

**STATED SESSION MEETING
OLD STONE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023
HYBRID MEETING**

The Session of the Old Stone Presbyterian Church met for their Stated meeting on Wednesday, March 15, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Moderator, Rev. Jeff Binder. Attendance was taken by the Clerk and it was declared that a quorum was in attendance. Rev. Binder then presented the opening devotions and prayer.

PRESENT: Moderator: Interim Pastor, Rev. Jeff Binder; Session Clerk: Nancy Smallenberger; Educator/Program Coordinator: Amy Kesterson; and Ruling Elders: Renee Ahern, Stuart Brown, Townley Hamilton, Sara Irons, Amy Meadows, Joan Montgomery, Jim Rowe, Jennifer Runyon, Ann Walker and Gary Williams.

ABSENT: Ruling Elders: Jim Coleman and Megan Kirkham.

The docket was **APPROVED** as presented.

Two sets of minutes were presented for approval:

- Stated Session meeting on Wednesday, February 15, 2023; and
- Congregational meeting on Sunday, February 26, 2023.

Both sets of minutes were **APPROVED** as presented.

On February 27th there had been a request for the use of Fellowship Hall by Andy Kelso on Saturday, March 4, 2023. Rev. Binder sent the request to Session members by email for approval – seven members responded to **APPROVE** the request. A motion was made and seconded to retroactively approve the request; the motion was **APPROVED**.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

BUILDING USE POLICY – UPDATE – Amy Kesterson and Townley Hamilton

- Building Use Survey follow-up
 - As of today, 47 responses to the survey have been received. Amy handed out results that she had compiled for each item on the survey.
 - The deadline to complete the survey is March 15.
 - The survey had been made available by hard copy and was also available on the church website.

WORSHIP and MUSIC – Townley Hamilton

- Lenten Events and Maundy Thursday dinner updates
 - RSVP's received thus far total 27 individuals.
 - Townley stated that the committee will need additional help with the clean-up following the meal and communion service.

PNC UPDATE – Jim Rowe

- The committee is continuing to meet. Rowe reminded the Session that this “is a work in progress”.

PERSONNEL – Jim Rowe

- The committee presented a recommendation/motion to Session regarding a salary issue for a member of staff; the motion was APPROVED.
- The committee continues to work on a number of items.

PROPERTY – Joan Montgomery

- Sanctuary Project Updates – The church received \$25,000 from the Peyton Grant. The committee would like to use these funds to replace the carpet in the sanctuary. The lowest bid is from Neathawk’s in Lewisburg. This comes as a motion from committee so no second is required. The motion was APPROVED. Another project the committee would like to accomplish is the replacement of pew cushions. The one bid for this project that the committee has is \$10,000. This item was tabled till other bids are received and funds are available.
- Tree Removal Request – The committee has one estimate for removal of the hemlock tree behind the Education Building (next to the cemetery). The group requested another estimate before voting on approving a bid.

SAFETY TEAM UPDATES – Pastor Jeff gave the report, including the following:

- Fire Doors – Notes have been placed on the doors reminding individuals to close the doors once they have used the rooms.
- Locking the front doors of the Education Building on Sunday – The task force is currently having the doors locked during worship time on Sunday morning. Ushers will be available to let individuals into the building when necessary.
- Norman Ahern is continuing to work on an usher handbook.

STEWARDSHIP and FINANCE – Jennifer Runyon

- Month in Review – Finances for February 2023 as they were for February 2022.
- Financial Statements were available for those attending the meeting.

OUTREACH – Jennifer Runyon

- The committee plans to continue their projects/programming from 2022 in 2023.

PASTOR’S REPORT – Pastor Jeff

- Congregational Care Updates –
Patty Plumley
Richard Franke
Charlie Gwinn
Mary Scarborough
Kelso Family
Herb and Katie Montgomery
Dick Marshall
Roger Wolfe

- Presbytery Meeting Update
- Copier Rental Service Agreement – Information was distributed regarding the possibility of purchasing a new copier. The current one continues to present problems during usage.
- Doctorate Update – Pastor Jeff stated that he continues to conduct focus groups, including the Tuesday Lenten study group, the 1st Sunday group and will be holding sessions with the PYC.

CLERK’S REPORT –

- Correspondence included a letter from The Friends of Bluestone, Inc. In November 2022, Bluestone was notified by the WVDHHR Office of Environmental Health Services regarding the potable water storage tank that is in need of maintenance and refurbishment. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to hold a special offering on Sunday, April 16 and Sunday, April 23 to assist with the funds needed for this work.
- Worship Attendance numbers –

Sunday, February 12	49 In Person	25 YouTube
Sunday, February 19	85 In Person	16 YouTube
Wednesday, February 22	58 In Person	6 YouTube
Ash Wednesday		
Sunday, February 26	69 In Person	15 YouTube
Sunday, March 5	80 In Person	14 YouTube
Sunday, March 12	60 In Person	28 YouTube

NEW BUSINESS –

- A request was received from Maureen Wright, Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of WV to hold a Clerk’s Review at Old Stone on Sunday, April 30, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED for the event to be held at OSPC.
- The memorial service for Joan Campbell that was scheduled for May has been cancelled – to be held elsewhere.
- On Thursday, March 16, S.T.A.I.R. will be holding their End of Year party.

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS and PRAYER REQUESTS –

- The Session’s next Stated meeting will be held Wednesday, April 19th at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer by Rev. Jeff Binder.

Clerk of Session

Moderator

Date Signed and Approved