

2023 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS YEAR OF 2023

Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church

Session Highlights

January 24, 2023

The Session of Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church held a Stated Meeting on January 24, 2023.

A quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order with prayer by Pastor Stephanie at 6:05 pm. The devotions were led by Pastor Stephanie and focused on Colossians 4: 2-6 “What fills me”

A discussion followed on an article by Carey Nieuhoff. The article was about trends in church participation and attendance by age group.

Clerk’s Report

Communion will be served on February 5, 2023. At the 9am service Fred Wustholz, Melissa Michael, Trish Chinoy and Judy Cronise will assist. At 11am Marci Capel and Tim Sandford will assist.

Communion will also be served on March 5, 2023 at 9am with Sue Wert and David Callens assisting.

There were no baptisms and no deaths to report.

A list of members to be moved to inactive was presented and reviewed.

Old Business

The session retreat will be on February 11, 2023.

Installation of the new audiovisual system is complete except for the microphones which are backordered.

Session will move forward with plans to install the security system and generator with modifications. This will also include the lobby updates. A discussion followed about funding this endeavor. A committee to take charge of this project was suggested.

New Business

Fred Wustholz presented the property improvement plans and an update on what had been done.

Personnel shared that George Salt is retiring and Session wishes to thank George for his many years of service.

Session approved a salary of \$45,000 for Bill Stauffer.

Personnel will also review the salaries of our staff and make sure we fall in line with surrounding churches.

The Budget was presented and approved.

Stewardship presented a report on the Stewardship campaign.

Upcoming events

There will be Soup and Bread Suppers on Wednesday evenings during Lent.

The meeting was adjourned in prayer by Pastor Bailey.

Our next meeting is on February 28, 2023, at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Cronise

Clerk of Session

Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church

Session Highlights February 28, 2023

The Session of Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church held a Stated Meeting on February 28, 2023.

The devotions were led by Pastor Stephanie. Devotions were on Numbers 13. In this Bible text the Israelites are brought to the promised land but are too afraid to enter. "Without a vision the people will perish." We need to move through our fear with hope and trust in God's vision for us.

Clerk's Report

Communion will be served on March 5, 2023. At the 9am service Katy Lyons, Sue Wert, David Callans, and Judy Cronise will serve and at the 11am service Jeff Campbell and Tim Sandford will serve.

Communion will also be served on April 2, 2023, at 9am with David Callans, Rick Schaub and Katy Lyons serving and at 11:00 with Jeff Campbell and Tim Sandford serving.

There were no baptisms and no deaths to report.

Ron Cronise made a presentation on behalf of the Bequest Committee. He shared with Session the importance of an endowment and how it can serve as a second income stream for the church. Ron challenged the Session members to each make a bequest to the church to set an example for the rest of the congregation.

Old Business

Installation of the new audiovisual system is complete except for the microphones which are backordered.

A team is forming to work on a renovation master plan for the church.

Attendance data was reviewed. There is quite a bit of fluctuation on attendance. We are reevaluating how to count those who watch on Facebook.

Plans are being made for a celebration to honor George Salt as he retires as Sexton. Also, six applications have been received for his position and interviews begin next week.

New Business

A request was made to baptize Mac and Griffin Morrison, the grandchildren of Carol Carpenter, on May 21, 2023.

The Rummage Sale was discussed. This event adds important funding to the church. The funds need oversight from the Rummage Sale committee.

An additional employee is needed for website support and other technology updates. The discussion was tabled as we carefully consider funding and skills of this individual.

We are also in need of funds for an ASL interpreter for the deaf community that attend the 11:00 service and Community Meal. We are applying for grant from Presbytery to fund this program.

Coffee Hour needs Session support. Beginning after Easter it is requested that Session Committees each sign up for a coffee hour.

Reports

Committee reports were reviewed.

Pastor Stephanie would like to meet with Session to share the discussions and ideas from the conference she attended.

The meeting was adjourned in prayer by Pastor Stephanie.

Our next meeting is on March 28, 2023, at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Cronise
Clerk of Session

Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church
Highlights of Session
March 28, 2023

The Session of Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church held a Stated Meeting on March 28, 2023.

A motion was made by Rich Schaub and seconded by Tim Sandford that Sue Wert will serve as Temporary Clerk of Session in the absence of Judy Cronise on March 28, 2023.

A quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order with prayer by Pastor Stephanie at 6:06 pm. The devotions were led by Pastor Stephanie. Luke Chapter 1 was read and discussed.

Clerk's Report

Communion will be served on April 2, 2023. At the 9am service. David Callans, Rick Schaub, Katy Lyons and Sue Wert will serve at the 9:00 am service and at the 11am service Jeff Campbell and Tim Sandford will serve.

There were no baptisms and no deaths to report.

Old Business

Audio Visual Update: All microphones are installed. Hearing devices are on their way.

Building Renovations: Tom Barford and Mike Wert have agreed to co-chair the campaign. Jackie Robbins and Gregg Osbeck have been invited to be liaisons to the project representing the millennial generation.

Attendance data was discussed

George Salt's retirement party will be April 16th at 12:30 PM. He will be honored in worship on April 23rd at 9:00 AM.

New Business

Grant for ASL interpreter – We will apply for a Presbytery Grant for the interpreter.

Due to the conflict on May 7, 2023 with The Church Has Left the Building, Communion in May will be held on May 14, 2023.

On May 14,2023 Chuck Napier and Sue Wert will serve communion at the 9:00 service. Two additional servers will be needed. Jeff Campbell and Marci Capel will serve at the 11:00 service

Home Communion – It has been requested that each elder (accompanied by a Deacon) serve home communion at least one time per year.

CLTB Rebrand – change the name to “Serve Weekend”

Noah Templin Ashford – Eagle Scout has requested to build a gaga pit near the playground. The request was approved.

Rick Schaub of Long-Range Planning gave an update on the Strategic Plan, addressing the individual strategies in the plan.

Proposed Budget Allocation Revisions from the Finance Committee were approved.

Reports

Committee reports were reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned in prayer by Pastor Stephanie at 8:05 PM.
Our next meeting is on April 25, 2023, at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Wert
Temporary Clerk of Session

Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church

Highlights of Session April 25, 2023

The Session of Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church held a Stated Meeting on March 28, 2023.

The devotions were led by Pastor Stephanie. Luke Chapter 2 was read and discussed.

Then Chapter 2 from the book Surprise the World was discussed. It emphasized that establishing healthy spiritual habits helps us to “do what we do” not what “we say we will do”. Our spiritual habits help us to build a relationship with God.

Clerk’s Report

Communion will be served on April 2, 2023. At the 9am service David Callans, Rick Schaub, Chuck Green and Tom Barford will serve and at the 11am service Melissa Michael and Marci Capel will serve.

There is a Discovering Resources for Ministry in Your Midst event on May 6, 2023, at First Presbyterian Church in Springfield.

There were no baptisms and no deaths to report

Old Business

Audio Visual Update: Hearing devises arrived but they are picking up a hum and Bill is working on a short term solution. We will be needing a larger breaker box.

Building Renovations: A \$150,000 donation was received for the purposes of security. We are working on a Grant for this and for renovation.

There were 330 people in attendance on Easter and the mid-week services had 40-60 attendees.

New Business

Colin Jenei has requested the baptism of his grandson Ralph Kelly on May 21, 2023. Colin will be the elder assisting in the baptism.

The Haven will hold its first event which will be a poetry slam.

Reports

Committee reports were reviewed.

A lengthy discussion on our purpose and “What are we here for?” ensued. Our vision will direct our programs and our renovations.

The meeting was adjourned in prayer by Pastor Stephanie.

Our next meeting is on May 23, 2023, at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Cronise,
Clerk of Session

Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church
Highlights of Session
May 23, 2023

The Session of Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church held a Stated Meeting on May 23, 2023.

A quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order with prayer by Pastor Stephanie at 6:05 pm. Devotions were led by Pastor Stephanie and Luke, Chapter 3, was discussed.

Clerk's Report

Communion will be served on June 4, 2023. At the 9am service David Callans, Melissa Michael, Chuck Napier and Jeff Campbell will serve.

There were three baptisms in May 21, Mac and Griffin Morris and Ralph Kelly.

It is with sadness we note the death of Priscilla Donahue on May 12, 2023.

Old Business

Audio Visual Update: Bill is working with the vendor to work out the problems with the hum and microphones cutting out.

Wedding Venue request was tabled until a later date.

New Business

New members Patti Ann Ridgeway, Bill McGettigan, Jessica Kirker, Christine and Mike Ebert, Margi Hurst, Lynn Bride and Erika Rotella will be received into fellowship on June 18, 2023.

The confirmation class will meet with the elders on June 4, 2023.

A vision document was presented by Tom Barford and Mike Wert addressing where our church is going and what future facilities will be needed. A motion, made by Rick Schaub, to move ahead with the planning was seconded by Marci Capel and the motion carried.

Personnel requested that Bill Stafford receive tax credit for housing as a religious worker.

Bill Tomlinson will become a chaplain for TMPC and will assist in visitations of members.

John Donahue will be installed as deacon to fulfill the term of his late wife Priscilla. There will be a congregational meeting on June 18, 2023 at 10:00 to install John.

Reports

Committee reports were reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned in prayer by Pastor Stephanie at 9:07PM.
Our next meeting is on June 27, 2023, at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Cronise,
Clerk of Session

Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church
Highlights of Session Minutes
June 27, 2023

The Session of Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church held a stated meeting on June 27, 2023.

The meeting was called to order with prayer by Pastor Stephanie who also led devotions. Luke Chapter 4 was read and discussed.

Clerk's Report

Communion will be served on July 2, 2023. There is one service at 9:00 and Melissa Michael, Judy Cronise and Katie Lyons will serve.

Old Business

Audio Visual Update: Bill is working with the vendor to work out the problems with the hum and microphones cutting out.

A wedding venue request from River House was discussed. River House will rent our space for \$2000 for a wedding and the Pastor fee is \$500. The church may approve or decline weddings according to our church calendar and availability.

Michael and Nancy Murray have returned to Thompson church and will be moved from inactive to the active membership.

New Business

A lengthy discussion was held on the Vision of TMPC and how we will proceed. The session is moving ahead with the Vision Statement: ***We will be a fresh, relevant, passionate, fully inclusive community focused wholly on living like Jesus.***

A Town Hall will be held on August 20 during the Common Hour to present this vision to the congregation.

Reports

Committee reports were reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

Our next meeting is on July 25, 2023, at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Cronise,
Clerk of Session

Highlights of Session July 25, 2023

The Session of Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church held a stated meeting on July 25, 2023. The meeting was called to order with prayer by Jeff Campbell at 6:06pm. The devotions were led by Chuck Napier. Luke Chapter 5 was read and discussed.

Clerk's Report

Communion will be served on August 6, 2023. Trish Chinoy and Sue Wert will serve communion at the 9:00 service and Melissa Michael and Chuck Napier will serve at 11:00am.

The death of Nancy Langer in June 2023 was reported, and her memorial service will be Saturday, July 29, 2023.

Old Business

Audio Visual Update: We are still working on the assisted hearing devices.

Wedding Venue agreement was discussed with River House, they were pleased with it and will get back to us to finalize.

New Business

A new Home Communion Plan will be put into place. Training will be in September. There are currently 15 people that need home communion. Two people will visit and serve communion. One will be an ordained officer of the church. Each elder will sign up once a year to help with this ministry.

A guideline for Elders on how to Live Like Jesus was distributed and discussed. The guidelines will be edited and then voted on at our next meeting.

There will be a Town Hall meeting on August 20 at 10:00am. We will give an overview of our journey in faith at Thompson, give information and demographics of the church today, talk about our building concerns, rethinking our space, and most importantly we will enthusiastically re-center our focus to **Live Like Jesus** in our church and in our lives on the journey ahead.

Reports

Committee reports were reviewed.

Mission will give us an update of what missions we support and the focus of each mission.

The meeting was adjourned in prayer by Elder Dave Callans at 8:32pm. Our next meeting is on August 20, 2023, at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Cronise, Clerk of Session

Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church

Highlights of Session

August 20, 2023

The Session of Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church held a stated meeting on August 20, 2023.

Clerk's Report

Communion will be served on September 3, 2023. Jeff Campbell and Judy Cronise will assist.

Old Business

The guideline for Elders on how to Live Like Jesus will be edited at our next meeting.

New Business

Session reviewed the Town Hall and made suggestions concerning what we could do better and how to enhance what we are doing to Live Like Jesus.

Reports

The security system was discussed. We will move forward with the security system by installing a generator, tank and basic entry level security.

The meeting was adjourned in prayer by Pastor Stephanie at 1:42pm. Our next meeting is on September 26, 2023, at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Cronise,
Clerk of Session

Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church
Highlights of Session
September 26, 2023

The Session of Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church held a stated meeting on September 26, 2023.

Devotions were in the form of Communion Training for At-Home Communion. Luke 22:14-23 was used as the text. Elders and Deacons will serve Communion to members who are unable to attend church.

Clerk's Report

Communion will be served on October 1, 2023. Elders assisting are Katie Lyons, Trish Chinoy, Sue Wert and Anita Campbell at 9:00 and Marci Capel and Jeff Campbell at 11:00. At Home communion will be served by Susan Achenbach and Darlene Tomlinson to Dottie Blake and by Sue Wert and John Donahue to Jim Revie.

Old Business

The hearing devices continue to have problems with sound. The problem is believed to be electrical and is being investigated.

Attendance data has been tracked and there is an upward trend as more people are attending.

New Business

The wedding of Courtney Ripp and Connor Krackzyk will be held on August 3, 2024.

Kurt Thompson and Fred Wustholz have been working on the security system and a complete plan has been made. The session is supportive of this plan moving ahead.

There will be two new member classes on the 15th and 22 of October. Elders will attend the meeting and listen to the new members statement of faith. Marci Capel and Melissa Michael will attend on the 15th and Judy Cronise and Sue Wert will attend on the 22.

Pastor Bailey gave out revised budget requests for 2024. Committees should work on the budgets and have them ready before the October meeting.

George Wislar has gifted us a beautiful baby grand piano for Fellowship Hall. We are blessed to have the new instrument.

Membership asked for Session committees to cover coffee hour the third Sunday of each month. This will leave just the first Sunday of the month to be covered by the congregation.

Communion will be served on November 12, 2023 due to SERVE Sunday as well as at 10:30 on December 24, 2023.

Rick Schaub gave an update on the Long-Range Planning Committee.

Jeff Campbell led us in a lengthy discussion on Stewardship as a spiritual discipline. We are moving ahead to challenge Session and the congregation to give as Jesus did.

Reports

Committee reports were reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

Our next meeting is on October 24, 2023, at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Cronise,
Clerk of Session