunteers from Second Presbyterian Church will prepare casseroles for the homeless and low income on Saturday, April 22 and deliver them to St. Martin's in support of Project Share.

Session **VOTED** to hold a stock sale to raise funds for the mission trip to Guatemala.

6. Hospitality – Martha Powers

- Project Share - Alicia Montoya and Tina Griego helped with shopping and will bring food. The food will be stored in the kitchen until it is needed, and will include food containers (cardboard trays), which should be kept (not to be disposed).
- Food was provided for the meeting of the Synod of The Southwest.
- Michele Wright will be contacted to bring food every Sunday when Martha is gone.

7. Christian Education – Anita Abeyta

- Need dates approved for: Give out bibles to Carlos and BellaRae
- Eggstravaganza 4/14 at 10 am
- VBS Orientation June 11 after church in the Candelaria Wing
- VBS 6/19 - 6/21 VBS has changed a bit:
 - Monday will be at First Tuesday will be at St Andrew, Wednesday will be at Second, Thursday will be at First

8. Building & Grounds – Abel McBride, Reme Molo

- a. playground equipment damaged, have claim number, need to talk to agent to determine what to do;
- b. getting closer to getting info about parking lot lights;
- c. should be more participation in clean-up day;
- d. working on removing kitchen sink next to kitchen door exit and put in work counter.

9. Stewardship & Finance – Ruth Montoya, John Van Dyke

Members: Toby Montoya, Lynn Gatewood, Jack Torres, James and Eugenia Bencomo, Anita Chavez

Our committee is scheduled to meet for our first meeting of 2017 on Tuesday, March 28th, 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Our agenda will include discussion regarding the four special offerings of the Presbyterian Church, with special emphasis on the upcoming One Great Hour of Sharing which will be received on Palm Sunday. The committee will determine a plan for promoting the offering during worship on March 26 and again on April 2.

Session **VOTED** to accept the Committee reports.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Rev. Woodruff at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

George T. Huggins, Clerk of Session