

The Downtown Presbyterian Church
Session Meeting of November 22, 2021
Minutes

An online (Zoom) meeting of the Session of The Downtown Presbyterian Church (DPC) was held on Sunday, November 22, 2021.

In Attendance: Tom Wills, Leslee Hughes, Samera Zavaro, Erin Bell, Jim Hoobler, Jake Byl, Clerk of Session Vickie Coffin, and Moderator Rev. Larissa Romero

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Romero at 7:10 PM.

An opening prayer was offered by Samera Zavaro.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as amended from Mr. Wills, second from Mr. Hoobler; the motion carried

Approval of Minutes from the October 17, 2021, Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting from Ms. Zavaro, second from Mr. Hoobler; the motion carried

Word from the Moderator - see posted report

Possibilities for increasing opportunities for fellowship were explored. Ideas were:

Resume the first Sunday lunches, maybe on fifth Sundays of each month, maybe at an alternative to the Farmers' Market.

Resume fellowship in the narthex before the service.

Word clouds were developed from "memory blessings" and "personal blessings" of congregants. The word clouds were presented to congregants as gifts to bring us closer to each other.

Treasurer's Report - see posted report

The month of October was uneventful. Pledged income is ahead of budget, and expenses have been well below budget.

Clerk's Report

The Clerk has accepted Leslee Hughes's letter of resignation from the Session, effective at the end of the year 2021.

Motion to accept new DPC members Faye Scruggs, Mary Skinner, Tara Herbert and Shaun Douglas from Mr. Hoobler, second from Ms. Zavaro; the motion carried

Committee Reports

- Personnel

The focus for the last month has been on budgeting salaries and benefits.

- Finance and Administration - met November 15 - see posted report

- Building & History - met November 15 - *see posted report*

- Adult Christian Education

The job description for Christian Education Director of DPC has been updated, a challenging issue for our church.

Schedule of education plans for 2022 - *see jamboard link*

<https://jamboard.Google.com/d/1XRAVeuOTS4qunPffKkuaQnin5otHDshOLdrYTWIRs/edit?usp=sharing>

Elders kicked around ideas for engaging our community in Christian education.

- Hospitality

Congregational Christmas Breakfast: Ms. Bell can coordinate (if it's not too much effort). Elders will give their full support. December 19 will be the date.

Art Crawl: Will resume December 4. Ms. Bell has questions about responsibilities and those who will be responsible.

- Fishes and Loaves - met November 11 - *see posted report*

- Communications - *see posted report*

- Nominating Committee

Nominees to next year's session, class of 2024, are Denny Harris and Betty McConnell.

Motion from Mr. Wills, second from Mr. J. Byl to accept all committee reports.

Project Thrive Updates

A meeting was held October 23 at Belmont University. It was an excellent opportunity for networking and planning.

COVID-19 Planning - *see addendum reference document*

The session considered definitions of COVID phases and related protocols. Phases are based on Davidson County's COVID test positivity rate. Requirements for attendance at events in the DPC building as well as staff (The Contributor and DPC) were determined.

NOTE: The attached addendum was a detailed document written after the session meeting.

Housekeeping

- Check in with Dena Swoner and Paulino Jarquin when scheduling events
- We are going back to specifically timed parking garage tickets
- Annual reports – The deadline for submitting them to church office is January 17, 2022
- We have a list of things for Decoration Day

Next Meetings and Reminders

Budget Deadline: December 8

Session: December 20 at 6:30 - 8:30

Leadership Retreat: January 21st and 22nd

Tom Wills volunteered to lead the next session meeting's opening prayer.

Motion to adjourn from Ms. Zavaro.

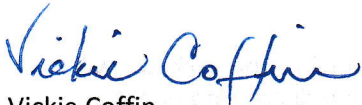
Closing Prayer

Rev. Romero led a closing prayer at 9:35 PM.

Rev. Larissa Romero

Moderator

The Downtown Presbyterian Church



Vickie Coffin

Clerk of Session

The Downtown Presbyterian Church

Addendum to Minutes of the DPC Session Meeting of 11/22/21

COVID-19 Planning:

In the November session meeting we dedicated a portion of our time to examining our policies around COVID safety. We first analyzed our current procedures, then we identified changes that might be needed in the future, and we finished by setting specific & measurable thresholds for enacting the changes to our existing policies. We hope you will visit <https://dpchurch.com/covid-safety/> to read the full description of our updated policies for COVID safety.

Here are the highlights:

- 1) When the COVID-19 positivity rate for Davidson County is at 3% or less, we will return to pre-pandemic conditions.
- 2) When the COVID-19 positivity rate for Davidson County is between 3% and 10% we will require the following precautions for socially-distanced events & activities:
 - a) Masks are worn in shared spaces.
 - b) Communion will be self-serve using individual elements.
 - c) When seated in worship, masks may be removed.
 - d) We ask that masks be worn when singing or moving about the sanctuary during worship.
 - e) If not vaccinated, we ask that masks be worn at all times.
- 3) When the COVID-19 positivity rate for Davidson County is between 3% and 10% we will require the following precautions for events & activities where social distancing is not possible:
 - a) DPC will require volunteers & attendees to provide proof of a full course of COVID-19 vaccination or proof of a negative COVID-19 test administered in the prior 48 hours.
 - b) Proof of vaccination may include a physical card or a photo of a complete vaccination card that matches the attendee's valid ID.
 - c) Those that have only received one of a two-shot vaccination (Pfizer or Moderna) will be required to provide a negative COVID-19 test result from 48 hours or less prior to the event or activity.
 - d) You can receive a copy of your vaccination records by visiting your County Public Health Department.
 - e) Proof of a negative test may be a printed or digital test result, timestamped 48 hours or less prior to the show that matches the attendee's valid ID. Tests must be administered by a licensed physician; at-home test results will not be accepted.
 - f) If you are unable to present either a completed vaccination card or negative COVID-19 test administered in the prior 48 hours with a timestamp and matching name to ID, you will not be admitted to the event.
- 4) If the COVID-19 positivity rate for Davidson County rises above 10%, the session will determine what precautions are deemed necessary. If applicable, such precautions will be listed here along with the date of implementation.