

**First Presbyterian Church of Houston**  
**Session Agenda – February 19, 2019**  
**5:30 PM LC 181**

**Opening Prayer**

Tiffany Melchers

**Omnibus Resolution**

Jim Birchfield

Approve Minutes of January Session Meeting  
Approve Membership Reports  
Additional Consent Motions

**Committee/Task Force Reports**

Operations Committee/Finance Report  
Committee Reports

Chris Herbold  
Committee Chairs

**Book Discussion**

The Cost of Discipleship Chapters 14-28

Callie Patterson

**Discussion Topics**

Vision Campaign  
Youth Ministry Report

Jim Birchfield  
Jon Crantz

**New Business**

Deep Dive: Congregational Life Committee

John Going

**Pastor's Report**

Balcony Report  
Personnel Report  
Focused Prayer Time: Open Positions

Jim Birchfield

**Clerk's Report**

ECO Gathering  
MAG Meeting  
Discipleship Priority Update

Cindy Cook

**Prayer and Praise**

**Communion and Doxology**

**Motion to Adjourn**

Jim Birchfield

**2018/2019 Session Meetings & Important Dates**

February 11, 2019 – AC Meeting  
February 19, 2019 – Session Meeting

March 11, 2019 – AC Meeting  
March 19, 2019 – Session Meeting

April 8, 2019 – AC Meeting  
April 16, 2019 – Session Meeting

May 5, 2019 – MAG Meeting  
May 13, 2019 – AC Meeting  
May 21, 2019 – Session Meeting

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION  
THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOUSTON, TEXAS  
January 22, 2019**

The January Stated Meeting of the Session began at 5:35pm in LC 181 with a quorum present. Dr. Jim Birchfield called the meeting to order and John Going opened the meeting with prayer.

Attendance: See the attached Session Attendance Record for attendance to date this year.

Omnibus motions:

The following omnibus motions, provided to Session in advance of the meeting, were passed unanimously without discussion:

- Moved that the minutes of the November 27, 2018 Stated Meeting of the Session be approved.
- Moved that the November and December Membership Reports be approved.

COMMITTEE/TASK FORCE REPORTS

Operations Committee: Chris Herbold distributed and reviewed a hand out entitled Summary Information and Observations Calendar Year information. The letter from the auditors and the responses from the Finance Committee were discussed. A motion was made and approved from the Operations Committee to incorporate additional church planting expenditures netting a total of approximately \$52,000 in the FPC 2018-2019 Operating Budget.

Operations Committee Overview: Chris Herbold presented an overview of the mission statement for the Operations Committee, their objectives, areas of responsibilities, composition, and members; and for the Finance Ministry Team; the Facility Ministry Team and the FPC Property Team.

NEW BUSINESS

Jimmy Myers was introduced to the session. A motion was made, seconded and approved to endorse Jimmy Myers for ordination candidacy into the ECO Denomination. Jon Crantz offered a prayer for Jimmy Myers and his continued journey to becoming an ordained pastor.

Vision Campaign: Jim Birchfield introduced the One Fund/Vision Campaign which is a program for funding two years of the operating budget and capital needs for FPC. Jim Sheppard from Generis led a discussion on how the program would work. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to proceed with "One Fund/Vision Campaign" to provide funding for 2 years of operating budget (FY'20 and FY'21) plus funding for capital needs-contingent on an analysis of 2018 year end giving and FPC giving capacity. A motion was made seconded and approved unanimously for the session to delegate the Vision Fund to the Board of Trustees and authorize them to come back to the February session meeting with a more specific plan and time line for the One Fund/Vision Campaign.

Committee Reports: George Mallory updated the session on the work of the Equipping and Sending Ministry. Brent Dorsey reported for the Worship Committee and on the success of the "Sounds of the Soul" Gala which raised over \$150,000 for the choir trip to the Holy Land in June. Gordon Marcum reported for the Mission Ministry. John Going reported for the Congregational Care Ministry.

## PASTOR'S REPORT

- Jim Birchfield reported that they are continuing their search for a Youth Leader, a Contemporary Worship Leader, and the APNC is continuing their search for an Associate Pastor.

## CLERK'S REPORT

- The Affirmation of Service was signed and returned to the clerk.
- MAG – FPC, Memorial Drive Presbyterian and Grace Presbyterian will be meeting.
- A motion was made, seconded and approved to elect Cindy Cook and Houghton Hutcheson as commissioners to the next ECO Gathering and Presbytery Meeting which will be January 28-29 in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- A financial gift from the Ewing Fund will be gifted to El Calvario Church in Waco for the purpose of purchasing land for their church.
- The clerks had their annual review of the senior pastor in which Rev. Jim Birchfield presented his goals and priorities for the coming year and his proposed time away for 2019.
- On February 3, 2019 there will be a guest preacher in the 11:05 service who is in need of a neutral pulpit in which to preach.
- A motion was made and approved, by an e mail vote taken in December, that Session endorse the partnership between FPC and Street Grace to establish their strategic ministry in Houston. We will support them with \$50,000 in year one (with \$25,000 from the Ewing fund and \$25,000 from the missions restricted account), \$40,000 in year two (from missions restricted and missions operating accounts), and \$30,000 in year three (from missions restricted and missions operating). This partnership has already been vetted and approved by the Ministry Investment Team and will be managed and held accountable according to our normal ministry partnership review policies.

Prayers were raised for the church, member concerns, ministry partners, the city and neighbors. Communion was served by intinction by elders Jon Going and Jenn Rustay.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m. with a prayer by Rev. Jim Birchfield and with the singing of the doxology.

---

Rev. Jim Birchfield, Moderator

---

Cindy Cook, Clerk of Session

Worship Services Comparison 2016	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
	1/8/17	1/15/17	1/22/17	1/29/17
8:15/8:30 Worship	135	123	186	113
9:30 Worship	219	178	251	152
10:45 Worship	380	273	324	490
11:05 Worship	320	285	276	
<b>Total Worship Att</b>	<b>1054</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>1037</b>	<b>755</b>

Marathon

Worship Services Comparison 2017	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
	1/7/18	1/14/18	1/21/18	1/28/18
8:15/8:30 Worship	226	180	245	238
9:30 Worship				
10:45 Worship	344	328	397	370
11:05 Worship	308	262	285	276
<b>Total Worship Att</b>	<b>878</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>927</b>	<b>884</b>

Unique Live Streams: 65      Houston Marathon; Unique Live Streams: 60      Unique Live Streams: 79      Unique Live Streams: 84

Worship Services Comparison 2018	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
	1/6/19	1/13/19	1/20/19	1/27/19
8:15/8:30 Worship	174	209	227	168
9:30 Worship	142	165		162
10:45 Worship	345	356	475	328
11:05 Worship	209	228		271
<b>Total Worship Att</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>958</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>929</b>

Unique Live Streams: 85 Plays      Unique Live Streams: 88 Plays      Unique Live Streams: N/A; Special Worship Schedule; Guest Speaker: Eric Metaxas; All services in Grand Hall      Unique Live Streams: 71 Plays

## January 2019

### Baptisms:

Infant                      0  
Adult                        0

**Weddings:**                      0

**Member Memorials:**            1

**NonMbr Memorials:**            0

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

January 2019

NEW CHURCH MEMBERS None

RESTORED TO ACTIVE ROLL

Ministry	Event	Date	Time	Location
----------	-------	------	------	----------

DECEASED

Grimes Sr., David "Mike"

1/25/2019

DISMISSED

Dale Jr., David

Dale, Karin

Huffman, Burdette

Huffman, Monica

Lelsz, Jacqueline "Jackie"

REMOVED FROM ACTIVE ROLL

None

MOVED TO INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP ROLL

None

DISMISSED FROM INACTIVE ROLL

None

MEMBERSHIP AS OF December 31, 2018

2957

Gains

1

Losses

- 6

MEMBERSHIP AS OF January 31, 2019

2952

January 2019 Cathedral Events

Worship	New Year's All-City Worship and Prayer Gathering	6-Jan	5:30 PM	Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church
Worship	Eric Metaxas	20-Jan	8:30 AM 10:45 AM	FPC Grand Hall

## Reports

### Operations

**Members present:** Bob Shimp, Tiffany Melchers, Ryan Castleman, Merry Davis, Sam Murray, David Barnes, and Chris Herbold.

**Members absent:** None

**Staff and Others present:** Andrew Stepp, Steve Burns, Tom McMeans, Henry Humphries, and Steve King

- I. **Call to Order, Devotional and Prayer** - Chris Herbold called the meeting to order, Ryan Castleman gave a devotional on Isaiah 60:1, and opened with a prayer.
- II. **Facilities Ministry Report** – Facilities Ministry Team is continuing to work with new IT company, All Covered on various IT updates. Discussions are ongoing with the Presbyterian School, who is still using Covenant, on how to coordinate the two will interface together. Renovation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Lancaster Building by Presbyterian School is underway. MOFA has offered to donate one of its chillers to FPC. The Facilities Ministry Team has analyzed this offer by having the proposed chiller inspected and by receiving and reviewing a quote for the inherent costs of moving such chiller. The inspection shows the chiller to be in “as good as new” condition, and the quote for installing this new chiller is \$37,000 (as opposed to obtaining a new chiller which would be \$120,000 -\$130,000). The warranty for the chiller, however, will not transfer. A vote on accepting this chiller from MOFA and using funds from the Building Maintenance Reserved Funds to cover the costs was made by Chris Herbold, Seconded by Sam Murray and unanimously approved by the Committee.

Henry Humphries and Tom McMeans provided an update on various facilities related matters.

- III. **Permanent Funds Ministry Team** – PFM Team meet on Monday, February 11, 2019. At this meeting TPF provided a presentation regarding the performance of our funds. In addition, the PFM Team received and approved a request for funds from the Holly Fund to pay for an organ repair. The minutes from the PFM team meeting are attached hereto.
- IV. **Finance Report and other Finance and Accounting Matters**
  - A. **November Financials** – An overview of the Financial Packet was given by Stephen Burns. Summary financial information is included below (in 000's):
    1. **Current Year (CY) Comparison to Budget and Prior Year (PY):**

Current Year Comparison to Budget and Prior Year - Month				
		CY		Budget
		Actual		Var
Income		\$ 801		\$ 289
Expenses		(808)		(171)
Surplus/(Deficit)		\$ (7)		\$ 118

2. **Current Year (CY) Comparison to Budget and Prior Year (PY) for Year-To-Date (June 2018 – November 2018):**

Current Year Comparison to Budget and Prior Year - Year-To-Date				
		CY		Budget
		Actual		Var
Income		\$ 4,935		\$ (314)
Expenses		(5,350)		(112)
Surplus/(Deficit)		\$ (415)		\$ (426)

3. **Liquidity – Cash Balances –**

Liquidity - Cash Balances	
General Fund Balance	\$ 2,052
Designated/Temporarily Restricted Accounts	(1,327)
Unrestricted General Fund Balance	\$ 725
Capital Fund Cash Balance	\$ 258

**V. Other Items**

- A. Generosity Audit-** Generis was hired to conduct a generosity audit for our church. His findings were presented at the last session meeting. The Vision Campaign will be rolled out in the next few months.
- B. Budget Update-** Starting in the next few weeks, instead of having the Church's budget updates in the Church Alive bulletin, the budget updates will be online on the Church's website, so more detail can be included in the updates.

The committee closed with a prayer by Sam Murray.

The next Operations Committee Meeting will be held on March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 a.m.

## Permanent Funds

February 11, 2019

Members present: Chris Athon, Jane Champion, Gracie McClure, James Melchers, Sam Murray, Carol Shimp and Gabe Zamora. Julie Harris called in to listen to meeting on speaker. Members absent: Susan Pokorny Egolf.

Andrew Stepp, Executive Pastor, Steve Burns, Finance Director and Tiffany Melchers representing the Operations Committee were also present. Nancy Purcell attended to provide administrative support.

Guest speaker, John C. Furlow, Jr., Executive VP & COO of Texas Presbyterian Foundation (TPF) was welcomed.

Items discussed:

- 1) John Furlow presented TPF's annual report of FPC's endowed funds for calendar year ending December 31, 2018.
- 2) Spend rate: PFM Team will make recommendation to Operations Committee/Session for the next fiscal year regarding endowment spend rate in the March minutes.
- 3) The balance of the Mary Carter Fund on December 31, 2018 was \$743,963.12 to be noted in the March minutes.

Following the presentation by John Furlow, the team conducted a short meeting.

- 1) Minutes of meeting December 19, 2018 e-mail meeting were approved as written – motion by Gabe Zamora and second by Chris Athon. All in favor.
- 2) Motion by Chris Athon and second by James Melchers to approve Holly Hall's request to use remaining grant funds to purchase two vital signs monitoring carts. All in favor. (Holly Hall was granted \$11,076 in September 2018 to purchase a bariatric lift for the Healthcare unit. They were able to secure a better price and requested approval to use the remaining \$3,700 to purchase the vital signs monitoring carts).
- 3) Worship (Michael Homan) requested a release of funds from the Music Equipment Fund (4) to pay for organ repair (\$5,730.32). Motion by Sam Murray and second by Gabe Zamora. All in favor.
- 4) Eleven grant requests were received by February 1 for the Monday, March 4 meeting. Assignments were given to the team members.

Next meeting March 4, 2019, 5:30 p.m. FH 251  
Sam Murray, chair



## **Congregational Life**

Date of meeting: 2/13/2018

Present: John Going (Chair), Jenn Rustay (Chair Elect), Melissa Carbajal (Member at Large), Jon Crantz (Staff)

Absent: NA

Guests: NA

The meeting began at 7:30am with John Going opening in prayer.

### **Items discussed:**

- SESSION DEEP DIVE – Discussion of each ministry. Challenges, prayer concerns, growth/excitement.
  - Children’s – Challenges/prayer concerns – Declining Sunday morning participation and volunteerism. Reconnecting with all families of FPC. Teaching our parent leaders to reach out to non-connected children and parents.
  - Youth – Jon will present the youth assessment to the session.
  - Connections – Challenges – Short of ushers/greeters. Growth/excitement – More people getting plugged in. Prayer cards continue to expand with outreach to new guests.
  - Caring – Challenge/prayer concern – congregational communication; letting people know of our process and availability for care. Care team is up and running and functioning well.
  - Women’s – Growth/excitement – IF gathering was a great success.

### **Action taken:**

- Jon will have each director share a brief story of their ministry at the session meeting on Tuesday.

### **Motions for Session consideration:**

Melissa closed in prayer to end the meeting.

# Worship, Music and Prayer

February 14, 2019

## Attendees

Jan Smith  
Michael Homan  
Martha Erwin  
Lynne Michels  
Beverly Schorre  
Callie Paterson (via Conf Call)

## Guest

Dr. Rhonda Furr

- I. Opening Prayer – Brent Dorsey
- II. Devotion – Lynne Michels  

Acts 2:38 – repent and be baptized. Lynne told a poignant story regarding a home break-in and the lady's call to scripture.
- III. Introductions – welcome Rhonda Furr
- IV. Committee Representative for the 9:40 a.m. service – informal input from Cheryl Christie and Kimberly Chassey – we need to identify a permanent representative  

We discussed with Michael Homan getting some input on how the 9:40 service is doing. He suggests that we invite Cheryl Christie to the next meeting. Michael noted that attendance is up, good participation and increased giving units for the service.
- V. Report from the Music Department Rhonda Furr, FPC Organist  

Dr. Rhonda Furr gave a report to the committee regarding the duties she performs. Attached is an outline of her presentation.
- VI. Personnel updates (Worship Leader, Sanctuary Singers Lead (Nicole Kenley Miller))  

Nicole will continue until May as director of the Sanctuary Singers. Claudia Dyle has been promoted to Worship Coordinator and has assumed Nicole's administrative duties. There is a search moving forward to identify a part time director of the Sanctuary Singers.

The search continues for a Worship leader, with a candidate currently in the interview process. The interim leader is performing well and will remain until a leader is identified and hired.

The youth leader search is also underway.
- VII. Fine Arts Policy – Update from First Presbyterian of Indianapolis – identify staff person to begin drafting FPC Policy  

Claudia Dyle in her new role will lead the effort. A member of the Worship, Music and Prayer Committee will work with Claudia to develop a Fine Arts Policy. A member of the Chancel Choir will also be considered to serve.

VIII. Worship and Prayer Committee – Next meeting Thursday, March 14, 2019 - Session meets 3/19/19)

IX. New Business

Alan Sexton will provide the Devotion for March.

Wednesday Services will be provided during Lent. Ash Wednesday will be the first of the services that will be from 12:00 - 12:30. The service will consist of hymns, a short homily and prayer.

Callie Provided input regarding Mission Training for the Choir's upcoming mission trip. Mary-Floye Federer is working to provide this support to the choir.

Parking questions were also raised. Details of the parking need to be developed and distributed. Is parking available after 5:00 pm, and how are validations provided? Is there an escort service available after dark to help people to their cars in the north parking lot?

X. Closing Prayer

Jan Smith offered a closing prayer

XI. Action Items

Brent and Michael will discuss Claudia Dyle's availability to develop a Fine Arts Policy

Brent will invite Cheryl Christie to report on the state of the 9:40 service

Alan Sexton will provide the devotion for the March 14 Worship, Music and Prayer Committee meeting.

## **Worship, Music and Prayer**

February 14, 2019

Rhonda Furr, Organist

Desired church traits and ministry opportunity: (Ministering together since August 2004):

- A faithful and effective urban, Protestant congregation demonstrating commitment to mature Christians, as well as unchurched persons, to the understanding of music in worship as a response to God and as stewardship of divine gifts, the primary use of high quality art music and hymns with a blend of other styles, and to worship leadership as a team of persons serving together.
- A part-time opportunity for personal service consistent with my calling, gifts, qualifications and availability that includes inspirational hymn and choral accompaniment, organ music for worship, choral rehearsals and organ music for special occasions.

Responsibilities:

- Worship: provide organ music for the 9:40 and 10:45 worship services
  - Prepare accompaniment for congregational singing— I believe my most important responsibility is to play hymns in a way that inspires and encourages attention to the text
  - Support Chancel Choir and Chamber Choir with organ and/or piano accompaniment
  - Preludes, postludes and other service music

- Additional worship services as needed: Maundy Thursday, Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Christmas Eve and Easter
- Accompanist:
  - Serve as rehearsal accompanist for Chancel Choir Thursday evening and at other rehearsals
  - Serve as rehearsal accompanist for Chamber Choir at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday
  - Accompany Chancel Choir and small choir ensembles for special concerts
- Organ Maintenance: Supervise the maintenance of the sanctuary and chapel organs
- I spend 12-15 hours a week on Sunday services, Thursday rehearsals, weekly preparation and related duties. During special occasions like Advent, Holy Week, and major choir performances, this time is doubled or tripled.
- Support the programs, staff and vision of FPC; collaborate as a member of the team. I strive to be an example of Christ in both my professional and personal life.

Additional services (beyond salaried position):

- Play for weddings and funerals as schedule allows
  - Provide monthly Wedding Music Consultations for brides/grooms, family members/friends
  - Prepared booklet "Your Guide to Wedding Music" and CD for FPC brides
  - Music consultant for all FPC weddings, including proof reading all wedding programs
- Tune individual pipes on our Aeolian Skinner pipe organ as my own expertise and time allows
- 3/24/19 will be my 40<sup>th</sup> post-worship recital at FPC: to educate and cultivate appreciation for our historic Aeolian Skinner pipe organ

Professional achievements that enhance FPC's reputation:

- Coordinator of the American Guild of Organists National Convention: June, 2016. After 6 years of preparation, 17 committees (and over 100 volunteers) led an extremely successful national convention. 1200 registrants from around the globe heard world-class performers in churches around the city. FPC was a major venue and our own Chancel Choir led in worship. FPC was extremely supportive of my work as Coordinator. FPC hosted 30 area musicians during our regular Steering Committee meetings.
- Five organ compositions based on hymn tunes published by Fred Bock Publishing.
- Author of articles and festschrift biography and bibliography on church musician Donald Paul Hustad
- Organ Consultant, including the 1.5 million dollar Létourneau pipe organ at HBU

FPC Post-Worship Organ Recitals

2004-05	Interim Organist
2005-06	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dr. Rhonda Furr, organ - in recital (9/18/05)</li> <li>2. Dr. Rhonda Furr, organ - in recital (12/18/05)</li> <li>3. 700 Years of the Organ in Worship (2/19/06)</li> <li>4. Toccata: Touching the Soul! (5/7/06)</li> </ol>
2006-07	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preludes: Prayer, Poetry and Praise (9/24/06)</li> <li>2. Sounds of the Season: Journey to Bethlehem (12/17/06)</li> <li>3. The Organ as Orchestra: Transcriptions (3/11/07)</li> </ol>
2007-08	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Psalm 150: Praise God with the Sound of the Trumpet, Lute, Harp, Cymbals, Organ and Piano (w/Laurie Lindemulder) (9/23/07)</li> <li>2. Sounds of the Season (incl. Solos by FPC members) (12/16/07)</li> </ol>
2008-09	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hymnody and the Organ: Five Centuries of Inspiration (9/21/08)</li> <li>2. Christmas Organ Classics: Old Tunes and New Settings (12/21/08)</li> <li>3. Pipes and Pedals: for Children of All Ages (3/29/09)</li> </ol>

2009-10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hymn Inspiration and the Artistry of Linda McKechnie (10/18/09)</li> <li>2. Sounds of the Season (12/20/09)</li> <li>3. Gifts of the Heart (3/7/10)</li> </ol>
2010-11	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sweets for All Occasions (9/26/10)</li> <li>2. Christmas Music through the Centuries (12/19/10)</li> <li>3. Lent: A Time of Preparation (3/27/11)</li> </ol>
2011-12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pipes and Pedals: FPC's Majestic Pipe Organ (10/16/11)</li> <li>2. "Peace on Earth" – Christmas Around the Globe (12/18/11)</li> </ol>
2012-13	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. My Country-Sweet Land of Liberty (10/21/12)</li> <li>2. Hymns My Parents Taught Me (3/3/13)</li> </ol>
2013-14	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Trumpet Tunes and Toccatas (10/20/13)</li> <li>2. Three Christmas Gifts: Joy, Peace, Hope (12/22/13)</li> <li>3. Lent: A Time to Reflect (3/20/14)</li> </ol>
2014-15	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Organ &amp; The Reformation: Connecting Buxtehude, Bach, Mendelssohn, Karg-Elert and Manz (10/5/14)</li> <li>2. Christmas Carols and Stories: The Creation of our Favorite Songs (12/21/14)</li> <li>3. Pedals, Pipes &amp; Popcorn (4/26/15)</li> </ol>
2015-16	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ of First Presbyterian Church (9/27/015)</li> <li>2. Christmas Organ Classics: Old Tunes and New Settings (12/13/15)</li> <li>3. The Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ of First Presbyterian Church (reprise) (4/24/16)</li> </ol>
2016-17	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Celebrating America! the Beautiful (10/30/16?)</li> <li>2. Gifts from Around the Globe (12/11/16)</li> <li>3. O God, Our Help in Ages Past: Hymns that Inspire (04/02/17)</li> </ol>
2017-18	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A Celebration of Reformation Hymnody (10/29/17)</li> <li>2. Christmas Gifts from the Masters (12/10/17)</li> <li>3. The Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ of FPC (3/24/18)</li> </ol>
2018-19	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. My Country – Sweet Land of Liberty (9/30/18)</li> <li>2. Joy to the World! Christmas Songs that Touch the Soul (12/9/18)</li> <li>3. The 40<sup>th</sup> Post-Worship Recital – Congregational Favorites (3/24/19)</li> </ol>

## **Mission Innovation**

Monday, February 6, 2019

**Members present:** Matt Offenbacher, Gordon Marcum

**Members absent:** Paula Paine

**Staff present:** Matt Lee, Austin Hermann

**Staff absent:**

- I. **Call to Order and Prayer** – The meeting was called to order at 6:11 and opened with prayer
  
- II. **Deep Dive: MET**
  - A. Austin Hermann led a deep dive into upcoming and operating initiatives under the themes of growing ideas and forming leaders
  - B. The MIC heard about the prayer needs for each of the ongoing and planned initiatives to better understand how to support the MET and those who encounter these activities
  
- III. **Other Updates**
  - A. Kingdom Story Fellowship: Chris and Rebecca Harrison were commissioned January 27<sup>th</sup> with an informational lunch after the 11:05. Feedback was positive and a launch is planned for Easter Sunday.
  - B. Alpha – Emmanuel is continuing to thrive overseeing this ministry, connecting with numerous non-believers
  
- IV. **Close** – the meeting closed in prayer at 7:15

# Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2019

The meeting began at 3:00 PM.

In attendance: Jim Birchfield, Andrew Stepp, Cindy Cook, Robert Moore, Chris Wolfe, Chris Herbold and Claudia Stewart.

Opening Prayer and Devotional were led by Robert Moore.

## DISCUSSION TOPICS

A detailed financial report was given by Chris Herbold, including a giving and budget report to date. Chris Herbold also moved that the previously identified candidate, Matt Malinsky, be recommended to Session, by the Advisory Council, as the successor Treasurer. After discussion, that motion unanimously carried.

## PASTORS' REPORT

Andrew Stepp provided updates on the search efforts of the APNC, as well as searches for a new director of worship for the 1105 service and a new youth director. Andrew Stepp concluded by earnestly soliciting prayers for the success of those searches.

Jim Birchfield presented a report on patterns, measured over time, in FPC attendance. Jim Birchfield also presented a status report on preparations for the One Fund stewardship initiative and pending improvements in the way that the congregation will receive financial information.

## CLERK'S REPORT

Cindy Cook delivered a report on the (1) annual ECO national gathering, (2) Congregational Life Committee deep dive, (3) the latest MAG Meeting, (4) status of the Elder Elect Training program, (5) Session Retreat priorities, (6) a "generosity exercise" overseen by Andrew Stepp, (7) preparations for observing Lent and (7) a change to the Alpha course format.

Claudia Stewart closed in prayer and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Wolfe, Clerk, Class of 2021