

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PERU, INDIANA STATED SESSION MEETING

August 27, 2008

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Peru, IN, held its stated meeting at 7:00 pm, on August 27, 2008, in the church library. The Reverend John E. Hess was moderator.

ROLL CALL - A quorum was present with 9 elders in attendance.

- a. Present: Elders Nancy Bender, Terry Geberin, Glenn Russell, Cathy Hahn, Kelly Newman, Bruce Embrey, Ed Morgan, Dick Hammersley, Jim Stackhouse.
Staff: John E. Hess (Moderator), Judy Friend (D.C.E.)
- b. Absent/Excused: None.

The meeting was called to order, and opened with a devotion and prayer, by the moderator, at 7:00 PM. The moderator then led the session in **A TIME OF SHARING AND GROWTH**.

SPECIAL ORDER. Boyd Hahn presented the report of the Restoration Fundraising Task Force. He asked for clarification concerning the call for the Task Force. Is the Task Force to simply plan the fundraising activities, or is the Task Force to plan, and conduct the fundraising activities? He said the original instructions were ambiguous, but he believed that members of the task force were willing to work in either capacity – they simply wanted to know what was expected. Elder Ed Morgan made a **motion** that the instructions to the task force be revised and clarified, calling the task force to plan, and conduct, the fundraising activities necessitated by the recent stonework restoration, understanding that this new instruction is a change to, and expansion of, the original call, issued by the session in November 2007, and as such, any member of the task force who is uncomfortable with the new and expanded instructions, may withdraw from the task force without regret, and with our sincere thanks for the work thus far accomplished. **Motion CARRIED.** Boyd further reported that the task force has decreased their fundraising goal from \$175,000, to \$75,000, to be raised over a three year period, beginning around January 2009. The task force chose to delay the start of the fundraising activities until after this fall's stewardship campaign.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting of July 23, 2008 were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE. Received the following items of correspondence:

1. Reapplication for (Hester) Wood-Wilson Scholarship from Lindsay Urbani (Sophomore – UI).
2. Reapplication for (Hester) Wood-Wilson Scholarship from Bethany Morgan (Junior – IU).
3. 7/11/08 letter from PWV Treasurer, and Summary Financial Report from PWV.
4. Thank you card, for scholarship, from Bethany Morgan.

MODERATOR'S REPORT: The pastor reported on his activities this month, including those undertaken as moderator of the Administrative Commission for the Attica/Williamsport and Frankfort churches. He also reported the death of Paula Johnson's mother, who died on Sunday, August 24th.

CLERK'S REPORT: The church calendar for September was reviewed. The clerk report that the (Hester) Wood-Wilson Scholarships were awarded to Meg Guthrie, Lindsay Urbani and Bethany Morgan, and the Dunkinson-Lyndon Scholarship was awarded to Justin Horner, on August 10, 2008. The clerk reported that Patricia Stackhouse was married to Joseph William Aaron Hamm, on August 2, 2008, in the sanctuary. The clerk also reported the death of Mary E. Richter (#872 on active roll), who died from complications of Alzheimer's disease, at Miller's Merry Manor in Peru, on August 16, 2008. A graveside service was conducted by the Rev. John E. Hess at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Peru, on August 18, 2008. Mary is survived by her daughter, Sara Nash. Patricia Stackhouse (member # 2271) was married to Joseph William Aaron Hamm in the sanctuary on August 2, 2008. The Revs. Eric & Nan Erickson officiated.

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS and MOTIONS

1. **FAITH COMMITMENT:** Elder Dick Hammersley reported for the team. He reported the team had met several times and is having difficulty filling the slate of officers.
2. **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT:** Written report dated August 6, 2008 was received. Elder Cathy Hahn reported for the team. 56 received communion on July 27, 2008. 30 received communion on August 3, 2008. Next communion will be on September 7, 2008. Team 3 will serve. The normal rotation will be restored when team 3 serves again on World Communion Sunday

3. **GOOD NEWS:** Written minutes dated August 13, 2008 were received. Elder Nancy Bender reported for the team. **Motion:** The STGN team would like to collect the Peacemaking Offering on October 5. **Motion CARRIED.**
4. **TRUSTEES:** Written minutes dated August 13, 2008 were received, and Treasurer's report of July 2008 finances was reviewed. Elder Glenn Russell reported for the team. The safety mirror for the alley crossing, installed in late June, was stolen August 7th. Gotshall Restoration has completed the stone restoration and protection work. The Main Street handrails have also been refurbished. The repair parts for the nursery stairs and the new hand rails for the Cass Street door are being fabricated and will be installed shortly. We have made two payments to Gotshall and have the final payment remaining when all the work is complete. There may be a problem with one of the air handler units in the attic. There was a noticeable squealing noise during worship service on Sunday morning. The plaster repair has been finished on a number of the old thermostat locations. There is more repair to be done on the stage in Fellowship Hall. The Memorial Committee has acted on the request from session to install a TV on a wall mount in the Nursery and has approved the purchase of the TV and mount for approximately \$400. Tremco, Inc. has conducted a water leak investigation to determine exactly where the leaks on the Narthex roof are occurring. The cost of the investigation was \$805. This does not include the cost of repairs. The Trustees reviewed the church usage charges for activities held at the church. The last update to the list of charges was in 2006. Minor changes were discussed based on the changes in equipment available and the time to prepare and clean up after events. The specific changes include:
For weddings -
 - Eliminating the 'Candle replacement fee' since wax candles are no longer used
 - Increasing the center aisle candle fee by \$5 to cover the cost of the liquid fuel and use of the votive candles
 - Increasing the custodial fee for everyone to \$75 to cover the actual time for pre- and post- cleaning
 - Increasing the charge for the fellowship Hall for non-members to cover time for cleaning and configuration

Motions:

1. The Trustee Team moves the session approve Glenn Russell as the system operator for the church computer systems as defined in the Trustee's Information Technology policy.
2. The Trustee Team moves the session approve the revised fees for church usage as recommended.
3. The Trustee Team moves the session recommend the congregation approve the revised by laws as presented.

The motions were presented, to be acted on in the order written. During discussion of the first item, it was questioned if the Trustees have, or should have, the authority to establish a policy, such as the IT policy, dated June 11, 2008. Elder Jim Stackhouse made a **motion** to table the motion. **Motion to Table CARRIED.**

ORDER OF THE DAY was called for by Elder Glenn Russell at 8:59 PM.

ADJOURNMENT. A motion to adjourn was made and approved. The meeting was closed at 9:00 PM, with prayer by Elder Terry Geberin.

NEXT SESSION MEETING

The next stated session meeting will be held on September 24, 2008, at 7:00 PM, with opening devotions by Elder Dick Hammersley and closing prayer by Elder Glenn Russell.

Ed Morgan
Clerk of Session