

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2016**

1. The session of First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, August 8, 2016, at 7:03 pm in the lounge of the church located at 508 Franklin Street in Grand Haven, Michigan. The clerk, Bill Bussell, determined a quorum was present. Rev. Linda Male called the meeting to order.
2. **Attendance:**
 - 2.1. Elders Present: Bill Blessing, Bill Bussell, Marge Coffey, Megan Hayes, John Heritage, Jack Jansma, Brigette Kemink, Keith Konarska, Andrew LeFurge, Nancy Levenburg, John Nametz, Keli Olson, Abe Overway, Carrie Rivette, Craig Seaver, Alishia Terrill, and Sue VandenBosch.
 - 2.2. Elders Absent or Excused: Lee Brink, Sandie Enders, Katie Neitring, and Tim Stoeper.
 - 2.3. Teaching Elder Present: Rev. Linda Male and Rev. Jill VanderWal.
 - 2.4. Teaching Elder Absent or Excused: None.
3. **Call to Worship:** Rev. Male then opened the meeting with prayer.
4. **Clerk's Report:** Bill Bussell reporting:
 - 4.1. Upon motion and support, session approved the August 8, 2016 meeting docket.
 - 4.2. Upon motion and support, session approved its June 6, 2016 session meeting minutes as presented.
 - 4.3. Upon motion and support, session approved its June 12, 2016 session meeting minutes as presented.
 - 4.4. Upon motion and support, session approved its June 26, 2016 session meeting minutes as presented.
 - 4.5. Upon motion and support, session approved the transfer of Matthew Bussell to the Pittsburgh Presbytery.
 - 4.6. Upon motion and support, session approved the June/July 2016 membership report as presented.
 - 4.7. The clerk had no correspondence.

First Presbyterian Church Membership Report
June & July 2016

Membership as of May 31, 2016	939
Deaths:	0
New Members Received:	4
Restored to Active Roll:	0
Removed from Active Roll:	0
Transferred from Active to Inactive Roll:	0
Transferred by Letter	1
Membership as of July 31, 2016	942

Additional Registers	Member #	Notes
Marriages:		
7/16/2016 Anna Judith(Fonte) and Eric James Bouwkamp	#2016-0850	Rev. Scott Stanley
Baptism:		
7/31/2016 Adelyn Christine Mey, daughter of Adam & Tanya(Purcell) Mey	0	Rev. Scott Stanley
Membership Gains:		
6/6/2016 Madison Olson	4	Confirmed
Emma Rotman		Confirmed
Lydia Rotman		Confirmed
Laura Yonan		Confirmed

Membership Losses:

1

6/6/2016 Barbara Groat

Transfer to First UMC, Grand Rapids

Communion Served: 8:45 & 10:30 a.m.
Service

Home Communion: 6/5/2016

Harvey Beute	Laurel Hendrick	Ethel Slover
Sandy Beute	Ruth Mastenbrook	Flo Sluiter
Charlie Davis	Fern Mastenbrook	Evelyn Wood
Don Edward	Sue McClellan	Carol Winton
Ruth Edward	Muriel Mersereau	Gerry VanStratt
Millie Enders	Sue Roper	

Home Communion: 7/3/2016

Harvey Beute	Laurel Hendrick	Gerry VanStratt
Sandy Beute	Fern Mastenbrook	Norma Vyn
Charlie Davis	Marie Pfeiffer	Evelyn Wood
Don Edward	Sue Roper	Carol Winton
Ruth Edward	Ethel Slover	
Millie Enders	Connie VanGelderen	

Action Items:

Proposed Transfer Out:	1
Matt Bussell	4725 transfer to Pittsburgh Presbytery

5. **Faith Biography/Committee of Focus:** Jack Jansma shared his faith biography.
6. **Shared Joys and Concerns –** The elders reported on their joys and concerns.
7. **Treasurer’s Report:** Andrew LeFurge reporting:
 - 7.1. Andrew reviewed the May/June 2016 financial reports (income and expense data for May, June and 6/30/2016 year-to-date and 6/30/2016 Balance Sheet):
 - 7.1.1. Income for both months was below budget resulting with a total income approximately \$48,000 below budget for the first six months of 2016.
 - 7.1.2. Year-to-Date expenses are approximately \$24,000 below budget with most of these attributed to unexpended Mission budgeted amounts.

Financial Recap as of June 2016:

	May Actual	June Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
General Fund Revenues	\$72,052	\$71,258	\$426,104	\$474,266
General Fund Expenses	\$80,822	\$64,348	\$430,305	\$454,618
Joyful Noise Revenues	\$49,013	\$52,669	\$338,737	\$328,027
Joyful Noise Expenses	\$54,805	\$53,398	\$327,604	\$324,471

- 7.2. Upon motion with support, session accepted the Treasurer’s Report.
8. **Omnibus Motion:** Upon motion and support, the following written committee reports were accepted by omnibus motion:
 - 8.1. Adult Education minutes of June 14, 2016.
 - 8.2. Board of Deacons minutes of June 27, 2016.
 - 8.3. Hospitality minutes of June 21, 2016.
 - 8.4. Mission minutes of June 20, 2016.
 - 8.5. Nominations minutes of June 13, 2016.
 - 8.6. Pastor Nominating Committee report in August 2016 Tidings.

- 8.7. Personnel minutes of June 13, 2016.
- 8.8. Youth minutes of June 14, 2016.

9. Committee Reports Withheld from the Omnibus Motion:

- 9.1. Generosity Committee: Sue VandenBosch reporting:
 - 9.1.1. Sue thanked those who provided information for the narrative budget.
 - 9.1.2. Sue distributed copies of a brochure describing the William Montague Ferry Legacy Society which will encourage members to make legacy gifts. She hopes to have this information included on the church's website as well.
- 9.2. Trustees Committee: John Nametz reporting:
 - 9.2.1. John solicited session member's opinions on the proposed external audit.
 - 9.2.2. John updated session on the TCM building. Although TCM is planning to move to another location, this location may not be available as soon as they hoped. Therefore, the church may need to replace the heating boiler or temporarily provide space within the church building. John also asked session for their vision of this building once TCM vacates it. Rev. Male stated that she would see if the building could be available for the elders to walk through it some Sunday between services.
- 9.3. Worship Committee: Marge Coffey reporting:
 - 9.3.1. Marge reported that Maryanne Berry and Caleb Zokoe are planning a 2017 Isle of Iona pilgrimage.
 - 9.3.2. Upon motion, session authorized shifting January's communion to January 8, 2017 and approved the addition of Sara Shambarger as a non-elder committee member.
- 9.4. Upon motion and support, session accepted the reports of Generosity, Trustees, and Worship Committees.

10. Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

11. New Business

- 11.1. Rev. Male discussed the "Suggested Calendar for Congregational Meetings, Elections, and Session Meetings" document which was included in the session meeting packet. There were a few adjustments and it is understood that session may need a special meeting to adopt the 2017 budget. Upon motion and support, session approved this calendar/document.
 - 11.1.1. With this approval, session is calling a congregational meeting on November 13, 2016 for the purpose of changing the bylaws and electing elders and deacons.
 - 11.1.2. The annual congregational meeting will be on February 5, 2017 as required by our bylaws.
- 11.2. Rev. Male discussed the proposed change to Article VIII of the church bylaws. In summary, this change would shorten the term of the Board of Deacons to two years from three years. This is requested by both the Board of Deacons and the Nominations Committee. Upon motion and support, session approved asking the congregation to approve this change at the called congregational meeting on November 13, 2016.

12. Moderator's Comments – Rev. Male reporting:

- 12.1. Rev. Male referred session to her written report.
- 12.2. Upon motion with support, session approved Rev. Male's requested vacation from September 26 through October 8.

13. Associate Pastor's Comments – Rev. VanderWal reporting:

- 13.1. Rev. VanderWal discussed her work with the membership audit. She stated that this effort should be a continuous process for our church conducted by a team.

14. Action Items Recap:

- 14.1. Approved the August 8, 2016 meeting docket.
- 14.2. Approved the June 6, 2016 session meeting minutes as presented.
- 14.3. Approved the June 12, 2016 session meeting minutes as presented.
- 14.4. Approved the June 26, 2016 session meeting minutes as presented.
- 14.5. Approved the transfer of Matthew Bussell to the Pittsburgh Presbytery.
- 14.6. Approved the June/July 2016 membership report.
- 14.7. Accepted the Treasurer's report.

- 14.8. Under an omnibus motion, accepted the following committees' written reports: Adult Education, Board of Deacons, Hospitality, Mission, Nominations, Pastor Nominating, Personnel, and Youth.
 - 14.9. Approved shifting January's communion to January 8, 2017 and authorized Sara Shambarger to serve as a non-elder on the Worship Committee.
 - 14.10. Accepted the reports from Generosity, Trustees, and Worship Committees.
 - 14.11. Approved the "Suggested Calendar for Congregational Meetings, Elections, and Session Meetings" with some minor changes. With this action, session authorized a congregational meeting on November 13, 2016 to change bylaws and elect elders and deacons. The annual congregational meeting will be on February 5, 2017 as specified by the church's bylaws.
 - 14.12. Approved submitting the proposed change of Article VIII of the church bylaws to the congregation on November 13, 2016 for approval.
 - 14.13. Approved Rev. Male's vacation from September 26 through October 8.
 - 14.14. Adjourned the meeting.
15. **Adjournment:** On motion and support, the session adjourned at 9:02 pm with the Lord's Prayer. The next scheduled meeting is September 12, 2016 at 7 pm in the church lounge.

William Bussell
Clerk of Session