

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING OF THE
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN
MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2017**

1. The session of First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Michigan assembled in God's name on Monday, August 7, 2017, at 7 pm in the lounge of the church located at 508 Franklin Ave. in Grand Haven, Michigan. The clerk, Bill Bussell, determined a quorum was present. Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon called the meeting to order.
2. **Attendance:**
 - 2.1. Elders Present: Carroll Bennink, Bill Bussell, Marge Coffey, Megan Hayes, John Heritage, Jack Jansma, Keith Konarska, Andrew LeFurge, Paul McNergney, John Nametz, Katie Neitring, Abe Overway, Carrie Rivette, Rick Skodack, Michele Smith, Alishia Terrill, Sue VandenBosch, and Tina Vander Wall.
 - 2.2. Elders Absent or Excused: Bill Blessing, Sandie Enders, and Nancy Levenburg.
 - 2.3. Teaching Elders Present: Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon.
 - 2.4. Teaching Elders Absent or Excused: Rev. Jill VanderWal.
3. **Call to Worship:** Rev. Hauser Brydon read from the introduction of Dallas Willard's book The Divine Conspiracy and then opened the meeting with prayer.
4. **Clerk's Report:** Bill Bussell reporting:
 - 4.1. Upon motion and support, session approved the August 7, 2017 meeting docket.
 - 4.2. Upon motion and support, session approved the June 5, 2017 session meeting minutes.
 - 4.3. Upon motion and support, session approved the June/July 2017 membership report including the approval of:
 - 4.3.1. Baptisms of Audra Blan Stewart and Lydia James Stewart, children of Douglas and Laura (Swart) Stewart held on July 30, 2017.
 - 4.3.2. Membership transfer in of Virginia Dykstra from First Presbyterian Church, Macomb, Illinois.
 - 4.4. The clerk had no correspondence to share.

**First Presbyterian Church Membership Report
June & July 2017**

Membership as of May 31, 2017	784
Deaths:	2
New Members Received:	10
Restored to Active Roll:	0
Removed from Active Roll:	0
Transferred from Active to Inactive Roll:	0
Transferred by Letter	0

Membership as of July 31, 2017 **792**

Additional Registers	Member #	Notes
Marriages:		
7/29/2017 Sharon (Chicky) & Grant Young		Offsite Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon
Baptism: 4		
6/11/2017 Lauren Ransford, daughter of Greg & Courtney (Edwards) Ransford		Rev. Jill VanderWal
Easton Ransford, son of Greg & Courtney (Edwards) Ransford		Rev. Jill VanderWal
7/30/2017 Audra Blan Stewart, daughter of Douglas & Laura (Swart) Stewart		Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon
Lydia James Stewart, daughter of Douglas & Laura (Swart) Stewart		Rev. Troy Hauser Brydon
Deaths: 2		
6/2/2017 Don Edward	1180	Service 7/15/2017
7/12/2017 Cynthia Buening	5706	Service in Illinois

	Membership Gains: 10	Member #	Notes
6/11/2017	Sharon Chicky	5751	Reaffirmation
	David Jones	5752	Confession
	Cindy Lohrke	5753	Reaffirmation
	Christine Rademacher	5754	Transfer
	Jasen Rademacher	5755	Transfer
	Kelly Schoonveld	5756	Reaffirmation
	Jackie VanderWall	5757	Confession
	Emma VerDuin	5758	Transfer
	Ann White	5759	Transfer
	Grant Young	5760	Reaffirmation

Communion Served: 8:45 & 10:30 a.m. Service 6/4/2017 & 7/2/2017

Home Communion: 6/4/2017

Harvey Beute	Laurel Hendrick	Sue Roper	Connie VanGelderren
Sandy Beute	Sue McClellan	Flo Sluiter	Norma Vyn
Charlie Davis	Muriel Mersereau	Gerry VanStratt	Carol Winton
Ruth Edward			

Home Communion: 7/2/2017

Harvey Beute	Muriel Mersereau	Sue Roper	Gerry VanStratt
Sandy Beute	Sue McClellan	Flo Sluiter	Norma Vyn
Barb Casemier	Marie Pfeiffer	Connie VanGelderren	Carol Winton
Laurel Hendrick			

Action Items: Transfer In

Approved 8-7-2017 Session

8/7/2017 Virginia Dykstra, transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Macolmb, IL

5. **Committee of Focus** – A summary of the Personnel Committee’s mission, goals, and responsibilities was distributed as neither elder was able to attend tonight’s meeting.
 - 5.1. **Visioning** – Rev. Hauser Brydon facilitated a discussion prompted by three questions he distributed with the session packet. The discussion’s focus was to help us consider the question “Who are we as a church?”
6. **Treasurer’s Report:** Andrew LeFurge reporting:
 - 6.1. Andrew advised that the revenue and expense reports in this month’s session packet are in a different format as they report both May and June results.
 - 6.2. Year to date financial income and expenses continue to look encouraging.
 - 6.3. Joyful Noise’s financial performance continues to be favorable.

Financial Recap as of June 2017:

	May Actual	June Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
General Fund Revenues	\$79,051	\$71,301	\$468,992	\$455,000
General Fund Expenses	\$62,954	\$107,718	\$458,588	\$463,274
Joyful Noise Revenues	\$61,156	\$69,844	\$375,573	\$361,585
Joyful Noise Expenses	\$53,668	\$74,709	\$330,672	\$350,458

6.4. Upon motion and support, the Treasurer’s Report was accepted.

7. **Omnibus Motion:** Upon motion and support, the following written committee reports were accepted by omnibus motion:
 - 7.1. Adult Education minutes of June 13, 2017.
 - 7.2. Board of Deacons minutes of June 26, 2017.
 - 7.3. Children’s minutes of June 13, 2017.
 - 7.4. Generosity minutes of June 6, 2017.

7.5. Mission minutes of June 19, 2017 distributed at the meeting.

8. Committee Reports withheld from the Omnibus Motion:

8.1. Trustees Committee: John Nametz reporting:

8.1.1. Upon motion, session authorized \$2,655 from the Omega Fund to crack fill, seal, and stripe the parking lot.

8.2. Worship: Marge Coffey reporting:

8.2.1. Upon motion, session approved the following addition to Standard Practices:

8.2.2. Carol and Winfield Hall Fund for Music

8.2.3. This fund was established in June of 2015 by a gift from the named donors to be used for the exclusive purpose of supporting the church music programming. A preliminary projection based on the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation's endowment spending policy indicates that the initial distribution is to be made in March 2017, and annually thereafter, in an amount of approximately \$650.

1. *Managed by the Worship Committee with input and recommendations of the Director of Music.*

2. *Distribution of the funds shall support the church's music programming.*

3. *Money not spent carries over to the next year.*

8.2.4. Two elders volunteered to assist serving communion on Labor Day weekend.

8.3. Upon motion and support, session accepted the reports of Trustees and Worship.

9. Unfinished Business:

9.1. 120 S. Fifth Street:

9.1.1. Rev. Hauser Brydon recommended that session approve seven people to serve on an ad hoc committee to contemplate the future of 120 S. Fifth Street (the building once occupied by Tri Cities Ministries):

Trustees: Andrew LeFurge, John Nametz, and Julie Reenders

Members at Large: Wendy Creason, David Dornbos, Meghan Heritage, and Brock Hesselsweet.

Upon motion and support, session approved this ad hoc committee's membership.

10. New Business:

10.1. Elders Bill Bussell, Marge Coffey, and Paul McNergney reported on their attendance of the June 13, 2017 presbytery meeting.

11. Moderator's Comments – Rev. Hauser Brydon reporting:

11.1. Rev. Hauser Brydon referred session to his written report.

11.2. He also discussed the importance for each committee to submit its budget to the Trustees by August 31. Related to the budget, he also stressed the significance for each elder to complete his/her 2018 pledge prior to the annual stewardship campaign.

11.3. Upon motion and support, session approved the following baptisms:

11.3.1. August 13 – Kason James Green, child of Jordan and Taylor Green.

11.3.2. August 27 – Delken John VerDuin, child of Joe and Emma VerDuin.

11.4. Rev. Hauser Brydon plans to revisit the work of the Action Learning Team.

11.5. Rev. John Best, our Presbytery's Executive Presbyter, will join us for worship on August 20.

12. Associate Pastor's Comments – Rev. Jill VanderWal's written report was received.

13. Action Items Recap:

13.1. Approved the August 7, 2017 meeting docket.

13.2. Approved the June 5, 2017 session meeting minutes with one correction.

13.3. Approved the June/July, 2017 membership report, including the approval of two baptisms and a membership transfer in.

13.4. Accepted the Treasurer's report.

- 13.5. Under omnibus motion, accepted the following written reports: Adult Education, Deacons, Children's, Generosity, and Mission.
- 13.6. Approved \$2,655 from the Omega fund to crack fill, seal, and stripe the parking lot.
- 13.7. Approved Standard Practices language for the "Carol and Winfield Hall Fund for Music".
- 13.8. Approved membership for an ad hoc committee to contemplate the future of 120 S. Fifth Street.
- 13.9. Approved the baptisms of Kason Green and Delken VerDuin.
- 13.10. Adjourned the meeting.
14. **Adjournment:** The session adjourned at 8:15pm with a closing prayer by Rev. Hauser Brydon. The next scheduled meeting is September 11, 2017 at 7 pm in the church lounge.

William Bussell
Clerk of Session