

Session Meeting  
First Presbyterian Church  
Davenport, Iowa  
March 18, 2024

The stated meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Davenport, Iowa was held on Monday, March 18, 2024. The meeting was held on Zoom.

Session members gathered at 6:30 PM for devotions and study prior to the start of the meeting, reviewing and discussing an episode of *Chuck Knows Church: Embracing a Legacy*.

Moderator Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM and opened with prayer. A quorum was present. A Land Acknowledgement was read.

	Class of 2024		Class of 2025		Class of 2025
P	<b>Paula Burnett</b> <i>Hospitality &amp; Welcoming</i>	P	<b>Dan Breinich</b> <i>Personnel</i>	P	<b>Dianna Darland</b> <i>Hospitality &amp; Welcoming</i>
P	<b>Kirk Christie</b> <i>Adult Christian Education</i>	P	<b>Nancy Chapman</b> <i>Finance</i>	A	<b>Rachel Frohlich</b> <i>Worship &amp; Music</i>
P	<b>Nancy Foster</b> <i>Finance</i>	P	<b>Bonnie Johnson</b> <i>Stewardship</i>	P	<b>Denny Jorgenson</b> <i>Cong Development &amp; Fellowship</i>
P	<b>Bev Koos</b> <i>Worship and Music</i>	A	<b>Nathan Kabel</b> <i>Building Grounds &amp; Safety</i>	P	<b>Kathy Knox</b> <i>Christian Ed &amp; Fellowship with Youth</i>
P	<b>Diane Roebuck</b> <i>Christian Ed &amp; Fellowship with Youth</i>	P	<b>Kristine Oswald</b> <i>Worship &amp; Music</i>	P	<b>Diana Miller-Bur</b> <i>Worship &amp; Music</i>
P	<b>Karla Ruiter</b> <i>Building Grounds &amp; Safety</i>	P	<b>Mark Ruebling</b> <i>Congregational Marketing &amp; Growth</i>	P	<b>Cathy Pratscher-Woods</b> <i>Stewardship</i>
P	<b>RuthAnn Tobey-Brown</b> <i>Personnel</i>	P	<b>Vicki Stegall</b> <i>Personnel</i>	P	<b>Jed Steckel</b> <i>Adult Christian Education</i>
P	<b>Jay Williams</b> <i>Adult Christian Education</i>				
P	<b>Mark Jones</b> <i>Co-Clerk of Session, non-voting</i>	P	<b>Marty Bowles-Edwards</b> <i>Co-Clerk of Session, non-voting</i>	<i>P- present E-Excused A-Absent</i>	

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>Rev. Pat Halverson</b> <i>Parish Associate</i>	P	<b>Jim Middleton</b> <i>Director of Office Administration</i>	P	<b>Matthew Bishop</b> <i>Director of Music and Arts</i>

Guests: Deacon Moderator Glen Roebuck, Foundation Board of Trustee Chair Jeffrey Gomez, Church Member Sherry Williams, and FPC Staff Members.

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**On motion and second**, the agenda was approved with addition of a motion to approve the 2024-2025 PAS Budget and Program, and discussion to disband the technology committee.

**On motion and second**, our guests were admitted to the meeting with voice but no vote.

At 7:11 PM, the Session voted to suspend the Session meeting in order to open a meeting of the Foundation of First Presbyterian Church.

At 7:14 PM, the Session voted to re-open the Session meeting.

## CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were presented on the Consent Agenda

- Approve the February 19, 2024 Session Meeting minutes
- Approve the February 25, 2024 minutes of the Annual Meeting of the congregation

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

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## CLERK'S REPORT

- The March 2024 Clerk's Report documenting membership changes, communion, and worship attendance is appended to these minutes.
- Reminder of the new clerks' e-mail: [clerk@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:clerk@fpcdavenport.org).
- **Action items:**
  - Approval of congregational members of Session committees - action was deferred to give more time to determine the years of service for some congregational members.
  - **On motion and second**, the Session approved reactivating the membership of Pat Cresap.
  - **On motion and second**, the Session approved removing Mary Tofilon from active membership, at her request (moved away).

**On motion and second, the Clerk's Report was approved as presented.**

## DEACONS' REPORT: Glen Roebuck, Deacon Moderator

Notes from the most recent Deacons' Meeting are appended to these minutes. **Moderator Glen Roebuck** presented the following report from the Deacons:

- Updated Member Care letters were sent to congregation members the week of March 11, identifying their deacon Member Care team leader, and announcing activities for Holy Week. Current needs of specific congregation members were reviewed.
- PUNCH Easter Egg Hunt is coming up.
- Other upcoming events are in the E-News and weekly bulletin.

**On motion and second, the Session voted to receive the Deacons' Report as presented.**

## SESSION COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Written Session committee reports are appended to these minutes.
- The Session Committee Reports was presented for approval.
  - Elder Diana Miller-Bur requested elders volunteer to serve for April 7 communion.
  - Following discussion, **the reports were approved.**
- **Action items from Session Committee**
  - **Motion from Adult Christian Education Committee** to approve a title change to Adult Spiritual Growth Committee and an updated committee description. A

copy of the new committee description is appended to these minutes. **Following discussion, the motion was approved.**

- **Motion from CDF Committee** to approve a title change to Congregational Fellowship Committee and an updated committee description. A copy of the new committee description is appended to these minutes. **Following discussion, the motion was approved.**
  - **A motion and second** was made to remove the Technology Committee of Session as a standing committee.
    - Discussion: The importance of technology should not be underestimated. Technology is important to many different committees. A Task Force put together for a specific technology project might be preferred to a standing committee.
    - Following discussion, **the motion was approved.**
  - Matt Bishop, Director of Music and Arts, presented a proposed 2024-2025 Performing Arts Series and budget. A few details in the series are to be determined. A financial surplus at the end of the current season is anticipated as well as at the completion of the 2024-2025 season. **A motion and second** was made to approve the proposed series and budget. Following discussion, **the motion was approved.** The information on the PAS season will be confidential until the PAS announcement event this summer.
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## STAFF REPORTS

### Jim Middleton, Director of Office Administration

- Painting and cleaning-up in the office is being completed.
- Working on Holy Week bulletins & others
- Hoping to work on project to organize some electronic archives (for example, large number of digital photographs).

### Matt Bishop, Director of Music and Arts

- PAS
  - Recent comedy night with Pastor Kris and Karen Bergreen
  - Next PAS event is jazz trio on April 20, 2024
- Evensong service was Sunday with the Chamber Chorale providing music.
- Eastertide Lessons and Carols will be Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> with the Chamber Chorale providing music.
- Holy Week is busy – Tenebrae and Easter worship.
- Rehearsal for 1776 will start after Easter.

### Darren Long, Director of Building and Grounds

- Boiler leaks continue to be a problem.
- Wiring for the light poles outside have been changed out to LED lights but are not working. Davenport Electric will return to determine what is wrong.
- A bid has been accepted for removing 8 tree stumps around the church.

### Pat Halverson, Parish Associate

- Visiting in care facilities and hospitals

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

- Personnel reviews have been completed, including the Head of Staff.
    - Working with Personnel Committee on how these should best be reported to Session.
    - Working toward formalizing the process of the Pastor's review and goal setting.
  - Pastor Kris shared his goals with the congregation at the Annual Meeting. Copies of the goals were shared with Session and Session given time for questions
  - Meeting schedules
    - Working with Personnel to reduce the number of nights Pastor Kris is in meetings.
    - Trying to move as many committee meetings to Mondays, with a few on Tuesdays.
    - Pastor Kris shared his current weekly evening meeting schedule.
  - Nursery staff has resigned effective next Sunday (Palm Sunday). Job descriptions have been posted. CEFY Coordinators and Personnel will assist in completing the hires.
  - The Parttime Director of Christian Education position has been posted.
  - Pastor Kris reviewed his current plans for being away this summer – CE time (used for church planning), vacation, and the Scotland trip. He is working on pulpit supply and emergency pastoral care.
  - Encouraged people to attend and/or be hosts for the Covenant Conversations event on April 27, 2024.
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### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Report of the Commissioners to the 211<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting of the PEIA, March 9, 2024**

- The Director of Camp Bear Creek outlined major renovations that are planned over the next several years.
- Peacemaking quilt available upon request for display in the church.
- Peacemaking speakers will be available later in the year.
- Meeting was organized. Many positive comments about FPC hospitality.

#### **Evaluation of the Meeting**

- Meeting moved along well. Got stuck a little on the technology committee discussion.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The agenda was completed. No new business was brought to the floor. The meeting was adjourned by the Moderator at 8:50 PM. The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

The next Stated Meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church, Davenport, Iowa will be held on April 15, 2024, at 7:00 PM, in Von Maur Hall. Study and devotions will start at 6:30 PM. 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 2024

### REPORT OF THE CLERK OF SESSION March 2024

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

##### Addition to Active Membership

Pat Cresap - request for reactivation of her membership

##### Remove from Active Membership

Mary Tofilon - by request. She has moved from the area.

#### **II. Funeral**

A memorial service was held on Monday, February 19, 2024 at FPC for Logan Jacob-Howard Klein. Logan was the 29-year-old son of former members Todd and Julie Klein and brother of Colton and Spencer. Logan died on February 13, 2024. The Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer officiated.

#### **III. Communion**

Communion was shared at the Ash Wednesday Service on February 14, 2024. Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer officiated.

#### **IV. Children and Youth Programming Attendance, January and February 2024**

January 2023	Nursery	Sunday School All Grades	Kirkwood Choir	Musik-garten	ACE	January 2024	Nursery	Sunday School All Grades	Kirkwood Choir	Musik-garten*	Youth Ministry	ACE
1	not held	not held	not held	not held	no class	7	1	6	recess	recess	3	6
8	1	12	12	12	7	14	no church - winter storm					
15	4	14	14	19	6	21	4	Carnival	8	Carnival	2	9
22	3	not held	15	6	no class	28	4	12	12	10	3	no class
29	3	14	14	12	4	Total	9	18	20	10	8	15
Total	11	40	55	49	17	Average	3	9	10	10	3	8
Average	3	13	14	10	6							
										*Children plus Adults		

February 2023	Nursery	Sunday School All Grades	Kirkwood Choir	Musik-garten*	ACE	February 2024	Nursery	Sunday School All Grades	Kirkwood Choir	Musik-garten*	Cherubs	Youth Ministry	ACE
5	3	15	18	26	not held	4	4	10	11	16	2	3	9
12	3	15	20	19	9	11	5	recess	recess	2	3	3	recess
19	2	10	16	23	not held	18	4	9	recess	10	1	5	10
26	3	5	6	not held	8	25	5	10	-	-	-	-	recess
Total	11	45	60	68	17	Total	18	29	11	28	6	11	19
Weekly avg	3	11	15	23	9	Weekly avg	5	10	11	9	2	4	10
					*children plus adults						*children plus adults		

## Appendix 2: Session Committee Reports, March 2024

### Session Committee Notes: March 2024



#### **Building, Grounds and Safety**

Monday March 11th, 2024

5:30 PM Room 306

Present: Pete Madden, Matt Kabel, Karla Ruiter, Darren Long

1. Thank you to Ted Brown for painting the office and Caring Closet hallway and sorting room. It all looks great!
2. Matt Kabel met with the structural engineer and looked at the foundation. He will have the final report next week. It all looked good after speaking with the engineer.
3. The steam leak in the boiler room was repaired.
4. We updated our member roster and years of service on the committee. Will submit to Mark/Marty.
5. Darren has been installing new downspouts on the buildings.
6. Spring clean-up will be Saturday April 13th 8 to noon. Matt will submit information for e-news and the bulletin.



#### **Hospitality and Welcome Committee (HW)**

February 27, 2024

Present: Pastor Kris, Andy Bowles Edwards, Paula Burnett, Kristine Oswald, Diana Darland

1. Name tags: Need to repeat the name tags announcement and instruct ushers for assistance. Andy will change the place of name tags holders
2. Welcome Center: Coffee will continue to be provided. Andy will create list of welcome center hosts and have short orientation meeting. Andy will do personal contacts of recurrent visitors.
3. Ushers for Good Friday will be arranged by Kristine
4. Passing of the Peace: A prayer wall will be constructed by Pastor Kris and Andy. Congregation members will be invited to write prayers and place them on the wall. Parishioners will be encouraged to take a prayer home and pray for that specific request during the week. This will replace the question of the day.
5. New Members: Andy will contact the three people interested in membership and arrange for an April new member inquiry the 21st or if can't will try for evening of the April 3<sup>rd</sup>. May 20th to meet session. June date will be chosen for introductions to the Congregation.
6. Pictorial Directory: Andy is researching pictorial directory options. Deacons will have their photos posted in the back of the Sanctuary to help Congregation Members identify their care person.

Next meeting April 23 730 Tuesday by zoom.



## Worship and Music Committee

February 26, 2024 6:30 p.m.

Present: Pastor Kris, Matt Bishop, Beverly Koos, Diana Miller-Burs, Rachel Frohlich, Kristine Oswald. Patrick Downing had a prior commitment.

1. Pastor Kris would like all of the committees to meet on Monday nights. W&M will move to meeting **every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday** at 7:00 p.m. No March meeting due to it being Easter week.
2. **Maundy Thursday** (March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.) will be held in the Fellowship Hall, start with communion, followed by a light soup supper. Each table will serve the people seated there. Hoping for some people to act as disciples. We will have a hand washing ritual. Pastor Kris will talk to Denny about the fellowship committee providing the meal. Alex will bring a vegan pot of soup. We will need bread and juice for each table.
3. All three fund raisers were approved for the Italy trip. **The Leap Day party is set for Friday.**
4. **Scout Sunday was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of February.** They could also help with Manna and More.
5. **How to get children involved in worship?** Pastor Kris wants to start having acolytes. The Christ candle will be lighted first, then the rest of the candles. He suggested that the liturgist bring in the Bible. This would take the responsibility away from the Worship Hosts. He thinks 4<sup>th</sup> grade and above would be able to light the candles. Kris suggested that he train Rachel to do it, so she can train the youngsters.
6. Pastor Kris would like the service to start at **9:30 a.m.** instead of 9:25 a.m.
7. We will have a volunteer coordinator very soon, that will figure out how to plug-in people to different roles and help make some of those connections.
- 8) It is time to put an announcement in the bulletin about **donations for Easter flowers.** Matt will tell Jim Middleton tomorrow. .
9. Pastor Kris mentioned the four things that increase attendance and positivity at church: **name tags, Holy interruptions, coffee and muffins, and prayer squares.** (people are invited to take someone else's prayer requests and pray for them that week.) At the end of the service, you can take one from the back of the church to pray for during the week. We could also have pre-made squares for folks that have already notified the office during the week.
10. **Christmas concert:** Matt is proposing that we only have the Sunday concert. He is proposing a three-week celebration, starting with Lessons and Carols for the first week, a community concert the second Sunday, and the Sanctuary Choir the Sunday before Christmas. **(Dec 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024).**
13. Talking about making our **church youth choir a community choir:** We want to build this program into something that could be sustainable. Ideally, we are looking at September for a start date. Matt is making connections with choral teachers, and his colleagues at other churches. Pastor Kris mentioned a CEFY event in the near future, that we could piggy-back with. Potentially we could have youth choir on Wednesday evening?
14. For **adults**, Matt is brainstorming making the choir more community-based. How about a **Justice Choir?** (ie: racial, climate, gun violence etc.) This could be an untapped opportunity for us. What he has in mind is a choir that meets at First Presbyterian for a couple months each semester. Matt has thought about reaching out to St. Ambrose, Augustana, and others.
15. Kris would like us to think about what kinds of things might **enhance the service-** a skit, liturgical dance: something to make the experience more memorable and unique to happen on a regular basis. He is cognizant of not making the service any longer, give the people involved time to prepare, and how the sanctuary could be decorated?
16. **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month during the summer would be an outdoor service.**

The meeting ended at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,





### **Personnel Committee**

March 4 via Zoom

Present: Dan Breinich, Dick Koos, Vicki Segall, Ruth Ann Tobey-Brown and Pastor Kris

Ruth Ann opened with prayer.

1. The personnel committee discussed and approved the job search for child care givers.
2. We discussed the process for our staff reviews and any questions we had.

Pastor Kris closed with prayer.

Dr. Ruth Ann Tobey-Brown



### **Congregational Development & Fellowship Committee**

March 11, 2024

Present: Marilyn Jorgensen, Marianne Kabel, Linda Meadors, Chair Denny Jorgensen, Jay Williams, Rev. Dr. Kristopher Schondelmeyer.

Chair Denny Jorgensen opened the meeting with prayer.

The committee discussed various aspects of planning and organizing events, including fundraising, logistics, and inclusive options, highlighted the successes of a pizza Manna & More breakfast and hosting presbytery. It was suggested finding money to pay for volunteers' lunches and the possibility of making sandwiches ourselves to save money in the future.

The committee agreed to approve up to \$200.00 for each Manna & More, up to \$100 for the First Night Out summer picnic, and up to \$200.00 for the First Night Out reorganizational group.

Denny and Pastor Kris discussed the need to coordinate church-wide hospitality events, such as providing meals for congregation-wide events and special occasions like homecoming and welcome events.

There was a general discussion about revising the structure and responsibilities of various committees within the church, ensuring compliance with the bylaws and focusing on supporting the social and relational needs of the congregation. Pastor Kris emphasized the importance of coordination and communication.

The committee group edited and approved the final draft of the revised committee description for the FPC Operations Manual to be reviewed and approved at the March 2024 Session Meeting

Chair Denny Jorgensen closed the meeting with prayer.



### **Christian Education and Fellowship with Youth (CEFY)**

March 13, 2024 7:30 pm by Zoom

Present: Diane Roebuck, Kathy Knox, Kathy Middleton, Abby Schondelmeyer, Pastor Kris Schondelmeyer, and Marty Bowles Edwards.

- 1) Transition: Last day of Kristy Woodrow's leadership was February 29, 2024. Newly advertised position will be part-time. Interim leadership team is Abby Schondelmeyer and Marty Bowles Edwards.

**Communication to CEFY can be sent to [cefy@fpcdavenport.org](mailto:cefy@fpcdavenport.org) to reach both Abby and Marty.**



- 2) Nursery Attendants have resigned their positions with last day being Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024. Those 2 positions have been posted and interviews will begin in the next couple of weeks. Nursery Attendants wanted more hours of work and fewer schedule changes. They have kindly donated 2 shelving units for the nursery.
- 3) Playground will be resurfaced this Spring in partnership with an Eagle Scout project.
- 4) Sexual Abuse and Child Protection Policy Training session will be scheduled before Fall programming begins.
- 5) Easter Sunday small egg hunt and activity time is planned for children. They will be invited to participate after the Children's Sermon. No programming after the service.
- 6) May 18th will be Confirmation Sunday, Volunteer Recognition, and a 5-7pm youth trivia night for celebrating their mentors. Trivia night will be an all church invited celebration and not a fundraising event.
- 7) Compassion Camp is scheduled for June 10-14. Announcements for parents and volunteers are in all the church communications. Abby and Marty are working on curriculum decisions and training schedules for volunteers.
- 8) Postponed the March 3<sup>rd</sup> Spring Forward with CEFY planning event for families due to multiple families having schedule conflicts. Plan is to partner with Musikgarten participants for a June 23<sup>rd</sup> Family Picnic after worship that morning.
- 9) New meeting night will be the first Monday of each month, beginning April 1, 2024, at 7:30pm by zoom.
- 10) The committee will work to send pictures of children's programming and volunteers to Jim Middleton prior to April 15 to celebrate volunteers working with children and youth for the church newsletter.



**Intergenerational Team** met March 14, 2024 at 12:00.

Present: Judy Wagschal, Marty Bowles Edwards from CEFY, and Denny Jorgenson from the Congregational Fellowship Committee. (CF)

- 1) Reviewed Manna and More collaboration to date and divided responsibilities for the upcoming events.
- 2) April 14 Manna and More – Bingo activity to be provided by CEFY
- 3) May 19 Reception for Confirmation Recognition – Ice cream social provided by CF and cookies provided by CEFY.
- 4) May 19 Youth Trivia Night and Celebration of Mentors – Pizza and side dishes will be provided by CEFY to meet dietary needs. CF demands are great that weekend, with a First Night Out Potluck on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup>.
- 5) June 23<sup>rd</sup> family picnic is yet to be planned regarding menu and providers.
- 6) Format for Manna and More will be changed to better provide a family meal atmosphere. Seating at table will be first, with short group singing and prayer, dismissing by tables to the food line. An emcee will introduce/lead the post meal activity.
- 7) Generated a list of possible themes for Fall of 2024 Intergenerational activities.



## **Finance Committee**

Feb. 13, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Present: All members were present and Eric Sholl was introduced as a possible new member.

The January minutes were approved and Karen Moore agreed to take the minutes for this meeting.

The annual report of the finance committee to the congregational meeting was discussed. The narrative report will contain 2 pages and Jim Middleton could include the 2022 actual budget if he wishes.

The Financial statements page of the annual report was also discussed, particularly as to the inclusion of the Capital Maintenance fund and Capital Preservation funds. It was noted that we have no control of these funds and that should not be included directly in the report but entered as a footnote. Nancy Chapman and Kristine Olson will finalize the details.

Tom Spitzfaden will speak for the committee at the annual meeting and Nancy Chapman will handle the Session motion on the Memorial Funds policy passed by the Session.

Kristine reported that the January financials are in line with January of 2023. The statistical report needs some minor changes. We need to have a Procedures Review to cover 15 months. Tom will follow up on this.

Pastor Kris Schondelmeyer gave a brief report on changes to the Music department job descriptions and compensation.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Pam Paulsen at 8:05 pm.

### **Appendix 3: Deacon Notes, March 2024**

Deacon's Meeting March 11, 2024

Attending:

Paula Hartmann, Kris Schondelmeyer, Glen Roebuck, Katrina Williams, Julia Meyer, Colleen Duenas, Pat Halverson, Sherry Williams, John Gere, Terri Sheetz, Connie Connolly, Sarah Soenksen, Tom Vaccaro, Andy Bowles-Edwards, Lois Boyer, Phylis Pecoraro

- On April 7th Paula, Glen and RuthAnn Tobey Brown will be presenting an update from their trip to the Matthew 25 convention.
- Updated Member Care letters were sent to congregation members the week of March 11, identifying their deacon Member Care team leader, and announcing activities for Holy Week. Current needs of specific congregation members were reviewed.
- The schedule of events for the remainder of 2024 were reviewed.
- Discussed at length the addition of the volunteer coordinator role and the intersection of that role and recruiting congregation members to take part in Deacon-led mission activity.
- All upcoming events are in the E News and weekly bulletin.
- During the four Sundays in April Deacons will be manning the information desk at the back of sanctuary so that members can meet their deacon. Each deacon is to sign up for one Sunday, beginning March 17, 2024.

## **Appendix 4: New Committee Name and Description for Adult Christian Education**

### **ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH COMMITTEE**

*Revised February 2024; Approved by Session March 18, 2024*

#### **Mission**

To nurture spiritual growth and well-being within our congregation and community and raise awareness of our likeness and connection to God. To draw inspiration from the life and ministry of Jesus as well as related media, information, and practices used for personal, congregational, and community spiritual growth. To promote healthier relationships, deeper understanding, and a more meaningful faith.

#### **Mission, Vision, and Goals**

The Spiritual Growth Committee is committed to:

1. Ensure that all initiatives are inclusive, celebrate diversity, and embody the love of Jesus.
2. Teach the sacred stories of the Christian Church, the values, and worldviews that various Christians draw from those stories, and the ways that various Christians translate those values and worldviews into action.
3. Craft opportunities for spiritual exploration and deepening of faith, aligning with the teachings of Jesus Christ, the Reformed tradition, and the mission of our church.
4. Build programs and interactions within the community, promoting non-threatening and active participation in our church life.
5. Identify and nurture leadership within the congregation, providing training and mentorship that align with our church's mission.
6. Raise awareness and understanding of social issues in an open minded and tolerant environment, informed by the best and most current scholarship of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the greater community of faith, and prompting individuals and groups to faithful action.
7. Continuously assess and innovate our approaches to meet the shifting spiritual needs of our congregation and community.
8. Deepen awareness and participation in the desires of God's heart in our world.
9. Implement an annual action plan consistent with the church's strategic objectives, collaborating closely with church leadership and the congregation.

#### **Strategies**

1. Pursue curricula that encourage and welcome curiosity and diversity, and nurtures compassion, faith, and love.
2. Actively expand the library and provide access to the written and multimedia ecology of useful materials and practices related to spiritual growth and well-being.
3. Present topics, lenses, and practices that inspire exploration to reinforce faith formation for the purpose of personal and communal spiritual growth.

#### **Support Liaisons**

Head Pastor and other staff member as assigned by the Moderator of Session  
Chair of the Library Subcommittee

#### **Structure**

The Chair or Co-Chairs of the Adult Spiritual Growth Committee are appointed by the Moderator. A member of the Library Committee shall also be a member of this committee.

Session must confirm additional voting congregational volunteer committee members. ASGC may establish subcommittees and ad-hoc groups as needed.

**Program Areas this committee is responsible for:**

1. All Christian Education and Spiritual Growth programs for adults. This shall include Sunday morning opportunities as well as other opportunities in accordance with whatever the Committee deems effective in accomplishing its mission.
2. Oversight of the Church's Library Committee, which is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Church Library.
3. Oversight of its subcommittees and ad-hoc groups as needed.

**Responsibilities and Duties**

1. Brainstorm and develop appropriate opportunities for Adult Christian education and exploration.
2. Recruit leaders to implement all programs.
3. Advertise the availability of opportunities as widely as possible.
4. Coordinate resources and supply needs for programming.
5. Maximize budgetary resources as assigned by Session.
6. Periodically evaluate the various standing programs for their effectiveness.
7. Ensure that volunteers receive adequate recognition and feedback.
8. Keep adequate records of all proceedings.
9. Report to the Session any significant decisions or developments.
10. Implement faith formation and spiritual growth programs that are directed by the Session.

## **Appendix 5: New Committee Name and Description: Congregational Development and Fellowship.**

### **CONGREGATIONAL FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

Revised February 2024/Approved by Session March 18, 2024

#### **Mission**

To cultivate a welcoming and inclusive community within our church, fostering connections, friendship, and support among congregants.

#### **Mission, Vision, and Goals**

The Fellowship Committee is dedicated to creating a vibrant and connected church community.

Our goals are:

1. Organize Community Fellowship Events: Plan and execute church-wide events that encourage fellowship, fun, and friendship among members.
2. Foster Volunteerism: Encourage congregants to participate in and volunteer for church fellowship activities, deepening their involvement in the church community.
3. Support Fellowship Needs: Support the social and relational needs of the congregation, including the possibility of coordinating churchwide meals upon request.
4. Submit Annual Action Plan: Written in support of the Vision and Mission Statements, as well as any Long-Range Strategic Plan of the church, including identifying new opportunities for fellowship.

#### **Structure:**

The Congregational Fellowship Committee, consisting of enthusiastic and committed members, will work in collaboration with church leadership to nurture a sense of belonging and community spirit within our congregation. Committee Chair will be an elder sitting on Session appointed by the Moderator of Session. Session must confirm additional voting congregational volunteer committee members.

#### **Responsibilities and Duties**

1. Nurture all the fellowship groups within the church, communicate and promote the activities of each group to the congregation, as needed, and encourage active participation.
2. Establish new fellowship groups where there appears to be sufficient interest and discontinue groups where the interest of members has reduced to the point that the group no longer serves a useful and effective purpose.
3. Plan, coordinate, host and execute fellowship events to appeal to the congregation. Examples are the Sunday morning Manna & More breakfasts, churchwide receptions and inter-generational activities.