

Session Meeting for The Downtown Presbyterian Church, July 15, 2018

Present: Rev. Mike Wilson – Moderator, Elders Jack Henderson, Justin Near, Vickie Coffin, Dave Coleman, Debra Gentry, Jim Dickson, Chuck Cardona, Jeff Koontz – Treasurer

Excused: Elder Cary Gibson

Clerk: Jack Henderson

1. **Opening prayer** – Offered by Elder Coleman at 12:42pm
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Spelling of “Rolls” was corrected on item 8. Agenda approved with unanimous voice vote.
3. **Attestation of approval of minutes of May 20, 2018 session meeting:** Clerk attests that a majority of the session has approved minutes from 5/20 prior to this gathering. Minutes and session packet have been uploaded to church website.
4. **Moderator’s Report** – see accompanying report
5. **Treasurer’s Report:** The treasurer’s report for May and June is attached on session packet. A large donation from the Fugitive Fund led treasurer to rescind the request for a corporate draw for now.
6. **Clerk’s Report** – Attached are the active member rolls copied from the physical register of the church. Our task is to review the active rolls (see item 8) to determine who needs to be contacted and who should be removed from active member rolls. Rolls are presently at 113 people. A previous congregational care list is also shared in session packet and will be updated as session sees fit.
7. **Committee Reports** -- Oral reports should be limited to items for action only.
 - **Building & History** – see accompanying report. Parking situation was discussed. There is a new management company on garage where we park now (SP+). Their offer to us was to set aside a certain timeframe on Sunday and charge the church \$1/hr. Previous parking tickets cost the church \$3.40 a piece and the tickets “expire never” and were for any day/time. Some conversation has been started with the Premier garage on 5th

avenue behind the church. Michael estimates us to be out of tickets by early August.

- **Finance & Administration** – see accompanying report. Mike has talked to the son of Senator Henry. He has given us permission to contact those who gave in his honor for additional donations. Discussion to add a line item on the electronic giving page to the clothes closet.
- **Personnel** – see accompanying report.
- **Hospitality** – next meeting July 25 (agenda attached)
 - Conversation around role of greeters on Sunday morning. We have had some security issues with items stolen in past weeks.
- **Worship & Art** – see accompanying report, next meeting is July 23.
- **Outreach** – next meeting is July 22.
- **Christian Education** – no report received.
- **Nominating Committee** – no report received.

8. **Examination of the rolls** – Clerk Jack Henderson leading this discussion: Session is to go through the roll, listed out in the packet. We will identify people into three categories: 1) active and present members: no action needed. 2) members who have been sparsely attending or absent for a short time (approx. two years): reach out to personally 3) members who have moved, been absent for many years, or for any other reason no longer going to participate in the life of the church: letter sent with their name removed from rolls. ACTION: Session will reach out to certain members and will set up new congregational care list at next session meeting.

9. **Other possible conversations and topics:** Not addressed this meeting due to time.

- 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

10. **Next Meetings** Presbytery: Saturday, July 28 – Westminster PC, Nashville – Elders Near and Dickson elected commissioners in May. Session: Meet in August on 8/26

(pastor vacation 8/12 and 8/19). Elder Henderson will offer opening prayer next meeting.

11. **Closing Prayer** – Offered by Rev Wilson at 3:21pm