

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MINUTES OF STATED MEETING OF SESSION – September 22, 2008

The stated meeting of Session was held at Westminster Presbyterian Church in the Hall, 755 Bard Road, Port Hueneme, CA. Moderator, Rev. Dan Birchfield, called the meeting to order at 7:15pm and opened with prayer. A quorum was present. Elders present: Bob Williams, Linda Porteous, Gay Lanzarotta, Paul Spencer, Carol Norton, Elna Ranson, Jim Bell. Elders absent: Janice Brown, Ron Carrillo and Marilyn Rothwell. Guests: Mary Curtis, Clerk to the Session, Ron Vincent, Shelley Southerland, Jordan Tracy.

- I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
Session APPROVED the agenda as presented and agreed to move the Endowment Updates to start when Ron Vincent arrives.
- II. PRAYER:
Session prayed and had fellowship prior to calling the meeting to order. Pastor Dan had a devotional about Daniel 6:25-28.
- III. CLERK TO THE SESSION REPORT:
 - a. MOTION was made, seconded and approved to elect Linda Porteous as elder commission for the Presbytery meeting to be held on 9/30/08.
 - b. Consent Agenda – Session discussed and APPROVED the following Consent Agenda items:
 - i. Approval of minutes of the August 25, 2008 Stated Meeting of Session and of the September 8, 2008 Called Meeting of Session.
 - ii. Communion change in October was publicized in the September 14th bulletin. Communion in October will be on October 12th due to Pastor Dan’s vacation.
 - iii. Communion taken to shut ins: Elder, Ray Chapin took communion to Dona Knutson, Mary Allen and Bill Allen on August 4, 2008. He also took communion to Sally Stair on September 5, 2008.
 - iv. Receiving the Financial Report for August 2008 submitted by Treasurer Michele Southerland. A recap is below:

| Months | 8 | Percentage | 67% |
|--------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Giving | Total Income | Expenditures |
| Budget | \$ 290,000 | \$ 339,900 | \$ 342,524 |
| Actual | \$ 167,356 | \$ 152,948 | \$ 174,944 |
| % | 58% | 45% | 51% |

- IV. WORSHIP DISCUSSION: Shelley Southerland and Jordan Tracy joined the meeting just for this portion of the discussion.
 - a. Worship handout summarizing the logistics was distributed for discussion. The biggest concern was the time for each service. Session agreed they need to accept a proposal and start talking to the congregation about it.
 - b. A MOTION was made, seconded and approved to accept the time proposal which the first service (traditional) would start at 9:00am and end at 9:55am with fellowship (coffee cart) afterwards. The second service (contemporary) would start at 10:39am and end at 11:39am. All other details will be ironed out by the Worship Team, including what we will call each service.
 - c. The two services will be launched on January 11, 2009.
 - d. We will begin publicizing October 12 with a letter from the Pastor to the congregation, Pastor Dan will talk about it during each service and it will be in the November and December newsletters.
 - e. Jordan and Shelley left the meeting at this time.
- V. BREAK AND FELLOWSHIP WHILE RON VINCENT PREPARED FOR HIS PRESENTATION.

VI. ENDOWMENT UPDATES:

- a. Ron Vincent joined the meeting and gave session an overview of the church's investment funds and answered questions regarding the recent stock market crisis and how it is affecting our funds.
- b. We have approximately \$100,000 in cash we can take out and purchase CD's which are safer. We can stagger length of the CD's and get interest on the longer term CDs.
- c. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: Give Ron Vincent the authority to pull the expendable cash of \$100,000 out and start purchasing CD's, staggering the length of the CD's to afford more interest on longer term CDs. DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS. Call for the question, and the MOTION WAS DEFEATED.
- d. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: Give Ron Vincent the authority to pull \$25,000 in expendable cash and purchase a CD for a 3 month period at the best possible rate. DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS. Call for the question – MOTION was passed with 1 NO vote.
- e. Session did agree we need to PRAY about this situation for discussion at the next meeting and Ron will give an update to Session of what rates are available and what is happening in the stock market by the end of October.
- f. Ron then left the Session meeting.

VII. CHANCEL REMODEL:

- a. Using DMD Construction's September 16, 2008 Phase Outline, discussion took place regarding which phases to be approved. Discussion took place regarding the floor registers and whether or not we needed to replace them, moving the sound booth downstairs, moving the pews which would then require refinishing the floor.
- b. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: To approve Phase 1 only (Chancel remodel and carpeting) using the building fund and "various possibilities" fund. DISCUSSION to address the other changes at a later date. MOTION WAS APPROVED for Phase 1 only.

VIII. GENERAL BUSINESS – ANY MOTIONS THAT NEED TO BE APPROVED (6 ELDERS PRESENT AS CAROL NORTON HAD TO LEAVE THE MEETING)

- a. League of Women Voters request (from member Jody Stutzman) to come talk to church on upcoming ballot issues. The concern of some Session members was IRS regulations regarding non profit organizations getting involved in political discussions. Pastor Dan expressed concern that if we agree to have one group use our church facility, more will ask for that privilege. He has already been approached by some other organizations regarding how the church stands on some of the issues.
 - i. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: Approve to let League of Women Voters use our church to answer congregation's questions regarding the issues on the November ballot. This would need to be on a Thursday which is Pastor Dan's day off. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 YES, 2 NO, 1 ABSTAINING.
 - ii. After the vote, more discussion concerning the problems this might bring and Personnel wanted to check with the Presbytery office for their advice. More discussion took place over the concern with our church being viewed as getting involved in politics.
 - iii. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED: To rescind the previous approved motion to allow League of Women Voters to use the church for a meeting for our congregation to learn about the November ballot measures. MOTION PASSED WITH 3 YES, 2 NO, 1 ABSTAINING.
 - iv. Clerk to the Session will call Jody Stutzman to see if the League of Women Voters would be holding Q&A sessions anywhere else. We can let our congregation know about these sessions.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30pm and closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Curtis, Clerk to the Session