**SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**SESSION STATED MEETING MINUTES**

**May 21, 2019**

Session of Second Presbyterian Church met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, in Fellowship Hall. After prayer at 5:25pm by Pastor Robert Woodruff, a potluck dinner was shared. Elder Pat Gilberto led us in devotions, reflecting on anxiety and our daily frustrations. Elder Gilberto opened the business meeting with prayer at 6:00pm.

**Present:** *Pastor,* Rev. Dr. Robert Woodruff, Moderator

*Elders:* Don Bixby, Willy Chavez, Pat Gilberto, George Huggins, Kris Johnson, Eli Lopez, Reme Molo, Ella Porragas, Anna Torres

**Excused:** Anita Abeyta, Sandra Duran, Abel McBride

**Guests:**

* Francis Chang, Youth Leaders;
* Lauren LaMonica, PCUSA Young Adult Volunteer (YAV), assigned to Second.

The clerk declared a quorum was present

Session **VOTED** to approve the agenda.

**ORDER OF THE DAY**

**EPIC (Youth) REPORT** – Francis Chang

1. Our recent Birthday party was very successful; 14 children attended; We played games, and ate so much food that we ran out!
2. Everyone wants to go ice skating, and that is sure to be a future event.
3. All want to work in a food bank e.g., Silver Horizon, by Comanche Street.
4. There is a possibility of committing to a community garden.
5. Seven youth, including Nicole Castellano, will be attending Triennium, July 16-20, 2019, a Purdue University. EPIC will be focusing on that. The youth will leave July 16, and we are planning on commissioning the attendees during worship on July 14.
6. We had a great time with the youth of First PC.
7. All the students are worried about finals.
8. So, they want to do service projects, but also celebrate (party) with EPIC.

**YAV UPDATE** – Lauren LaMonica

March

* I was with the Menaul School sophomores on their mission week to Truchas, Chimayó, and other places in Northern NM.
* Both Menaul School boys’ basketball teams that I was able to assistant coach won both of their championship games!
* I participated in the YAV silent retreat, which was a meaningful and rich experience.
* Sundays I still assist with Sunday School and Children Moments.

April

* I did my usual throughout the weeks, and also Holy Week.
* I am the fire starter!!
* We had a YAV brisket fundraiser that was a bust, but, oh, well.
* Sundays I assisted with Sunday School and Children Moments.

May

* Usual throughout the weeks.
* Working more on my vocational discernment.
* Dad came into town and met a few of y'all (finally got my truck back!).
* Assisted with the middle and high school track teams at Menaul School, and finished up learning expedition and graduation.
* Teaching Sunday School on my own and children moments!
* EPIC birthday bash!

I know it seems like a lot of the activities I have been involved with are very heavily pertained to Menaul School, and in laymen terms, well, they are. Getting to work with these kids everyday has been an absolute blessing, not just on a coaching aspect, but on just being someone to listen to them and form these bonds with them! I always knew I liked kids, but never in a million years thought I would be a teacher in any way. I’m not only assisting with sports but I have kids come up and ask me moral questions! Over the past few months I have come to realize that in this way I am also doing a form of ministry that the kids of all ages can understand, without the pressure of parents and formal teachers. I never would've found part of my passion or had been able to reach so many kids without the support of y'all allowing me to explore this area. So, thank you!

Session **VOTED** to approve the minutes of the 04/23/2019 Session Stated meeting, with corrections.

**CLERK’S REPORT**

1. **Correspondence:**
   1. 05/14/2019 – TO – St. Andrew (Lisa Patterson) PC, Denton, TX, to inform them of the Affiliate Membership of Lauren LaMonica.
2. **Received into Membership:**
   1. The following were examined and approved for membership by Session during our regular Stated meeting of 04/23/2019, and received during Worship 04/28/2019, by Profession of Faith: Harriet Brandstetter, Modesto “Bo” Garcia, Deckie Herrera-Byrum, Allan Holmquist, Alexandra “Alex” Portillo;
   2. And on the same dates, as an Affiliate Member, Lauren LaMonica, whose membership is with First Presbyterian Church, Denton, TX.
3. **Baptism:**
   1. Emma Sky Korver-Glenn, b. 05/20/2018, Albuquerque, NM, daughter of members Randall and Elizabeth Korver-Glenn, was baptized by Rev. Robert Woodruff during worship in the Sanctuary of Second on 05/05/2019.
4. **Reaffirmation of Vows**
   1. Rev. Woodruff officiated over a Reaffirmation of Marriage Vows by Beverly and Reme Molo, 04/27/2019, in the sanctuary of Second PC.

**PASTOR’S REPORT** – Rev. Robert Woodruff

1. Taqueria Mexico will leave their current location, on Lomas, near the end of June. They will move to near Menaul BLVD and Second Street. They have been invited to participate in worship on June 2, to emphasize “who is your neighbor?”
2. Church Safety – we -have- had some training; “Safe Church” is to protect youth and children (Anita Abeyta); the “Safety Program” (Susan Smith at PSF) is how to respond during violence/geographical/weather/fire problems.

Session **VOTED** to form a Safety Committee with members Eli Lopez, Reme Molo, Ruth Montoya, and Pastor Rob, to research security protocols for Sunday mornings.

1. The owner of the house and property next door wants to sell. To make improvements to the property would be up to $20K to make it nice. The price is $110K and is non-negotiable. Reginald Olson is a real estate broker in town. The key to the property is available. The owner wants to sell so he can remodel his house in CA. He might be agreeable to sell for $70K and donate the balance for a tax deduction. An estimate on the value of the property will be by market analysis as well as a physical appraisal. We might possibly use the house for, e.g., low-income rent; grow the Trans-Asylee program; EPIC program; parking if we remove the building. We would probably have some sort of fund-raiser events.

After discussion on the pros and cons of purchasing the property, and how it might be used, Session decided by **CONSENSUS** is to continue with discussions and research on the possible purchase of the property.

1. Basement remodel is basically done, with great thanks and praise to all who helped.
2. I officiated over vow renewals of Bev and Reme Molo; performed a formal wedding celebration at Parq Central Hotel for a couple recently judicially married; will do Joy Boehning’s daughter’s wedding celebration, also already judicially married; and on Labor Day, Ruth Montoya’s grand-nephew’s wedding.
3. The Trans-Asylee project continues to be supported by the Mission Committee and Alma Rosa. The PSF gave $750 for support, and we might have a lead for more funds. Since January 2019, we have helped about 60 women.

**BOOKKEEPERS REPORT** – John Van Dyke

1. John reviewed the Income report.
2. The Covenant investment account could have around $70K.
3. There is about $60K in our PILP account.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Public Address system Extension for Fellowship Hall:**
   1. Elder Kris Johnson is researching options. Some information is on Karmen’s bulletin board.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. **Stewardship & Finance** – Eli Lopez

*To be Done/Scheduled:*

*Report of annual financial review or audit (G-3.0113)*

*Annual budget approved/recorded (G-3.0205)*

Activities for May 2019:

1. We provided an update on budget status and shortfall to congregation on April 28, 2019.
   1. Reported we are still not out of the RED but are continuing to monitor budget status.
   2. Reported that since our February 2019 congregational meeting there have been 27 additional pledge cards submitted with increased pledges, for an increase of $8,928.  These increases we think are exceptional from our membership.
2. Pastor Rob and members of Stewardship committee met with Megan, the financial treasurer for La Mesa Presbyterian Church, to share ideas and compare bookkeeping systems.
   1. Appears our processes are pretty similar and in fact our counting process seems to be more streamlined. They use a program called Power Church which in review seems to be comparable to our Breeze system.  We suggested George follow up on this for more expertise analysis.
3. Pastor Rob has been consulting with CPA’s, auditors, members and friends of the church to explore what type of audit or financial review we need for our finances.
4. Members of our committee are still concerned about the safety of our offerings.  Would like to have a secure vault. Possibly can get fire-safe cabinet re-keyed.
5. Summary of financial report in June newsletter; along with graph.
6. **Nominating** – Reme Molo, Pat Gilberto

No report

1. **LiveWire** – George Huggins
   1. 2019 Budget - LiveWire has obligated $512 of its $1,669 budget for 2019, or 31%.
   2. Deadline for June newsletter submission is Noon, Friday, May 24, 2019.
   3. Why LiveWire videotapes worship services.
   4. We have been averaging over 500 weekly visits to Second’s website
   5. Real addressees for USPS newsletter are down to 187. We need 200 to make bulk mailings. About 160 addresses is the break-even to switch to first-class postage, where the bulk mailing rate would not save any expenses. About 45 of those 187 have email addresses.
   6. We have been assisting choirs with taped parts, published on Second’s website, for choir members to hear and learn.
   7. We are adding an EPIC page via permission of Chang’s. Lauren is the primary developer.
2. **Hospitality** – Sandra Duran, Ella Porragas
   1. Sandra and Ella continue to alternate months of responsibility.
   2. Table cloths have been sorted and placed in the bin in the storage room.
   3. Peggy Esquibel and Jerry Martinez are still rocks of dependability for support.
   4. Gil Miranda still provides paper goods.
3. **Personnel** – Kris Johnson

*To be Done/Scheduled:*

*Compensation reviewed with pastor(s) (G-2.0804)*

*Compensation reviewed with other staff*

Session **VOTED** to approve vacation for Pastor Rob for July 13-20, 2019.

1. **Mission** –Anna Torres
   1. WINGS will hold their annual banquet and fund-raiser on May 2. Second has a table for 10.
   2. Our Trans-Asylee residential manager, Johely, needs items. Anna will make the request. Johely will be getting food stamps. We are hopeful she will be approved for a stipend for a year.
   3. We need to install screens into the windows of the Trans-Asylee apartment. It can get hot in the apartment, especially without a cooler. We -have- a cooler for the apartment, but it has not been installed.
   4. We are scheduled to support Project Share on June 22.
   5. On May 27, please remember if you will open/close for the WINGS program.
   6. Will and Tilda Chavez are interested in the PSF-sponsored Mission trip to Cuba, October 22-30, 2019. Applications are thru Susan Smith, and each applicant will need approval thru the Session of their church.

Session **VOTED** to approve the participation of Will and Tilda Chavez and Jack and Anna Torres in the PSF Mission trip to Cuba, October 22-30, 2019.

* 1. The next meeting of the Mission Committee will be June 6, 11am.

1. **Evangelism & Membership** – Pat Gilberto

*To be Done/Scheduled:*

*Review of Membership Roll* ***annually*** *(G-3.0201c)*

May accomplishments:

1. In April we had six new members join the church. We provided a celebratory cake in Fellowship Hall after worship. Our new members are: Harriet Brandstetter, Allan Holmquist, Deckie Herrera-Byrum, Alexandra “Alex” Portillo, Modesto “Bo” Garcia, and Lauren LaMonica as an affiliate member.
2. We provided a flower for the baptism of Emma Sky Korver-Glenn on May 5th.
3. On May 19th, we will be honoring the three more individuals who have been members for 50+ years, Marie Kenny, Joyce Carlson-Leavitt, and Cristina Ortega. We will provide ice cream in a celebration during the fellowship time after church.
4. Thanks to Abel McBride for making arrangements and picking up three silver crosses to be given to the three current members. They were made by Reyes Pinto from Zuni Pueblo.
5. Conrad Rocha will be given a boutonniere in honor of his commitment and strong connection to Second.
6. Four possible new members in fall class.
7. **Christian Education**
   1. Anita submitted a report that May 26 is last day of Sunday School.
8. **Building & Grounds**

No report.

1. **Worship and Music** – Don Bixby

*To be Done/Scheduled:*

*Communion dates Authorized dates (W-3.0409, W-3.410)*

**A Review of the Easter Season**

The Worship and Music Committee members have all received enthusiastic comments about the events of Lent and Holy Week. Some reflected the effect our fellowship and worship have in the community because of our collaboration with First Presbyterian and Church of the Risen Savior. In every case, people expressed the hope that we continue with the Easter events that we have promoted for the past years, with only tweaking to keep the season fresh and meaningful. **Thanks to Marie Kenny for directing the Palm Sunday drama and all the cast, and to everyone who contributed in many ways to the celebration of the Easter Season.**

Other recent worship highlights included the baptism of Emma Sky Korver-Glenn on May 5th, and a Mothers’ Day recognition of all who are or have been nurturers. Bibles were presented to Ezekiel Montoya and Haley Lujan during Children’s Moment by Lauren LaMonica.

**New Business:**

Anita Romero Torres will be stepping down from the committee. Please give her a word of appreciation for the role she has played in the Worship and Music Committee. We will miss her perspectives and perceptions to provide meaningful spiritual experiences to the congregation of Second and to the community. Because Anita has been scheduling the presenters for Children’s Moment, discussion moved to alternatives. Suggestions for CM scheduling include a request that one of the regulars provide leadership.

Karmen has ordered a cart for the keyboard so that it can be moved by one or two persons. She also reported that the funding was almost complete for the finishing of the basement room. This project is well underway toward completion thanks to Orlando Duran. The summer music schedule will be mostly solos and small ensembles rather than trying to manage the full choir each week.

Audio tech support was discussed since John Van Dyke is unable to be the weekly audio technician. Reme Molo, Tom Mirabal, and Trancito Romero have all helped in the past. The proposal was made for one these folks be a coordinator for the Sunday task much as we have for liturgical leader, children’s moment, and ushers.

*Voices from the Pew* were earlier scheduled for the 5th Sundays. (This year they occur in March, June, September and December.) The proposal to add the summer month of July and August brings the total to six VFTP Sundays for the year with one a month from June through September. We may want to revisit this schedule and explore how these services are to be developed (i.e. traditional service, hymn sing, other options.)

**5/19**  Rob in pulpit: *Transforming Faith,* Honoring the 50 + members.  LL-Yvonne Gallegos, CM-Marie Kenny, Ushers Amanda and Nichole Castellano

**5/ 26** Rob in pulpit: *The Power of Staying Faithful*LL-Gloria Mirabel, CM- Rob, Ushers-Ruth Ann Salazar and Frank Salazar

**6/ 2 Rob** in pulpit**,** *Confession 1967 Mr. Rogers and being Good Neighbors,* Communion LL-TBD, CM-Rob, Ushers

**6/ 9** Rob in pulpit: *Pentecost, A Mystical Birthday*, LL-TBD, CM-Lauren, Ushers Red candles, paraments, flowers ordered. Children singing, proposed harp music.

**6/30** VFTP Elizabeth Korver-Glenn and Lauren LaMonica LL- CM Ushers   
**Dates:** Next Committee Meeting June 11, 10:00 am

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

**ADJOURN WITH PRAYER**

There being no further business and no objection to adjournment, we were dismissed with prayer by Pastor Rob at 8:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

George T. Huggins, Clerk of Session