

# Minutes of the Called Session Meeting

Bayside Presbyterian Church  
20, July 2021 7:00 PM Via Zoom

The Session of Bayside Presbyterian Church met in a Called Meeting at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Members present, constituting a quorum, were Moderator Rev. Dr. David Rollins, Clerk Amanda Long and Elders Benjamin Hubbard, Ed Gluckowski, Ashley McLeod, Karyn Simonelli, Ed Spillman, Tom Weeks, and Rose Ann Wehr

Session Members not in attendance: Cherokee Adams, Will Albertoli, Richard Guy, Bob Orcutt, Michele Parker, Brenda Reid, Di Ricks, Thom Sare, Connie Schreiber, Caroline Tetschner, and Braden Wicks.

Staff Member Present: Associate Pastor Rev. Emma Ouellette, and Chi-Yi Chen Wolbrink, Director of Music

Staff Member not in attendance: Lacy Schimmel, Director of Youth and Family Outreach,

Visitors to the meeting – None.

Mission: Bayside is a covenant community of Christ's people seeking to know and do the will of God.

Vision: Changing lives by growing Christian disciples and living God's Word.

A quorum was confirmed and the meeting was opened with prayer at 7:05pm by Rev. Rollins.

Rev. Rollins shared that the review of the proposed slate of elders and the request to call a congregational meeting will be done at the Stated Meeting in August.

The following was sent to the session via email on 7/19/2021.

Dear Members of Session,

The following motions are from the Worship Committee regarding changes to: the location of the Sail On Service, the name of the Sail On service, and the schedule and number of worship services at BPC.

Below the motions background on these motions is provided. During the session meeting, we will be happy to explain further and answer questions.

## **The Worship Committee submits the following motions to BPC session for approval:**

**The worship committee moves that summer schedule of one combined service, be extended to include September 12, for the purpose of a rededication and celebration of the renovated sanctuary.**

**The worship committee moves that the "Sail On" service be held permanently in the sanctuary beginning September 19.**

**The worship committee moves that the “Sail on” service be renamed and referred to as “Contemporary Service” for better marketing and understanding to community.**

**The worship committee moves that Bayside Presbyterian Church adopt the following annual schedule of worship services:**

**September – May (Sunday following Labor Day through Sunday prior to Memorial Day) two services of worship; one contemporary service at 9:00AM and one traditional service at 11:00AM, beginning September 19,2021. The two-service schedule will be followed with the exception that the 1<sup>st</sup>Sunday of each month will be combined service at 11:00AM.**

**Summer schedule June-September (Memorial Day through Labor Day) will be a combined service held at 10:00AM. All services to be held in the sanctuary.**

Background:

A taskforce for the Sail On service was created to identify the satisfaction of the congregants attending the sail on service in fellowship hall. This committee created a survey which was sent to the 50+ consistent attendees who worshipped at the Sail On service prior to covid.

This taskforce was established at the same time discussion began regarding the modernization of fellowship hall for Sail On, as a \$25,000 contribution from a member of BPC specific to fellowship hall improvements was given.

Why a survey... with the renovation of the sanctuary- its modernization of AV equipment, addition of projectors and overall significant improvement of sound quality- the conversation led us to discussing holding the sail on services in the sanctuary (which Vision 2020 committee planned for accommodating in the design of the sanctuary). We believed we had to determine IF members wanted to keep Sail On in the fellowship hall or move to the sanctuary prior to determining the usage and what modifications should be done in fellowship hall with the \$25,000 gift.

After review of the survey responses by sail on and fellowship hall taskforces, as well as discussions with vision 2020 and property committees, the worship committee felt it had the support and consensus of those groups to recommend the move of the Contemporary Service “Sail On” to the sanctuary.

Now comes the difficult part of the equation...

Based on music rehearsal schedules prior to services and staffing, this move impacts the ability to have three worship services in the sanctuary.

Praise team rehearses for service between 7:30-8:45 Sunday morning.

Choir, Handbells, etc. practice 10-10:45 Sunday morning.

Instruments and equipment cannot be moved to rehearse in one location and then moved into sanctuary in time for service(s). Additionally, rehearsal allows the AV team to test microphones, cameras etc. to ensure all working appropriately.

After much discussion, the consensus of the worship committee was to recommend to session that BPC holds one contemporary and one traditional service. The contemporary service at 9:00 and traditional at 11:00. Members of the committee have reached out to members who have traditionally attended the 8:00 service, and while they are disappointed,

most are agreeable this is the way forward.

Our intent is not to prevent anyone from worshipping, in fact what we have learned from the pandemic is that congregants have learned to worship not only at different times but through different media-(online) as well, which we will continue to offer. Our sanctuary renovations are a huge benefit to all the worship opportunities BPC can offer... traditional, contemporary, and online. We are truly blessed.

Should the session approve the two-service schedule for BPC with both services being held in the sanctuary, then the fellowship hall taskforce can begin determining for purposes for other than for the Sail On service. Which means, there will be no need for a full replication of the sanctuary AV equipment in fellowship hall.

Should session determine to keep the three-service schedule, Sail On would need to remain in the fellowship hall, and the bulk of the \$25,000 will be used specifically for improvements for the Sail On service.

Again, happy to answer questions during meeting tomorrow night.

Elder McLeod asked if everyone had a chance to read the documentation and asked if anyone had questions.

Elder Hubbard asked if Sail On was moved how the \$25000 would be used for Fellowship Hall. Elder McLeod shared that it would allow the funds to be used in a more broad way – allowing for the funds to support all the groups/activities held in Fellowship Hall instead of being used just to replicate the technical equipment from the sanctuary.

Elder Hubbard asked about the current equipment in Fellowship Hall and how it would be used or how the change would affect it. Elder McLeod shared that it would not go to waste and could be used for the activities that Fellowship Hall is used for. Rev. Rollins shared that the funds would allow a hybrid space, where we could stream the service from the sanctuary for overflow. Elder Spillman confirmed that the equipment would not go to waste and would/could be used by the current groups.

The following motion was called for vote:

**Motion:** The worship committee moves that the “Sail On” service be held permanently in the sanctuary beginning September 19. **The Motion Passed**

Discussion prior to vote: Elder Weeks asked if Sail On was moved – did that mean that we would be eliminating the 8am service. Elder McLeod confirmed that the move of Sail On to the sanctuary would mean that we would no longer be able to offer the 8 am worship service.

The following motion was called for vote:

**Motion:** The worship committee moves that Bayside Presbyterian Church adopt the following annual schedule of worship services:  
September – May (Sunday following Labor Day through Sunday prior to Memorial Day) two services of worship; one contemporary service at 9:00AM and one traditional service at 11:00AM, beginning September 19,2021. The two-service schedule will be followed with the exception that the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month will be combined service at 11:00AM. Summer schedule June-September (Memorial Day through Labor Day) will be a combined service held at 10:00AM. All services to be held in the sanctuary. **The Motion Passed**

Discussion prior to vote: Elder Weeks shared that he was not in favor of the elimination of the 8am service. He shared that it seemed to him that we were putting the priority of the rehearsal of music ahead of worship and that did not seem right to him.

Elder McLeod shared that most all of the 8am worshipers were contacted and while some were disappointed, they all shared that they understood the reason for the change.

Elder McLeod and Rev. Rollins both shared that the worship ministry would track the combined worship attendance and would evaluate if we should proceed with 2 services all year or if we should proceed with the “summer” combined service. Elder McLeod reminded session that the reason the combined service was started was in an effort to allow congregants to be able to worship and interact with each other and not be separated by worship times. Elder Hubbard asked about the drop off % for the “summer” worship. Elder Spillman shared that his prior analysis showed about a 20% drop.

The following motion was called for vote:

**Motion:** The worship committee moves that summer schedule of one combined service, be extended to include September 12, for the purpose of a rededication and celebration of the renovated sanctuary. **The motion passed.**

There was no discussion on the motion.

The following motion was called for vote:

**Motion:** The worship committee moves that the “Sail on” service be renamed and referred to as “Contemporary Service” for better marketing and understanding to community. **The motion passed.**

There was no discussion on the motion.

Elder McLeod thanked the session for their review and vote. She shared that she felt Worship did a better job this time in outreach and discussion along with the support of the 2020 Vision Committee and the Fellowship Hall task force team.

Rev Rollins shared that the invitations for the celebration service/Sunday would be sent out shortly.

Rev. Ouellette closed the meeting with prayer at 7:30.