

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

The Session of the Old Stone Presbyterian Church held their regular Stated meeting on Wednesday, November 15, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by the Moderator, Rev. Julie Olt who opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

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

PRESENT: Moderator, Rev. Julie Olt; Clerk, Nancy Smallenberger; Educator/Program Coordinator, Amy Kesterson; and Ruling Elders: Renee Ahern, Townley Hamilton, Sara Irons, Joan Montgomery, Jennifer Runyon, Ann Walker and Gary Williams.

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Ruling Elders: Stuart Brown, Jim Coleman, Megan Kirkham, Amy Meadows and Jim Rowe.

CLERK'S REPORT:

- Minutes of the Stated meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, were presented. Motion was made, seconded and APPROVED to accept the minutes as presented.
- Communion will be observed during worship on Sunday, December 3.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

- Rev. Olt stated that a new Grief Sharing group will begin after the first of the year, and that she will be leading that group.
- A Lenten Bible study is being planned.
- "Longest Night" service will be held on December 21, beginning at 6:30 p.m.
- An Advent Bible study will be held beginning Tuesday, November 28, and continuing each Tuesday, for four weeks. The topic of the study will be a reflection on four different Christmas Carols and will be led by Rev. Olt. Meeting times will be 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. each Tuesday.
- Rev. Olt stated that she will be on vacation the week between Christmas and New Year's.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

OUTREACH:

- The committee presented a motion for the offering from the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service be given to Davis Stuart School. With this coming as a motion from committee, no second is required; and the motion was APPROVED.
- A printed report from the committee was included in the Session packet.

FELLOWSHIP:

- A printed report was distributed to those in attendance.

STEWARDSHIP and FINANCE:

- Printed reports were included in the packet.

WORSHIP and MUSIC:

- The committee presented the following dates for the observance of the Lord's Supper for 2024:
 - Sunday, January 7
 - Sunday, February 4
 - Sunday, March 3
 - Thursday, March 28 – Maundy Thursday
 - Sunday, March 31 – Easter Sunday
 - Sunday, April 7
 - Sunday, May 5
 - Sunday, June 2
 - Sunday, July 7
 - Sunday, August 4
 - Sunday, September 1
 - Sunday, October 5
 - Sunday, November 3
 - Sunday, December 1
 - Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

This comes as a motion from committee, so no second is required; motion was then APPROVED.

- A copy of the committee's most recent meeting was included in the Session packet.

OLD BUSINESS –

- Ratify the email vote taken on the request from Andy Kelso for the Blackbird Village HOA meeting on November 14, at 6:00 p.m. A vote had been taken by email and was approved – the vote was RE-APPROVED during the meeting.
- Use on Building Use request by Sarah Hann – This request had been received at the October Stated Session meeting and was discussed but no vote had been taken. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED for the request.
- A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED for Nancy Smallenberger to serve as the Ruling Elder Commissioner for the regular meeting of the Presbytery of WV to be held on Saturday, November 18, at First Presbyterian Church in Charleston.

NEW BUSINESS –

- A letter had been received from Jill Gwinn, on behalf of the Americana Thrift Shop, requesting the use of one of the small classrooms on the third floor of the Education Building. The group would like to use the space for storage. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED. An amendment was made to the motion, stating that the space could be used by the group until such time that the space would be needed for church usage/space ... the amendment was APPROVED.
- A letter had been received from DeWitt Shank, on behalf of the History Committee, requesting the purchase of a computer for use by the committee and their work. Shank stated that he would be willing to share the cost of the committee with the church. During the discussion on the request, it was suggested that the laptop that the church had purchased for the treasurer's use, could be cleaned and offered to the History Committee for their use. It was suggested that Jen Runyon, treasurer, talk with the group to see if this would be a

workable solution to their request. A motion was made, seconded and APPROVED for this conversation to be held.

- A letter had been received from Bob Perkins regarding his concerns regarding a possible change in the structure of the finance/stewardship procedures of the church. Following discussion, it was decided that Pastor Olt and the Clerk will draft a letter for the Elders to sign, acknowledging Perkins' concerns.
- The next Stated meeting of Session will be held Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

JOYS and CONCERNS were reviewed.

There being no other business to be addressed by the Session, the meeting was adjourned and closed with prayer.

Clerk of Session

Moderator

Date Signed and Approved