

**STATED SESSION MEETING  
OLD STONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2022**

The Session of the Old Stone Presbyterian Church met for their Stated Session meeting on Wednesday, January 5, 2022. (This was a hybrid meeting.) The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the moderator, Rev. Jeff Binder, Interim Pastor. The clerk took attendance and it was declared that a quorum was in attendance. Devotions and the opening prayer were offered by Tracy Morgan.

**PRESENT:** Moderator, Rev. Jeff Binder; Clerk of Session, Nancy Smallenberger; Ruling Elders: Amy Meadows, Chuck Lewis, Jim Coleman, Karen Leland, Stuart Brown, Susan Graham, Tag Galyean, Townley Hamilton and Tracy Morgan; and incoming Elders, Class of 2024 – Joan Montgomery, Jim Rowe and Jennifer Runyon.

**EXCUSED:** Educator/Program Coordinator, Amy Kesterson and Elders: Doug Bicksler and Scott McClelland.

**ABSENT:** Elder, Megan Kirkham.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Clerk presented two sets of minutes for approval – the Stated Session meeting on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, and the Congregational meeting on Sunday, December 19, 2021. The minutes were **APPROVED** as presented.

The election of the Clerk of Session and Church Treasurer will be held at the February Stated meeting, once the Class of 2024 has been ordained and installed. It was also decided to table discussion and making a decision on the meeting day and time of Stated Session meetings until the February meeting, along with committee assignments.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS:**

**STEWARDSHIP and FINANCE** – Jim Coleman – The committee is continuing to work on the 2022 budget. The budget is normally approved in December or January but will be presented at the February meeting for approval. Coleman reported that not all the normal budget requests have been received and need to be submitted so the budget draft can be completed. Regarding the Financial Review for 2020, Coleman stated that he has not had any recent communication with the firm but that he will reach out to them to check the status of the review.

**FELLOWSHIP** – Karen Leland – It was reported that a Walking Group will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, at the shelter at Hollowell Park. This group is open to anyone interested. There will also be a Knitting/Crochet/Handcrafting Group, meeting for the first time on Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m. at the church. The Men's Breakfast group will meet at Shoney's on Wednesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

**RE-OPENING TASK FORCE** – Rev. Binder stated that the group had met earlier in the week and had a fruitful conversation. They recognize the rise in number of Covid cases in the county. It was

noted that most individuals are observing the recommendations of the group and Session. As of now, there will be no drastic changes made in the guidelines. The Task Force recommends that Session invite Old Stone families and individuals to self-report any positive test results to the church so that we may (1) offer pastoral support where needed, and (2) observe any patterns or outbreaks with the church community. They also recommend that efforts be made to make the livestream worship more viewer friendly – including sending out bulletin information (including any inserts) beforehand, and that communion elements be available for pickup at the church during the week for those who worship from home. The Task Force will continue to meet as needed and it was noted that the Session can always have a special called meeting if necessary.

#### PASTOR'S REPORT –

- Rev. Binder referred to an email that he had sent to Session in regards to the special offering received as a part of the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. In the email, he mentioned that it had been suggested that the offering be given to Davis Stuart, as it had been in past years. Replies to the email had been in favor of this decision. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to give the offering to Davis Stuart.
- Pastoral Concerns:
  - The family of Paul Grier, following his death on December 24;
  - Dee Brown, who had gallbladder surgery;
  - The family of Chuck Jeffries, (brother of Nancy Smallenberger and Carol Bland) following his death on December 31;
  - Lynn Weikle's mother, following a fall in Florida;
  - Chuck Lewis and family, as he continues his treatments;
  - Amy Kesterson's mother-in-law, Debbie Wilson, as she faces medical decisions.
- Rev. Binder asked for a volunteer who would be willing to provide "Session Highlights" for the next issue of the newsletter – Chuck Lewis offered to prepare the article for the February newsletter.
- Annual Report and Meeting – Committee moderators and others were reminded to submit their articles to Allyson in the church office by the end of January. The Session will also need to select a date and call the Annual Meeting where the report and 2022 budget will be presented to the congregation.

#### CLERK'S REPORT – The clerk reported December worship attendance:

- December 5, the PYC service – 102
- December 12, the LOGO service – 100
- December 19, Music Sunday – 101
- December 24, the Christmas Eve Candlelight – 146
- December 26 was 39.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Members of the Session had received an email from Elder, Tag Galyean, pertaining to an idea he had, that he is calling "Old Stone Church Street Theater". Galyean stated that he is happy to continue the conversation on this project with those interested. This will be an on-going conversation.

The February Stated meeting will be hybrid (in-person and on Zoom) on Wednesday, February 2, beginning at 6 p.m.

Rev. Binder reminded the Elders that the Devotion Calendar had been included in the Session packet.

- January ..... Tracy Morgan
- February ..... Tag Galyean
- March ..... Karen Leland
- April ..... Chuck Lewis
- May ..... Scott McClelland
- June ..... Stuart Brown
- July ..... Jim Coleman
- August ..... Townley Hamilton
- September ..... Megan Kirkham
- October ..... Sara Irons
- November ..... Joan Montgomery
- December ..... Jim Rowe
- January 2023 ..... Jennifer Runyon

A motion was made to close the meeting with those in favor bowing their heads for the closing prayer by Rev. Binder.

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Clerk of Session

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Moderator

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Date Approved and Signed