

Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting

Bayside Presbyterian Church
16 May 2023

The Session of Bayside Presbyterian Church met in a Stated Meeting at 7:00 pm. Members present, constituting a quorum, were Moderator Rev. Dr. David Rollins, Clerk and Elder Amanda Long and Elders Cherokee Adams, Annette Conley, Betsy Davis, Nancy Guy, Benjamin Hubbard, Paula Jesberg, Marshall Miller, Lynne Owen, Chris Pascuzzi, Caroline Tetschner, and RoseAnn Wehr.

Session Members not in attendance: Wayne Pollock, Connie Schreiber, Jordan Simonelli, Karyn Simonelli, and Paul Verburg.

Staff Member Present: Associate Pastor Rev. Emma Ouellette, Chi-Yi Chen Wolbrink, Director of Music, Summer Moore, Director of Faith Formation and Tom Winter, Treasurer.

Visitors to the meeting: Rev. Valena Hoy.

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.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS – OPENING PRAYER

Joys and concerns were shared and Rev. Rollins opened with prayer.

DEVOTION was shared by Elder Nancy Guy.

REQUESTS FOR SESSION APPROVAL

1. New Member Requests: None
1. Baptism Requests: None
2. Reaffirmation of Faith Requests: None
3. Church Wedding Requests: None

SESSIONAL RECORDS

Clerk of Session

1. Minutes from the last Stated Session Meeting
2. Today's Agenda

There was an error in the April Minutes – in the treasurer's report the note about the electric bill will go down when we go to 1 service – not 2 services.

New business added to the agenda speaking to the website update.

Motion: It is moved by the Clerk that the Session approve the corrected minutes from April's Session meeting and the updated agenda for today's Stated Meeting.
The Motion Passed.

STATISTICS

1. Reception of New Members: None
2. Baptisms: 4/09 Kaia Kate Porciuncula
3. Church Weddings: None
4. Member Transfers: None
5. Member Deaths: 04/07 Em Chapman
6. Roll Removal Request: None

Worship Attendance

note change in Facebook and we are having issues reporting the online views – research and problem solving is in progress

Month	Date	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	Special	Total	Comments
Apr	2-Apr		168		168	Palm Sunday
	6-Apr			54	0	Maundy Thursday
	9-Apr	77	272		349	Easter Sunday
	16-Apr	50	85		135	Spring Break
	23-Apr	35	104		139	
	30-Apr	33	80		113	
Total		195	709		904	
	AVG	49	142		181	

Christian Education Statistics

Dates	Nursery Attn	Nursery Help	Kid SS Attn	Kid SS Help	Youth Group Attn	Youth Group Help	Adult SS (Verse by Verse)	Present Word	Dates	Wednesday JAM	JAM Help	
2-Apr	5	1	12	3	3	2	8	7	5-Apr	13	1	
9-Apr	11	1	Easter							12-Apr	Spring Break	
4/16/2023	5	1	6	2	0	2	8	5	19-Apr	13	1	
4/23/2023	3	1	9	1	0	2	7	5	26-Apr	10	1	
4/30/2023	3	1	9	3	9	2	11	8	3-May	9	1	

FINANCIAL REPORT AND ISSUES:

Balance Sheet & Treasurer's Report (posted to website)

Income:

We are at 94% of estimates for pledge (trending down though common for time of year) and up slightly to 60% for non-pledge. Significant increase in Visitor and Loose Cash Offering, certainly related to Palm Sunday and Easter visitors. Overall at 81% - sluggish, but not a big concern.

Expenses:

Congregational Care and Education Expenses are still above budget, but explainable due to timing. All other expense categories are favorable to budget. Overall at 93% YTD on budgeted expenses.

Balance Sheet:

The General Fund (GF) is \$127K. – Down again from March and it has edged below our \$130,000 target balance. This reflects the \$38,000 we are “behind” on pledge and non-pledge vs the budget.

Motion: Elder Pascuzzi moved that we accept the report as presented.

The Motion Passed.

Gift from the Estate of Francis Hicks

Tom Winter

Tom shared that a gift of jewelry valued over \$58,000 was received by the Hicks estate. Stewardship is working to determine the best next steps.

COMMUNICATIONS: (Members, PCUSA, PEVA, Other):

PEVA – Letter of Retirement – Rev. Liza Hendricks – Posted to website.

PEVA / CHURCH INFORMATION

1. PEVA Meetings 2022

- Tuesday April 25, 2023, 10am – Williamsburg Presbyterian – Williamsburg
 - Elders Hubbard and Guy report
- Tuesday July 25, 2023, 10am – Wycliffe Presbyterian – Virginia Beach
 - Elders Jesberg and Verburg were elected at the April Session Meeting.
- Tuesday October 24, 2023, 10am – Bayside Presbyterian – Virginia Beach
 - Note: Please add to your calendars as many volunteers will be needed.
 - Last PEVA Presbytery Meeting prior to Rev. Hendricks retirement – potentially larger than normal attendance

Elder Guy and Hubbard shared a brief report on the PEVA meeting.

Elder Hubbard shared it was his first meeting. He was surprised by the number of retired pastors (17) that attend the meeting. The breakout session he went to was on Congregational Vitality Ministry (one of 10 in PEVA). Two pastors are on the ministry, and they lead the group. The topic was “what is the biggest obstacle to vitality in your congregation”. All there were asked to share. Elder Hubbard took notes and suggested that we review prior to the retreat. ***Written report posted to the website***One thing he made special note of is that this ministry has funding and resources that any church can use and he encourages us to look into using that resource.

Elder Guy shared that the focus of PEVA for that meeting and the next two is the Matthew 25 Initiative. **** Link to more details <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/> **** The first one discussed was dismantling systematic racism. The presentation was very powerful. It does cause some uncomfortable ideas and thinking in new ways. Elder Guy volunteered to serve on a subcommittee for the Matthew 25. She hopes that we can review and think about becoming a Matthew 25 Church. PEVA is looking to become a Matthew 25 Presbytery.

She also shared that \$60,000 was gifted to Massanetta Springs. The funds came from the sale of Makemie Woods.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Rev. Valena Hoy – Massanetta Springs

Rev. Hoy thanked us for allowing her to come and share her love of Massanetta Springs. Massanetta has a vision to improve the housing. “Building a Place for All” A video was shared showing the themes, dreams and hopes for Massanetta. Rev. Hoy passed out the Prospectus. She shared it is a place for all, young and older. The grounds are beautiful and peaceful place. A thin space. A scared place to get away. She shared that during COVID they housed over 200 refugees, what a beautiful way to show hospitality to even strangers.

She shared she is here to celebrate and cheerlead for the campaign. When they reach 4.25 million they are then approved to borrow 1.5 million, but are starting with the 1.5 as a challenge goal hopeful that they don’t have to borrow. They have received 2.46 million have been pledged.

Elder Hubbard shared that he has been a supporter of Massanetta and reminded us that it is Presbyterian and they should be first in line for our support.

Link to donate - <https://massanettasprings.org/donate>

Link to Massanetta Springs - <https://massanettasprings.org>

2. **Motion:** Congregational Care ministry moves that we approve the following church members to be on the Phase Two Membership update committee. Annette Conley, Paula Jesberg, Sandy Odom, RoseAnn Wehr, and Emma Ouellette –Staff Liaison.

The Motion Passed.

Since Congregational Care will provide Church Directory - we would like to be involved in this portion of the cleanup of the church Roster.

3. Website Update

Motion: Education moves that \$5000 be used from the Endowment Funds to update/upgrade the church website. **The motion passed.**

This was approved by Endowment.

Rev. Ouellette and DOFM Moore shared a demonstration of the potential changes to our website. They shared that website presence is very important to a church today. Summer shared how this falls in line with our SWOT goals.

****Presentation will be posted to the website****

Elder Miller started the discussion around needing to move forward.

Thanks to Mary Hubbard for the hard work and redesign she did a few years ago. Her work was very needed, well done and very appreciated!

Need to be intentional on keeping any website updated and fresh – this would fall under Evangelism, but maybe a special ongoing/oversight committee – task force.

Elder Jesberg asked if this came from last session retreat. Rev. Ouellette stated that the discussion has been going on for a long time and was part of last year's session retreat. When Summer started they began focused conversations on how to move forward.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

1. Session Retreat

May 21st – Sunday – 12:30pm

July 16th – Sunday – TBD

Rev Rollins asked that we ensure we have our own lunches and are prepared for the discussion. Elder Hubbard has shared some information via an email to all session members. Please ensure that you take the time to review the SWOT and come prepared.

STAFF REPORTS

Director of Music Ministries

Chi-Yi Chen Wolbrink

New

* The Children's Choir will sing on June 4th in the Sunday Combined service. This will be their last performance this Spring season.

*For the Children, Adults and Handbell choir, the last rehearsal of the season will be May 24th.

*The Handbell Choir will lead worship this coming Sunday, May 22. They may plan during the summer, but it depends on the schedule of our ringers.

* We had a successful Preschool Spring Concert on Thursday, May 4 5:30 pm. The theme was "*The Beautiful World.*" Thank you to Summer Moore who led the prayer and Amanda Long who was the greeter on behalf of the church!

*The trumpeter, Trevor Duell, will be part of May 28th service (Pentecost and Memorial Day).

*I am working with George Wong for the Raleigh Ringers concert preparations. The flyer will be in the May Binnacle. More information (ticket cost and sales, time of performance, etc.) will be shared before June 1.

*Saul and I are working on the interview with a potential percussionist from the ODU graduate music school.

* Summer Walk- In choir will be start July 9 through September 3 on Sundays.

*** Highlights of Sunday services for the coming months:**

May 28	Pentecost Sunday (also Memorial Day weekend) 10am.
June 4	Trinity Sunday, 10am
June 18 th & 25 th	<i>Chi Yi is away serving on the planning team at the PAM Montreat Conference, (Subbing Organist & Pianist will be Janet Phelps)</i>
July 2 nd	Immigration Sunday & July 4 th
July 9 th	Summer Walk-In Choir starts, Rehearsal 9 am
July 30	VBS Sunday?

***Continuing Education:**

Monthly Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) and Hymn Society webinars.

***Service for the wider church:**

PAM 2024: Co-director and planning team, Zoom meeting every other Monday.

PAM 2023: Planning team Zoom meeting monthly

Serve the PAM Planning Team at Montreat: June 18-July 1

An invitation from Emmanuel College of Victoria University at the University of Toronto to co-author an essay with Rev. Dr. Jonathan Seitz for a volume to honor Rev. Dr. I-to Loh, the former President of Tainan Theological College and Seminary. Please see the attached letter.

***Outside professional connections:**

Adjunct Professor, Norfolk State University, Music Department, Spring 2023. The semester ended on May 1st. Fall semester will start August 21st 2023.

***Continuing Education OR Vacation??**

Con-Ed Tentative dates: July 23-25, 2023.

Director of Faith Formation

Summer Moore

As the school rounds out to a close, I have continued managing the planning of our Montreat trip, as well as recruiting volunteers for Vacation Bible School. Beside my contribution to our regular programming (youth group, JAM, Sunday service/school), I collaborated with Marshall Miller to run a successful adult Sunday school teacher training. We are looking forward to potential new adult Sunday school classes for the fall. I worked with the youth and their families to facilitate participation in youth Sunday, while working on integrating newcomers into our youth group community. I have successfully recovered from hernia surgery on April 14th, and look forward to planned celebrations for JAM, youth group, and for seniors Jordan and Sydney at the end of the month. I have started compiling ideas from church members and from my experience so far working at Bayside to contribute to next school year's ministry.

Summer shared that there will be a celebration for our graduating seniors this coming summer.

Associate Pastor

Rev. Emma Ouellette

I had the most wonderful time on my trip to Scotland and am so thankful for your support in my going. Since our last session meeting, I have spent time in Scotland and was able to attend Patrick Long's graduation. This is a joy as his pastor and as the moderator of our Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry. I've walked with Patrick through his ordination process and was happy to be there to represent the CPM and Bayside.

Now that I am back from these two trips there is much work to be done with membership and pastoral care. I will be diving into those.

I look forward to sharing more stories from Scotland with you and again am thankful for your support.

Joyfully,
Emma

Pastor / Head of Staff

Rev. Dr. David Rollins

The past several weeks have been filled with the normal day to day tasks of my calling; leading staff meetings, meeting individually with staff members, planning and preaching worship

services, making pastoral visits, and leading funeral services. In addition, I have met with the P.E.V.A. coaches' group, continued a coaching relationship with a member of the presbytery, and I took a few days to do some reading and ride home with my son from college. Mac is scheduled to start his internship this week in Asheville, NC.

I attended the presbytery meeting in Williamsburg along with our commissioners Ben Hubbard and Nancy Guy. I picked up certificates for both Emma and me. Emma's certificate highlighted her 10 years of service as an ordained minister, and mine highlighted my 25 years of service as an ordained minister. Those sound like a lot of years until you realize some of the ministers present got certificates for 40, 50, and even 60 plus years of ordained ministry.

I am looking forward to listening to God's voice and direction as together we decide what we need to focus on over the next year so that we are better equipped to serve God in the future. Personally I am also looking forward to attending the worship and music conference in Montreat in June.

He shared in addition that Rev. Martha Mitchell will be preaching on Consecration Sunday.

SUPPLEMENTAL MINISTRY REPORTS

(Items/issues not included in Ministry Minutes)

Elder Davis shared that ministries need to start preparing for the 2024 budgets, which will be due in September.

Elder Jesberg shared that Rev. Ouellette and Linda Vogl are working on the membership records for young adults and youth. This should not impact moving forward with phase two of the review of the rolls. She asked if we can set the timeline so that Congregational Care can move forward. She will send the timeline to be added to the minutes. Starting now, she believes that much should be accomplished by November.

May 16, 2023 - Proposed member removal list to Treasurers for review - NLT May 27, 2023

May 27, 2023 - Phase Two Session committee first meeting

June 6, 2023- Phase Two Committee prepare June (now July) Session Motions for Membership Policy Letters (if need to update verbiage and approve (or receive electronic approval to move forward before 7/18)

July 18, 2023 - Phase Two Committee reports to Session on Membership Roll deletions for Session Approval to send letters out to proposed inactive members recommended by Session vote for removal.

June/July/August 2023 –

Phase two Committee work continues with Congregational Care to gather membership update of Roll responses from letters, AND confirmation of contact information for printing Directory

September 1, 2023 –

Estimated completion date for Active Membership Roll update and Contact information from those members for printing updated Directory

(Phase two and Congregational Care Directory Update work will run simultaneously through the 2023 Summer)

(submitted by Elder Jesberg at conclusion of May 16, 2023 Session Meeting before adjournment...)

Elder Pascuzzi shared the results of the survey – 78 surveys received. 60 attended 11 service 18 that attended 9am service. Purpose was number of services and timing of services. 41 states we should keep the current schedule of 2 services during the year with 1 service at 10 for the summer. There is a discussion about polling the preschool families about what they might want.

CLOSING WITH PRAYER. At 8:30

Next Meetings: ***Note there will not be a meeting in June***

Retreat Part One – May 21, 2023, 12:30pm

Stated Session: July 18, 2023, 7:00pm

Devotion Elder Betsy Davis