

February 2021



First Presbyterian Church E-News

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Session Meeting Highlights

The Session of First Presbyterian Church met virtually at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 21, 2021 for its stated monthly meeting and on Wednesday, January 27, 2021 for a called meeting. The Rev. James Young served as Moderator for the stated meeting and Rev. Matthew Glasgow, with Rev. Young's permission, served as Moderator for the called meeting. Jeff Getty served as Clerk for both meetings.

The Session took the following actions at the January 21, 2021 meeting:

- Approved the Membership Records as of January 20, 2021.
- Approved the year to date financial records as of December 31, 2020.
- Approved the communion schedule for 2021.
- Approved the delay in the Audit Committee's report due to COVID-19 and the need to meet in person and physically review committee records with the report to be completed within 30 days of reentry into the building or by June 30, 2021.
- Approved Worship and Music Committee's request to continue virtual worship until the next Session meeting and consider whether in person worship could resume February 21, 2021 with the Committee receiving the medical perspective from Dr. Michael Levitas.

The Session took the following actions at the January 27, 2021 meeting:

- Accepted the retirement and letter of resignation of Rev. Young whose last day in

the pulpit will be March 7, 2021.

- Approved the recommendation of the Personnel Committee not to pursue a new interim pastor and continue to search for a new permanent pastor through the efforts of the Pastoral Nominating Committee.
- Approved the 2021 Budget to be forwarded to the congregation at the Annual Meeting.

In addition the Session heard:

- from the Building and Grounds Committee that the repair and reconstruction of five areas on the stone wall behind the church is tentatively set to begin around January 21, 2021, weather permitting.
- from the Faith Formation Committee that for Lent we will be using the devotional Reflections on the Lord's Prayer, which is a six-week study.
- from the Mission Committee that they are evaluating an opportunity to be involved in a new program being developed at the YMCA for an afterschool meal program for at-risk youths. Mission also reported that it is unclear if there will be a Dakota Learning Camp this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- from Jeff Getty that he has resigned as Clerk of Session effective after the Annual Meeting due to recent additional job responsibilities he has assumed. David Stickler has agreed to take on the Clerk responsibilities.

If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk or the Moderator.

Nurture

Joys and Concerns



Birthdays

Katie Ross 2-Feb
Marybelle Light 3-Feb
Brenda Clark, CPA 5-Feb
Abbey Workmeister 5-Feb
Meredith Irons 8-Feb
Debi Mullan 8-Feb
Martha Jane Hochard 11-Feb
Gail Plitnik 13-Feb
Barbara Aber 16-Feb
Tom Chappell 16-Feb
Linda Mellon 16-Feb
Judy Stern 16-Feb
Sterlin Rebeck 17-Feb
Laura Fiscus 18-Feb
Gwyn Chappell 19-Feb
Deb Hendrickson 19-Feb
Phil Mills 21-Feb



Sympathy and prayers to the family of Linda Smith on the death of Linda's father, George Smith, on Saturday, January 23rd.

Learn and Grow

Join us for a study of the Lord's Prayer!

Thursday Nights at 6:00 PM
February 18th-March 25th
Facilitated by Josh Gilhart via Zoom

Reflections on The Lord's Prayer

Six Week Zoom Lenten Study

Thursday Nights Feb. 18th—March 25th @ 6:00pm

Email Jagilhart@gmail.com to sign up and receive
your participant guide



Most of us are intimately familiar with the Lord's Prayer. It was one of the first things ingrained into us as young disciples in Sunday School and we repeat it regularly as adults. But as with many things which come so easily to our minds, do we ever slow down to consider the words we are saying? Join us for an insightful and reflective six week study as we consider the Lord's Prayer in depth to deepen our understanding of it and pray it with new energy.

Please email Josh Gilhart at Jagilhart@gmail.com to sign up and receive your participant packet.

Worship With Us

An Update from the Worship & Music Committee

The Worship and Music Committee has been meeting regularly to evaluate the possibility of returning to in person worship. As our Corona Virus numbers continue to decline in Allegany County, we are hopeful to report to Session our recommendation to worship in our sanctuary during Lent and Easter. Mask and social distance measures will remain in place. Members of the congregation who do not wish to attend in person can continue to follow our streamed service live or on You-tube.

The Worship and Music Committee has also began making preparations for our annual Easter Sunrise service at Rocky Gap State Park.

Eric Ringler and Joe Aurigemma have written a liturgist guide for virtual worship. This guide explains methods of taping liturgist readings and other presentations. Brittany can send copies of this guide to anyone interested in making a video presentation during the virtual services. Please email Brittany at, firstpresbyteriansecretary@gmail.com, if you would like a copy of the virtual liturgist guide sent to you.

A communion schedule has been approved by the Session. As a precaution, we will continue to take communion using the small Covid packages through 2021.

The screen and projector have been successfully funded through the Christmas Fundraiser. Special thanks to our generous members and friends for their donations towards the Christmas Fundraiser.