

Session Meeting for the Downtown Presbyterian Church: May 20th, 2018

Present: Rev. Mike Wilson - Moderator; Elders Jack Henderson – Clerk, Debra Gentry, Jim Dickson, Michael Korak, Dave Coleman, Cary Gibson, Justin Near, Vickie Coffin; Jeff Koontz – Treasurer

Excused: Elder Chuck Cardona

1. **Opening prayer** – Prayer was offered by Cary Gibson at 12:49pm.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** The motion to approve agenda carried by unanimous voice vote.
3. **Attestation of approval of minutes of April 15 18, 2018 session meeting:** The clerk attested that session minutes from meeting on 4/15/18 were approved by session via email in weeks prior to this meeting. Session minutes and packet were uploaded on DPC website.
4. **Moderator’s Report:** See accompanying report for details concerning vacation leave, guest preachers, and short absence due to funeral.
5. **Treasurer’s Report:** See accompanying financial report. Transfer of \$30,000 from the General Fund for operating expenses and \$20,000 from Pickett for capital expenses was recommended by F&A and approved by session prior to meeting.
6. **Clerk’s Report:** Nothing to report this month. Clerk and Rev. Wilson will meet to review the membership rolls and present to Session at next meeting (see item 9)
7. **Committee Reports** -- Oral reports should be limited to items for action only.

Building & History – see accompanying report. A planter was placed between fence and bridal store and was moved by people wanting to get through alleyway. A fence will be placed up. The Session discussed issues related to mess on the church steps and alley, whether or not to lock the back-alley gate and issues and questions with locking mechanisms on 5th avenue and Church St. gates. The item on the expense projection of \$4000 for insurance appraisal will be stricken from projections upon following up.

Finance & Administration – see accompanying report. Transfer of \$30,000 from the General Fund for operating expenses and \$20,000 from Pickett for capital expenses was recommended by F&A and approved by session prior to meeting.

Personnel – see accompanying report with no items to discuss or act on today.

Hospitality – next meeting is May 23. Ideas for upcoming events such as pride, baseball games, and picnic were discussed and will be discussed in depth at next meeting.

Worship & Art – see accompanying report, next meeting is June 4. Bells will be stored in a room on the second floor. Some concerns with regards to temperature and the effect on the bells were discussed.

Outreach – see accompanying committee report and a report on Saturday breakfast.

Christian Education – Living the question was wrapped up. Intergenerational Sunday school will resume on 6/3.

8. **Select two outgoing elders to serve on the 2018 nominating committee:** The session deliberated on the requirements and responsibilities of the committee. No consensus was determined so the two outgoing elders were determined by drawing straws. Elders Cary Gibson and Jim Dickson will serve on the 2018 nominating committee.
9. **Conversation around new DPC directory and cleaning the membership roles (G-3.0204a):** Dena is proposing an online directory that will be managed by the office manager. The Directory was reviewed by session. Rev Wilson and Clerk will meet to review rolls and directory more in depth to ensure everything is up to date and accurate.
10. **Pride, June 23-24** – conversation around DPC presence and participation. Until the exact route of the march is set, plans to give out water, promotional material, and cheer are not set. We might give out water, promotional material, and cheer along route elsewhere if the march does not pass by DPC. If we are not in front of the church we will potentially need a banner with our church's information.
11. **Other possible conversations and topics:**

- membership growth (evangelism)
- expansion of our homeless ministry
- communication, messaging and promotion
- identity
- staff issues, including: expectations, possible new positions, future needs, etc.
- lofty dreams
- low-hanging fruit

Session briefly discussed issues related to these questions, with decision to prioritize these conversations in future meetings. No specific ideas were generated, but discussion was centered around our commitment to develop a clearly communicated identity, grow our membership and community, and strengthen our commitment to the homeless community.

12. **Next Meetings:** *Session:* Proposing no meeting in June (pastor away on 6/17 and 6/24)
Meeting in July (tentatively set for 7/15). Meet in August on 8/26 (pastor vacation 8/12 and 8/19) *Presbytery:* Saturday, July 28 – Westminster PC, Nashville. Jim and Justin volunteered to serve as commissioners and were elected by unanimous voice vote.
13. **Closing Prayer:** Meeting adjourned with prayer by Rev. Wilson at 3:30pm.