

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LAKE TRAVIS**  
**SESSION MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 20, 2020 (BY ZOOM)**

**Session members in attendance:** Rev. Dr. John H. Barden, Moderator; Steve Gottlieb, Clerk of Session; Mary Margaret MacMillan, Dave Rungay; Nancy Vanzandt; Nancy Boenitz Wordworth

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 pm. Jack Barden opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes from Session meetings from September 27 and November 22 were approved.

**Moderator's Report**

- Two of three Elder training sessions have been held with Lynn Fisher and Larry Foster, incoming Elders. A third session will be held in early January, 2021 to confirm their understanding of the vows of installation and ordination.
- A called Session meeting will be needed to examine the two new Elders and approve of the ordination and installation. It was proposed that the called meeting be held late in the day of the third training session, with ordination and installation on either January 10 or January 17.
- Session meetings in 2021 will be held on the fourth Sunday of each month. The January meeting will be on January 24 at which time Aida Faris and Steve Gottlieb will rotate off.
  - **Steve Gottlieb, who has been serving as Clerk of Session, moved that Mary Margaret MacMillan be elected to serve as Clerk. Nancy Boenitz Woodworth seconded the motion. The motion carried.** Steve will notify Presbytery Clerk of the change.
- Steve and Mary Margaret will work together on the end of year census report.
- A new Treasurer has not yet been identified.
- Jack asked that each Session member contact him with their preferred role going forward and identify what committee they would prefer.

**Committee Reports**

- **Finance:** Members discussed 2021 finances and 2021 pledges. At the present time there is no indication of the amount being pledged for 2021. Responses have been requested by December 31, 2020. The newsletter of Wednesday, December 23, will have an article about finances. In addition, the end of year statements will contain a letter about stewardship.

- **Worship:** The Christmas Eve service will be taped on Tuesday, December 22. Small bags containing a votive candle, Communion elements, an ornament and a piece of candy will be at the church for members to pick up. Some of these bags will be delivered. Members of Jack's pastor cohort will combine for virtual services at PCLT on December 27 and January 3. This will be an experiment for future services. PCLT will not have an intern for the spring semester.
- **Hospitality:** Phone calls to members continue. Jack is following up on information about members gleaned from these phone calls.
- **Outreach:** Chrystie Thrasher has information on a contact in the Marketing Department at Concordia who may be able to help us target groups for new member recruitment. She will follow up as to the feasibility of using a student group to help us with marketing PCLT.

The committee has suggested that PCLT have a chili cookoff as part of the Annual Meeting in January 2021. Samples of chili prepared by PCLT members would be sold and the winner named by vote of the congregation at the Annual Meeting. Details are to be worked out in the coming days.

- **Property:** No committee meeting. Jack reported that the water bill is back to normal after adjusting the irrigation system. Jack has investigated the cost of a columbarium for placement of ashes and has determined the cost to be prohibitive. As an alternative, Chrystie Thrasher and Leslie Wilkinson have suggested a water feature for the green space in the parking lot. Eric Brown, who designed the rock wall in front of the building, will be asked for a quote, will be asked to quote on the project. There will be space for memorial plaques rather than placement of ashes.

Jack reported that Star Hill Ranch has approached PCLT about using our facility for a home school group during February and March while Star Hill Ranch is being used for television production project. Jack will meet with the home school group on December 21.

- **Christian Education:** No committee meeting. Sunday School curriculum is continuing as planned, as well as Conversations That Matter.
- **Mission:** The question of continuing efforts in the Hudson Bend community will need to be addressed soon. Costs are over budget at the present time but may decrease by the end of 2021. It was clarified that contributions to mission are separate from any 2021 pledge. IMLT has been incorporated.

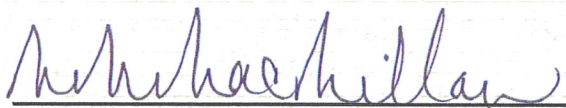
Jack requested a motion for two grant requests of \$5,000: Synod of the Sun Mission Grant and Mission Presbytery Mission, Outreach and Justice Committee. Motion was made and seconded. Motion carried.

- **Old Business:** PCLT will remain closed for the foreseeable future due to high Covid incidence in the community. The first newsletter in January will explain the metrics of that decision.

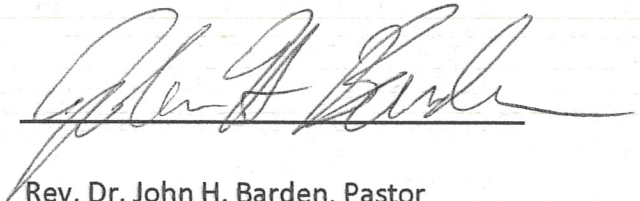
The next step in the Visioning process will be to prepare for presentation at the Congregation Meeting. A date will be set in the coming days to meet and prepare a document to the congregation. A timeline for the remainder of the process is contained in the summary Jack circulated. Measurable goals will be determined over the next six months.

- **New Business:** Ordination and Installation of new Elders is tentatively set for January 17, 2021. The first session meeting of 2021 will be January 24, 2021. The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be January 31, 2021, and will be announced to the congregation on January 24 and January 31. Corporate officers and Trustees will be presented to the congregational for approval at the Annual Meeting. It was noted that the Clerk of Session usually serves as Secretary of the Corporation.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 2:06 pm.



Mary Margaret MacMillan, Clerk



Rev. Dr. John H. Barden, Pastor