

**CALLED SESSION MEETING  
OLD STONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2022  
HYBRID MEETING**

The Session of the Old Stone Presbyterian Church met for a Called Session meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Rev. Jeff Binder, Interim Pastor/Moderator and opened with prayer.

Attendance was taken by the Clerk and it was declared that a quorum was in attendance.

**PRESENT:** Moderator, Rev. Jeff Binder; Clerk of Session, Nancy Smallenberger; Educator/Program Coordinator, Amy Kesterson and Ruling Elders: Jim Coleman, Tag Galyean, Townley Hamilton, Sara Irons, Megan Kirkham, Karen Leland, Chuck Lewis, Scott McClelland, Joan Montgomery, Jim Rowe and Jennifer Runyon.

**EXCUSED:** Ruling Elder, Stuart Brown.

The first items to be addressed was the wedding request that had been approved at the Stated Session meeting. Rev. Binder stated that the date had been set for Saturday, September 24, 2022. Another item carried over from the Stated meeting was a request from Molly Messimer, who was requesting to use Fellowship Hall once a week, for an undetermined length of time, to hold dog show practice/training. Rev. Binder stated that he had spoken with Jim Seeley, property manager, who has no problem with having animals in the building. Messimer stated that she will not be charging any fee for those participating. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to allow the group the use of Fellowship Hall.

Rev. Binder reminded the Elders that the Presbytery led Officer Training session will be held, via Zoom, on Sunday, February 20 and Sunday, February 27. Session was also reminded that the Session Retreat will be held Saturday, February 26, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This will be a time for the Session to address the Mission Study to be submitted to Presbytery's Committee on Ministry.

Rev. Binder also reported that the 2021 Statistical Report had been completed and submitted by the clerk. It was stated that the report shows a number higher than an in-house prepared list shows. There are a few reasons for the difference and these were discussed. It was decided to address these lists by a group of individuals.

The final item to addressed was the operating budget for 2022, prepared by the Stewardship/Finance Committee. Scott McClelland, moderator of the committee, began by explaining the rationale behind the decisions made by the committee when they were preparing their proposed budget. He stated that he felt that the committee had worked very hard and had worked well together. He reported that there are some areas that could be of concern to some individuals in the church ... one being Outreach. But he went on to explain that Jennifer Runyon, moderator of Outreach, is working diligently to find sponsorship for the individual projects that

had been cut from the budget. McClelland also stated that the church's contribution to the Presbytery's Shared Mission had been decreased. The committee also decided against proceeding with an external financial review for 2021, instead doing an in-house review.

Rev. Binder stated that as an interim pastor, he wanted to ask the group three questions for them to answer:

1. What does this budget say about our values as a church?
2. Would there be a different goal for next year's budget?
3. How we understand using our reserves in a responsible way?

Some thoughts from the group in reply to these questions included:

1. Need to not confuse reserves with the church's overall assets.
2. That it was important to present a balanced budget without using any monies from the church's reserves.
3. It would be helpful if a Trustee could meet with the Stewardship Committee and the Session to inform the groups on the funds they control and what the conditions are for using the funds. (Elder, Jim Rowe, who has served as a Trustee at various times, agreed to provide this information.)
4. How can we be intentional when thinking about budgets?

Following the discussion, a motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to accept the budget as presented by the committee.

A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to call a Congregational meeting, following morning worship, on Sunday, March 6, 2022. The purpose of this meeting will be to present the 2022 operating budget to the membership of the church and to review the Annual Report for 2021.

Committee moderators were reminded that their printed reports for the Session packet for the March 16, Stated meeting, should be sent to Allyson, in the office, by March 11.

Rev. Binder expressed his thanks to the Stewardship/Finance committee for all their hard work that went into preparing the budget that had been presented.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, with all in approval bowing their heads for the closing prayer, offered by Rev. Binder.

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Clerk of Session

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Moderator

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Date Signed and Approved