

Session Meeting  
First Presbyterian Church  
Davenport, Iowa  
March 17, 2025

The stated meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa was held on Monday, March 17, 2025. The meeting was held in Von Maur Hall with Zoom available.

Moderator Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. A quorum was present. Rev. Schondelmeyer led the Session in a discussion on the importance of caring relationships in the church (Galatians 6:1-10) and opened the meeting with prayer.

	Class of 2025		Class of 2026		Class of 2027
P	<b>Dan Breinich</b> <i>Personnel</i>	P	<b>Dianna Darland</b> <i>Hospitality &amp; Welcoming</i>	E	<b>David Bowles Edwards</b> <i>Worship &amp; Music</i>
P	<b>Nancy Chapman</b> <i>Finance</i>	P	<b>Denny Jorgenson</b> <i>Congregational Fellowship</i>	P	<b>Dan Darland</b> <i>Building Grounds &amp; Safety</i>
P	<b>Bonnie Johnson</b> <i>Stewardship</i>	P	<b>Kathy Knox</b> <i>Christian Ed &amp; Fellowship with Youth</i>	P	<b>Craig Foster</b> <i>Finance</i>
P	<b>Nathan Kabel</b> <i>Buildings Grounds &amp; Safety</i>	P	<b>Diana Miller-Bur</b> <i>Worship &amp; Music</i>	P	<b>Paula Hartmann</b> <i>Personnel</i>
P	<b>Zoë McCullum</b> <i>Buildings Grounds &amp; Safety</i>	E	<b>Cathy Pratscher-Woods</b> <i>Stewardship</i>	P	<b>Sharon Simmonds</b> <i>Adult Spiritual Growth</i>
E	<b>Julia Meyer</b> <i>Co-Clerk of Session</i>	P	<b>Jed Steckel</b> <i>Adult Spiritual Growth</i>	P	<b>Jay Williams</b> <i>Adult Spiritual Growth</i>
P	<b>Kristine Oswald</b> <i>Worship &amp; Music</i>			E	<b>Erin Yingling</b> <i>Christian Ed &amp; Fellowship with Youth</i>
P	<b>Mark Ruebling</b> <i>Congregational Marketing &amp; Growth</i>				
P	<b>Vicki Stegall</b> <i>Personnel</i>	P	<b>Mark Jones</b> <i>Co-Clerk of Session, non-voting</i>	<i>P-present E-Excused A-Absent</i>	

A Land Acknowledgement was read.

Staff members:

P	<b>Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer</b> <i>Pastor / Head of Staff</i>	E	<b>Kristine Olson</b> <i>Director of Financial and Business Administration</i>	P	<b>Darren Long</b> <i>Director of Building and Grounds</i>
P	<b>Marty Bowles Edwards</b> <i>Co-Director of CEFY</i>	P	<b>Jim Middleton</b> <i>Director of Office Administration</i>	E	<b>Matthew Bishop</b> <i>Director of Music and Arts</i>

**Guests:** FPC Staff Members, Deacon Moderator Terri Sheetz

**On motion and second,** the agenda was approved as presented.

**On motion and second,** the Session approved seating our guests with voice and no vote.

**Scholarship Concept Proposal:** This discussion was deferred.

## CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were presented on the Consent Agenda:

- Approve the February 17, 2025 Session Meeting minutes
- Approve the minutes from the FPC Annual Meeting, February 23, 2025
- Approve additional 2025 congregational members to Congregational Fellowship Committee: Mariann Kabel, Debra Beshears, and Carole Scherz.

**On motion and second, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.**

## CLERK'S REPORT

- Report of the Clerk of Session for March 2025 is appended to these minutes.
- Communications received by the Clerk: Letter from PCUSA Office of Ministry Engagement and Support, thanking the church for \$500 donation to Living Waters for the World Fund in December 2024.
- Action items
  - **On motion and second**, the Session approved removing the following from the FPC Active Membership Roll per their request:
    - Beth Runkel
    - Tony Runkel
    - Don Pedersen

## DEACONS' REPORT

**The Session received a report from Deacon Moderator Terri Sheetz including:**

- The Deacons approved the Educational Mission Trip to the US-Mexican border in association with the Tres Rios Border Ministry in October 2025.
- The Deacons supported the Blessing Box collection held today.

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## SESSION COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS

- Written Session committee reports were received and are appended to these minutes.
- Comments from Elder Craig Foster, Finance Committee, on the Income/Expense reports
  - Income YTD is \$74K higher than budgeted. This is largely due to \$114K prepaid pledges made in 2024 and added to the books in January 2025.
  - Prepaid pledges, lump sum RMD distributions, and contributions made early in 2025 to be included in the Birdies for Charity will make judging our income vs. budget difficult until much later in the year.
  - Expenses YTD are about \$9K under budget.
  - Nothing so far this year that suggest our year-end deficit will be larger or smaller. Our general fund balance will be able to cover the budgeted deficit for 2025.
- **Action items from Session Committees:** none

	January 2025		January 2024	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	\$ 175,864	\$ 175,867	\$ 99,540	\$ 99,540
Custodial Accounts Income	2,877	-	1,172	-
Compensation Expenses	(51,376)	(51,380)	(54,015)	(54,015)
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	(16,445)	(16,502)	(17,321)	(17,122)
Custodial Accounts Expenses	(2,877)	-	(1,172)	-
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$108,043</b>	<b>\$107,985</b>	<b>\$28,204</b>	<b>\$28,403</b>
Net Insurance Claim Inc/(Exp)	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$108,043</b>	<b>\$107,985</b>	<b>\$28,204</b>	<b>\$28,403</b>
	2025 Year-To-Date		2024 Year-To-Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	\$ 175,864	\$ 175,867	\$ 99,540	\$ 99,540
Custodial Accounts Income	2,877	-	1,172	-
Compensation Expenses	(51,376)	(51,380)	(54,015)	(54,015)
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	(16,445)	(16,502)	(17,321)	(17,122)
Custodial Accounts Expenses	(2,877)	-	(1,172)	-
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$108,043</b>	<b>\$107,985</b>	<b>\$28,204</b>	<b>\$28,403</b>
Net Insurance Claim Inc/(Exp)	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$108,043</b>	<b>\$107,985</b>	<b>\$28,204</b>	<b>\$28,403</b>

All numbers are rounded.

	February 2025		February 2024	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	\$ 41,073	\$ 51,093	\$ 47,825	\$ 58,039
Custodial Accounts Income	3,000	-	10,816	-
Compensation Expenses	(52,281)	(55,845)	(57,386)	(60,856)
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	(23,192)	(34,443)	(18,196)	(23,873)
Custodial Accounts Expenses	(3,000)	-	(10,816)	-
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$34,400)</b>	<b>(\$39,195)</b>	<b>(\$27,757)</b>	<b>(\$26,690)</b>
Net Insurance Claim Inc/(Exp)	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(\$34,400)</b>	<b>(\$39,195)</b>	<b>(\$27,757)</b>	<b>(\$26,690)</b>
	2025 Year-To-Date		2024 Year-To-Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
General Fund Income	\$ 216,937	\$ 226,960	\$ 147,365	\$ 157,579
Custodial Accounts Income	5,877	-	11,988	-
Compensation Expenses	(103,657)	(107,225)	(111,401)	(114,871)
Non Compensation General Fund Expenses	(39,637)	(50,945)	(35,517)	(40,995)
Custodial Accounts Expenses	(5,877)	-	(11,988)	-
<b>Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$73,643</b>	<b>\$68,790</b>	<b>\$447</b>	<b>\$1,713</b>
Net Insurance Claim Inc/(Exp)	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$73,643</b>	<b>\$68,790</b>	<b>\$447</b>	<b>\$1,713</b>

All numbers are rounded.

## STAFF REPORTS

- Written staff reports were received and appended to these minutes.
- Additional comments included:
  - CEFY – Committees are requested to consider providing lunch for one day this summer for Compassion Camp in June.
  - Darren Long, Director of Building & Grounds:
    - Backflow test did not pass but it has been rebuilt.

- Some lighting globes outside needed to be replaced.
- Spring grounds clean-up is planned for March 29, 2025.
- Additional mulch and 4 benches were installed in the playground to support the Eagle Scout project of Ben Jacobsmeier.

### **Report of Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer, Pastor/Head of Staff**

- Recently visited several members in the hospital or in hospice.
  - Attended Rogers Kirk's 30-year celebration serving Third Missionary Baptist Church.
  - Offering contemplative services on Wednesday nights during Lent.
  - Website revamp is in progress with hopes it will be launched before Easter.
  - Will be gone a few days later this week. Rev. Pat Halverson will preach and is available for pastoral care.
  - Rev. Marta Pumroy will preach here on April 6, 2025 and lead a discussion on immigration at the Mexico-US border in an evening program on the same day. A Border Encounter Educational Mission Trip is planned for October. Sign-ups will start soon.
  - Pastor Kris thanked the Session for their service.
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### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- **2025 Membership Review:** The Session continued the review of the Active Membership roll list #1. The Session provided comments about persons on this list who have become inactive.
- **On motion and second,** the Session approved Elders Jay Williams, RuthAnn Tobey-Brown, and Mark Jones as commissioners to the 216<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of East Iowa scheduled for Saturday, April 5, 2025, 10AM-2PM, First Presbyterian Church, Iowa City.
- **Strategic Discernment Team:** Pastor Kris provided an update on the work of this team. He detailed what was accomplished at the March 8, 2025 Strategic Discernment Team retreat. His comments included how the team worked through discussions on challenges and opportunities. Programmatic priorities are becoming evident. The congregation will be asked for additional feedback at the April Manna & More breakfast.

**Evaluation of the meeting:** Efficient. Written reports help.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The agenda was completed. No new business was brought to the floor. The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer at 8:30 PM.

The next Stated Meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, Iowa will be held April 21, 2025, at 6:30 PM in Von Maur Hall. Zoom will be available.

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The Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer  
Moderator

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Mark Jones  
Co-Clerk of Session

## Appendix 1: Clerk's Report for March 2025

### **REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION** **March 2025**

#### **I. Membership Changes**

##### **New Member**

- Sharon Mosenfelder was received into active membership by Session on February 17, 2025 and presented to the congregation on Sunday, February 23, 2025.

##### **Deaths of members**

- Sharon Boron died on February 13, 2025. A service in her memory was held on February 19, 2025 at Weerts Funeral Home. Rev. Pat Halverson officiated.
- Lucretia Schneider died on February 13, 2025. A service in her memory was held on February 21, 2025 at Weerts Funeral Home. Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer officiated.
- Jacqueline Hart died on July 22, 2023. A service was held on July 22, 2023 at Runge Mortuary & Crematory. Notification of her death came in February 2025 from her daughter.

#### **II. Other deaths**

Kevin Michael Wilson, long-time church custodian, died February 16, 2025 in Kirksville, MO. A service was held on March 8, 2025 at Glenwood Cemetery, Glenwood, MO

#### **III. Christian Education Attendance February 2025**

	Children and Youth								Adults			
<b>February 2025</b>	Nursery	Pray-ground	School All Grades	Kirkwood Choir	Cherub Choir	Youth Ministry*	Musik-garten*	Youth Choir	Adult Sunday School	Women of Hope	Color of Compromise	Bible Basics
2/2 - 2/8	4	9	16	12	3	9/6	2/2	6	24		10	7
2/9 - 2/15	4	10	Manna and More	8#	2	5/5	Manna and More	Recess	Manna and More	5	12	7
2/16 - 2/22	3	4	9	6	2	6/5	4/2	3	12		12	6
2/23 - 2/28	4	6	12	7	1	8/5	Recess	4	Annual Mtg		12	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>28 / 21</b>	<b>6 / 4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Weekly avg</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7 / 5</b>	<b>3 / 2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>
			#Sang in Worship			*Youth or Children/Adults						

#### **IV. Worship Attendance February 2025**

		Cong. Count	Choir & Clergy	Totals				Cong. Count	Choir & Clergy	Totals
February 2024						February 2025				
	9:30 AM	102	45	147			9:30 AM	109	45	154
	On-line Views	33		33			On-line Views			19
4	Total			180		2	Total			173
	9:30 AM	115	4	119			9:30 AM	92	42	134
	On-line Views	35		35			On-line Views			17
11	Total			154		9	Total			151
Ash Wed	7:00 PM	38	4	42			9:30 AM	82	3	85
	On-line Views						On-line Views			16
14	Total			42		16	Total			101
	9:30 AM	80	55	135			9:30 AM	91	41	132
	On-line Views	32		32			On-line Views			30
18	Total			167		23	Total			162
	9:30 AM	115	46	161						
	On-line Views	53		53				Monthly Totals		587
25	Total			214				Weekly Average		147
Monthly Totals				715						
Weekly Average				179						
On-line views are based on livestream views and other views within 2 weeks of service date. Weekly average is figured on the sanctuary attendance plus views on Facebook and Vimeo. Monthly totals and weekly average based on Sundays only.						On-line views are based on livestream views and other views within 2 weeks of service date. Weekly average is figured on the sanctuary attendance plus views on Facebook and Vimeo. Monthly totals and weekly average based on Sundays only.				

## Appendix 2: Session Committee Reports, March 2025



### Strategic Discernment Team, January 15, 2025

#### STRATEGIC DISCERNMENT TEAM MEETING MINUTES FOR 1/15/25

Meeting started: 7:00 pm

2. We reviewed the results of the Congregational assessment.
  - A. 122 assessments were answered. 91 were 65 years or older
  - B. Membership of the Church is about the same.
    1. 43% over 70
  - C. 83 respondents were female, 39 respondents were male
  - D. Attached are highlights of the assessment.
  - E. Financial management and responsibility was the #1 item of importance followed by preaching (excellence in sermons). This is a positive thing.
  - F. Many of the respondents do not have young children
  - G. The graphs are weighted averages.
  - H. The results of the assessment could be work within our means.
  - I. In the past the pastor has focused on preaching and associate pastors focused on day to day Operations. We only have 1 pastor.
  - J. We need to rank priorities and look forward to the future.
  - K. We need to think of the community as all of the Quad Cities not just our neighborhood.
  - L. Most people feel safe during the day and more feel unsafe at night.
  - M. Moving the Church.
    1. 0 respondents = not open to moving
    2. 10 respondents = open to moving
    3. We need to see much higher numbers before any decision can be made
  - N. The average response to the question of how important is the location of the church was 50%.
  - O. Response of openness to expanding the church was 70%.
  - P. To the question, if money is not a concern, what would be your #1 choice. Updating the HVAC was the answer.
  - Q. Does this mean we need a capital campaign in the future?
  - R. Most respondents attend regularly and the 9:30 am time slot wins out.
  - S. The number 1 answer for how to receive info on the church was E-News.



## First Presbyterian Church Board of Deacons

February 10, 2025 7:00pm. Hybrid Meeting (see email for Zoom address)

Attending: Andy Bowles-Edwards, John Gere, Al Frohlich, Elizabeth Breinich, Kris Schondelmeyer, Katrina Williams, Amy Saskowski, Heidi Pedersen, Mason Pedersen, Andrew Darland, Sarah Soenksen, Bob Lenherr, Colleen Duenas, Connie Connolly, Steve Earp, Doug Wells, Sue Ervin, Sherry Williams, Pat Halverson, Terri Sheetz

Agenda Item	Resp. Party/Time	Detail	Notes
Opening Devotion			
Review of Minutes	Terri		Minutes of previous meeting approved
Matthew 25	Terri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Building Congregational Vitality</li><li>• Dismantling Structural Racism</li><li>• Eradicating Systemic Poverty</li></ul>	
Davenport Early Development	Glen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation</li></ul>	
Member Care follow-up	Colleen Terri	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updates</li><li>• Working with Session to update list</li></ul>	At the March 9 <sup>th</sup> Manna and More Deacons are going meet and greet their members that attend. Member letter will go on this week.
Border mission	John	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Details on possible educational trip to Texas border</li></ul>	John and Kris presented an opportunity for up to 18 members to travel on a educational mission trip to El Pason and the border to learn more about emigrations issues. The Deacons approved providing \$250 from the mission fund to make a deposit to hold dates in October. The deposit is refundable if the trip is cancelled.
Upcoming events	Group John	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Paper Hearts Drive</li><li>• Habitat for Humanity</li></ul>	The Paper drive continues thru the end of February. The Blessing box drive was February 17. Habitat for Humanity dates went well.
Sudlow School support	Amy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update</li></ul>	The drive has ended and was very much appreciated. Donations continue to come in.
Community needs update	Terri Bob	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased need</li><li>• Churches United meals</li></ul>	Requests from community groups has increased as the concern around government funding grows. Terri is following up with Kristine to determine how much is in the discretionary fund.
Volunteer Coord.	Andy Edwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updates</li></ul>	
Outreach	Sarah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updates</li></ul>	
Member Care	Colleen Duenas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updates</li></ul>	The women's tea is scheduled for April 12 <sup>th</sup> .
Mission Connection	John Gere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updates</li></ul>	
Closing Prayer			





## **Building Use Commission**

Monday, March 3, 2025

- Approved a birthday party on March 15, 2025 (church member involved).
- Approved a baby shower on Saturday, April 5, 2025 (church member involved).
- Working on adjustments to the forms and processes used for approving requests.



## **Community Healthcare Outreach Meeting, March 7, 2025**

Glen Roebuck

Below is a brief summary of my engagement with the Community Healthcare Community, Inc Outreach meeting last Friday. I shared our recent experiences with the Caring Closet and reminded the other service agencies in attendance of our presence and services. In addition, I promoted the upcoming Justice Choir concert. I will be sharing info about the Mental Wellness Concert at the upcoming meetings.

Humility Homes staff connected with me during the meeting and recognized our presence and "good work" we are doing supporting the homeless (we have been more visible with them). I also shared our engagement with Sudlow, supporting students experiencing homelessness and other challenges.

Not a lot of new updates from around the community...

Carol Center: This outreach of Vera French serves as a warming/cooling shelter 7a-4 Monday thru Friday, lunch daily at 1230pm.

Humility Homes: Chris Dunn, outreach coordinator, reported higher levels of trauma on the street with those unhoused. He also reported that new development to expand Centennial Park to the west has also led to former homeless encampments being bulldozed. The warming center in the old Tappa's Steak House on the west side has had a positive impact. Emergency shelters close 4/15.

CADS representative reminded the group of their ability to provide opioid response training.



## **Meeting Notes: Congregational Fellowship Committee March 10th 2025**

1. Opening Prayer: Denny
2. Members present: Denny, Marilyn, Verna, Marrian, And Pastor Kris
3. We want to welcome our new committee member, Deb Beshears.  
Phone: 309-236-5393 E-Mail: d.beshears@hotmail.com
4. Discussed Manna and More February 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - a. We served 34 adults and 9 children.
  - b. Donations \$173.00
  - c. Denny spent approximately \$40.00 on fruit, milk and juice.
  - d. Val purchased 14 pizzas ( 1-gluten free, 1- veggie, 6- bacon, 6- sausage for \$300.00)

- e. Intergenerational committee did a great job with decorations and activities for the children.
  - f. We had lots of help from Val, Linda, Bill, Jay, Mariann, Matt, Carol, Bob, Marilyn, and Denny.
  - g. We had around 3 pizzas left over.
5. Discussed March 5 th . Ash Wednesday service and soup dinner.
- a. A soup and bread meal was served from 6:30 until 7:30
  - b. Service followed dinner.
  - c. Denny spent \$139.00 for six different soups and gluten free tortilla chips
  - d. Marty Bowles offered to bake seven loaves of bread. They were GREAT. Many thanks to Marty.
  - e. Alex made a pot of Vegan soup that was GREAT. Many thanks to Alex.
  - f. We served about 50 people with donations of \$103.00.
  - g. Volunteers were Denny, Marilyn, Carole, Bob Lenherr, Matt Kabel, Jay, Sherry, Paula Burnett. Thanks to all that helped, especially Bob, Matt, and Paula who are not normally members of Our Committee.
6. Discussed March 9 th . Manna and More
- a. Menu was biscuits and gravy, pancakes, fresh fruit, and beverages also Gluten free waffles.
  - b. Denny Spent \$139.00.
  - c. Donations were \$193.00
  - d. Thanks to Carol for donating a toaster for the Gluten free waffles.
  - e. Volunteers were Denny, Marilyn, Mariann, Carole, Linda, Jay, Sherry, Verna, Rebecca, Deb, and Matt Kabel.
7. Discussed April 13 th . Manna and More
- a. Menu will be Breakfast casseroles, Pancakes, Gluten free waffles, fresh fruit, and beverages.
  - b. We decided on the recipe to use for the casseroles. We will use the same recipe as past years.
  - c. Pastor Kris volunteered Abbey to make a Keto casserole.
  - d. We will need to meet between 9:00 and 11:00 Saturday April 12 th to assemble the casseroles. PLESAE BRING 9X13 PANS.
  - e. Denny will shop but will need someone to help. Budget approved of \$200.00
  - f. We will need volunteers to cook, cut up fruit and clean up.
8. Discussed April 17 th Maundy Thursday Soup dinner
- a. Pastor has requested that we serve a soup dinner similar to the Ash Wednesday meal.
  - b. Meal will be from 6:30 and 7:30
  - c. Denny will shop for 6 types of soup. Budget approved of \$150.00
  - d. Marty Bowles offered to bake seven loaves of bread.
  - e. We need volunteers to arrive at 5:30 to cook, serve and clean up.
9. Closing prayer: Denny
10. Next Meeting will be April 14 th 5:00 in the Parlor.



### **Finance Committee notes – Feb 11, 2025**

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Nancy Chapman.

Present at the zoom meeting were Nancy Chapman, Rev. Kris Schondelmeyer, Craig Foster, Karen Moore, Eric Scholle and Pam Paulsen

Absent were Tom Spitzfaden, Chris Pitcher and Kristine Olson.

Pam Paulsen was the note taker for this meeting.

Rev. Kris started the meeting with prayer.

A quorum was determined and a motion to approve the January meeting notes was brought by Nancy, seconded by Craig Foster and approved by the committee. Nancy will forward the meeting notes to the Session Clerks.

December financial reports-Nancy had reviewed them and did not see any needed changes from the January meeting.

Annual meeting discussion

Nancy advised that she had reviewed the 2024 year-end report and had questions for Kristine and will follow up with her.

Craig advised that Tom and he had been writing the Financial Year-end Narrative to be presented at the Annual Congregational Meeting on Feb. 23. Craig and Tom will finish the narrative by the end of this week. (Fingers-crossed.)

Nancy will be the speaker for Finance at the Annual Meeting.

Session approved the 2025 budget.

There was discussion on Kristine's 2025 goals.

1. Kristine had good progress on providing monthly financials to our committee in 2024. It was discussed that the goal be added to the 2025 goals, too.
2. A goal of having Session Committees monthly financial reports to them **1 day prior** to their meetings was discussed. A proposal made by Craig was to provide information from the last available report. discussion of this will be with Kristine, Nancy and Rev. Kris. There will also be discussion on goals form.

Nancy asked Eric about Agreed Upon Procedures progress. There will be further on this.

Next meeting of the Finance Committee is March 11th via zoom.

Craig ended the meeting with prayer.

Meeting notes by Pam Paulsen 02/12/2025 (updated 021425)



**Adult Spiritual Growth Committee March 2025**

### **Quick recap**

The team discussed their meeting schedule, the Bible study group, and the absence of Pastor Kris due to illness. They also discussed ongoing initiatives such as fellowship after

service, grief support, and the upcoming Flamy Grant visit. The group acknowledged the need to prepare the congregation for the Flamy Grant visit and expressed concern about their estimations of the congregation's response.

### **Next steps**

- Jay and Sharon to meet with Pastor Kris tomorrow at 3 PM at the church to rehearse echo responses.
- Jay to discuss with Pastor Kris and Kristine Oswald about the aims and structure of a potential grief support group.
- Committee to develop a strategy for positively presenting the Flamy Grant event to the congregation.
- Jay to continue previewing and sharing the forgiveness curriculum materials with the committee.
- Committee to follow up with Ruth Ann about how to organize volunteers to provide regular after-church fellowship goodies.

### **Summary**

#### **Pastor Kris's Illness and Bible Study**

The team discussed their meeting schedule and the absence of Pastor Kris due to illness. They also discussed the Bible study group, with Sharon confirming that the group would continue to meet in the church and via Zoom during Lent. Jay and Sharon planned to meet with Pastor Kris to discuss preparing the Lenten contemplative worship space. There was also a discussion about Pastor Kris hosting a daytime Bible study, but no decisions have been made.

#### **Ongoing Initiatives and Congregation Reception**

The committee discusses several ongoing initiatives, including fellowship after service, grief support, and the upcoming Flamy Grant visit. Jay mentions that Kristine Oswald, a therapist in the congregation, might be a resource for the grief support group. Sharon expresses concern about preparing the congregation for the Flamy Grant visit to ensure a positive reception. The group agrees that they need to present the visit in a way that encourages openness and highlights the musical excellence and important message. They also acknowledge that their estimations of the congregation's response to Flamy Grant's visit might not be accurate, citing the Session's unanimous vote as an example.



#### **W&M Committee Report**

Meeting on Feb 24, 2025 at 7pm

Next Meeting: April 28

Attendees: Pastor Kris, Matt Bishop, Kristine Oswald, Diana Miller-Bur, David Bowles-Edwards, Patrick Downing, Judy Wagschal

Greetings to New Congregational Member – Judy Wagschal

Discussed whether we felt the need for anymore congregational members – decided we are happy where we are.

#### Sunday services in March, April, May

- Lenten Program → Put cross out for Lent; Have the colorful fabric again on the communion table and cross – adding a new color each Sunday
- Palm Sunday → All set for palms delivery from florist
- Easter Sunday → All set for flower delivery from florist and will ensure notice for monetary donations towards the flowers is put in bulletin/e-news; White cloths will wrap the braided colors on table and cross; Starting Easter Sunday and going through the season until Pentecost Sunday hang the 5 colors from chandeliers
  - To-Do: online purchase for fabric needed → find the Pentecost red fabric to measure reasonable length before ordering
- Pride Sunday → Hang flags and put out liturgy candles
- Guest Preachers
  - March 23: Pastor Pat (Pastor Kris out of town)
  - April 6: Marta (Pastor Kris in town)
- Communion Dates → April 6 Sunday, Maundy Thursday April 17

#### Fundraisers Update for Italy Choir Trip

- Trivia Night – March 15, Saturday → Advertisement will be going out pronto to church at large
- Silent Auction → no longer occurring/needed

#### Upcoming Music Events

- Spring 2025
  - NOVA Singers on Palm Sunday
  - Grinnell College Choir: Sunday, May 4
  - Flamy Grant Concert: Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> – monetary donations collected for Clock, Inc.
- Summer 2025
  - Pride Event at Schwiebert Park → potentially have a pop-up choir and a booth
- PAS Season 2025/2026 is well in hand, almost completely scheduled

#### Worship Improvements

- Need to set the expectation that service length will be between 1 hr and 1 ¼ hours
  - Will ensure this is clearly stated on new website this spring
- Need a step by the Christ Candle for the acolytes to reach on their own without an adult taking over
  - Have the steps at the lectern that can be utilized for now → is this option suitable going forward?

#### Sanctuary Flower Program Update

- Will move forward on reinstating a monthly floral arrangement in the sanctuary, placed near the lectern

#### Christmas Bows Update

- New ribbons for Christmas stairway garlands and plastic wrapped cables to attach to railing will be ordered → Chancel Guild Fund to be used

### Appendix 3: FPC Staff Reports, March 2025



#### **Co- Directors of Christian Education and Fellowship with Youth, Abby Schondelmeyer and Marty Bowles Edwards**

Youth Group has enjoyed a close and regularly attending group of Youth and Adult Mentors, as they meet weekly. We have begun a Lent curriculum that is being used in worship and Sunday morning for Sunday School. We would appreciate another male mentor. If you are interested or have an idea, please let us know. You get to hang out on Sunday evenings with some pretty awesome youth.

April 27 will be a mission project, Kids Against Hunger, to be held late afternoon/early evening. It will include a meal for all.

We will be hosting a Spring Break movie night on Friday, March 21. A pizza dinner will begin at 5pm. At 5:30 we will be featuring Despicable Me 4. All are welcome. Sunday School is pausing our animal units after learning about dove, bear, eagle, and lion. A highlight was yoga with Elizabeth Breinich. We have begun the Lent curriculum that is being used for Sunday worship and youth group. We appreciate the support of all involved on Sundays and the entire congregation.

VBS Compassion Camp: All God's Creatures will take place June 16-20 from 9am - 12:15pm. Come learn how God Created Me! God Created You! God Created Everything! And it is Good! Session Committee support for lunches will be requested and greatly appreciated. Meal suggestions include: Hot Dogs, Chicken Nuggets and Fries, Macaroni and Cheese, Ham /Turkey and Cheese Sandwiches, or Pizza. We are working with the Fellowship Committee, Worship and Music Staff, and Strategic Discernment Team for planning the next Manna and More Intergenerational Sunday. The next one will be April 13th and will be Congregation Conversation guided by the Strategic Discernment Team.



#### **Kristine Olson, Director of Financial and Business Administration**

- The 2025 Budget approved by Session on 1/27/2025 has been calendarized like prior years, with a few exceptions.
- January & February 2025 Financials were provided to Finance Committee 3/10/2025. Assuming no changes, I will provide the FINAL January & February Financials to Session for the March Meeting.
  - o The Session Committees meeting on Tuesday, March 11 or later, will receive January & February Committee financials prior to your March meetings. Committees who have already met will receive these approved reports for your April meetings. If you have any questions, please let me know.

- Breeze implementation has started. I will be working with Rev. Dr. Kris & Finance Committee regarding the online giving platform within Breeze. This will eventually replace Vanco, ideally before the next Stewardship Campaign begins.
- I will be working with Jim to obtain a QuickBooks Online Advanced license from TechSoup for \$170 later this month. This will help me to better prepare an implementation plan to present to Finance in April.
  - Implementation will be an ongoing process that is expected to last at least through October 2025.
- Per the Policies & Procedures Review, the Cash Count Procedures received a recommendation surrounding the timing of cash deposits. I will be working with Finance to have a draft proposal for this change for the April Finance Meeting.
  - The next Policies & Procedures Review will be for the Year 2024 and will be conducted in-house. This is anticipated to be in April or May, pending availability of volunteers with audit, finance, or accounting background.
- As a reminder, please submit APPROVED expense reimbursements to the Finance Office by the 8<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of each month to ensure payment by the 15<sup>th</sup> and Last Day of Month, respectively. Unapproved expense reports may result in a delay in processing your reimbursement requests.
- I will be on vacation starting Friday, March 14, and will be returning to the office Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. I timed this so there will be no issue with payroll or routine church expenses.