

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2020
REGULAR MEETING OF SESSION

On Monday, February 17, 2020, the 615th regular meeting of Session was held at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Fellowship Hall. Dr. Lancaster opened the meeting with prayer at 7:15 p.m.

Session members attending were Dr. Lancaster, Rev. Rogers, Rev. Freyer and Elders Bacik, Burgess, Canose, Castelli, Conley, Dilly, Fraser, Galbreath, Heilman, Jenkins, LeBeau, Lee, McClintock-Comeaux, Myers, Null, O'Brien, Paul, Rex, Sheap, Wagner, Watson, Widmar and Williams, constituting a quorum.

Elders excused: Walker

ORDER OF THE DAY

New Members – Prior to convening for its regular meeting, Session met with members of the Inquirers' Class and, after examination, welcomed the following persons as new active members of Westminster Presbyterian Church:

Colleen Ashbaugh
 Jim and Carrie Fick
 Matt and Leslie Lazor
 Adam and Jen Lumish
 Chas and Nicole Morganstern
 Ken and Amy Ranalli
 Dee Ann Waters

REPORT OF THE CLERK – Motion to approve the minutes from the 614th (January 11, 2020) regular meeting, the Annual Congregational and Corporation Meeting (January 26, 2020), and Special Meeting to welcome Fall 2019 Confirmation Class (February 2, 2020) (as reviewed and corrected) and to take action with respect to the members set forth below were approved.

DEATHS

Sylvia A. Hollinshead, November 18, 2019
 Laura Brown, December 2, 2019
 Allan Dreeland, December 4, 2019
 Miles Ford, January 9, 2020
 Joseph Andrew & Scott Robert Senge, February 1, 2020
 Louise Burnette, February 9, 2020

DELETE BY REQUEST

Robert Clay Wagner living in Ohio

Jonathan Pyles	living out of state
Caitlin Pyles	living out of state
Kiera Pyles	living out of state
Keith & Robin Pyles	living in Florida
Delaney Wehn	living in Spain

TRANSFER

Ashley Dodd Ireland	living in Denton, Maryland
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REINSTATED

Kristen Rylander

BAPTISMS

December 22

Charlotte

Parents: Sara Botkin & Ovidiu Manciu

Casey John

Parents: Erin & Matt Yeager

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

At worship services on Sunday, December 1, 2019, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered to 452 communicants.

At worship services on Sunday, January 5, 2020, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered to 519 communicants.

At worship services on Sunday, February 2, 2020, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered to 468 communicants.

Upon motion made and seconded, Session (1) approved the 2020 liturgical calendar and celebration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of each month and other dates listed in the liturgical calendar and the Church's calendar, and (2) authorized pastors to admit to Baptism children of believers in accordance with applicable provisions of the Book of Order as such children are presented for Baptism in the course of the year.

Upon motion made and seconded, Session approved the 2019 Church Statistical Report (a copy of which is attached to these minutes) which will be transmitted to Pittsburgh Presbytery forthwith.

BUSINESS ITEMS**Legal Representation on Insurance Claims**

The Clerk advised Session that Attorney Andrew Roman of the law firm retained to represent Westminster Church on its insurance claims relating to the actions of Westminster's former business administrator has moved to another downtown Pittsburgh law firm due to a potential conflict of interest precipitated by his firm's recent association with a London, England law firm specializing in representing insurance companies. The Clerk suggested that Session consider continuing to utilize Mr. Roman with regard to the insurance claims, based on his familiarity with the claims and factual background behind them. Session directed the Clerk to reach out to Attorney Roman to ascertain whether Mr. Roman can continue to represent Westminster Church and WECEP, LLC on its pending claims with Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company on the same terms of his past representation, and to advise Session of the result of his conversation at Session's regular meeting in March.

Paid Holidays – Personnel Commission

The Chairman of the Personnel Commission reviewed a revised recognized paid holidays schedule for Church personnel which had been distributed to Session members prior to the meeting, and made a motion for its adoption. Upon receipt of a second to the motion and a short period of discussion thereon, Session voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Contract Policy – Property Commission

The Chairman of the Property Commission reviewed the terms of a new general policy relating to those authorized to sign contracts on behalf of Westminster Presbyterian Church and certain property-specific contract sub-policies which had been distributed to Session members prior to the meeting, and made a motion for its adoption. Upon receipt of a second to the motion and a short period of discussion thereon, Session voted unanimously to approve the motion.

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIONS

Adult Spiritual Development. Commission Chairman Myers reported that the Lenten devotion program is being finalized this week and will be available online on February 27. She expressed her thanks to all who contributed and the hope that the devotion program will become an annual event.

WECEP. Elder Williams, Session's liaison with WECEP, LLC, reported that WECEP's executive director resigned this past December. Elder Williams has agreed to serve as WECEP's board liaison for operations until a new executive director is appointed. She also reported that nursery school registration was successfully completed, and that WECEP will have a fundraiser titled Pirates and Princesses on April 18.

Finance. Commission Chairman Lee referred Session members to a summary analysis of revenues and expenses for January 2020 which had been distributed to Session members prior to the meeting, and reported that finances in 2020 are off to a good start with a surplus position. In addition, the Church has received \$250,000 in insurance proceeds paid on an employee dishonesty claim filed on behalf of the Church and receipt of a \$249,000 bequest from a deceased member's estate. Audit of Church finances is presently projected to take place in June. Chairman Lee also noted that the Commission has undertaken to inventory Church assets over the next several months.

Property. Commission Chairman Galbreath reported that with funds available from the Forward in Faith campaign, the Property Commission is moving forward with several projects including Spire painting and leak repair, Fellowship Hall renovation and parking lot repaving. The Commission is also preparing an inventory and assessment of art in the Church. Elder Galbreath also noted that the Thursday morning crew of volunteers has undertaken and completed a myriad of projects that have saved the Church a lot of money for which the Commission and Session is very appreciative.

PASTORS' REPORTS

Rev. Rogers provided Session members with an update on the medical condition of Jackson Beck upon his recent celebration of a birthday. She also relayed the heartfelt appreciation of Jackson's parents for the support shown to Jackson and his family as they continue to deal with Jackson's condition. Rev. Rogers also noted that there will be an Ash Wednesday service on February 26, 2020 at 7:30 p.m., and that she and Dr. Lancaster will lead a Lenten study during the upcoming Lenten season.

Rev. Freyer reported that the Fall 2019 confirmation program was a huge success marked by welcoming six new members of Westminster Church this past February 2. The Spring 2020 confirmation class will begin this coming Saturday. Rev. Freyer also noted that the Bridge worship band recently went on tour performing at a retreat and a Presbytery-sponsored event.

CONCERNS AND JOYS

Elder Null expressed a joy that the Church is off to a good start financially in 2020, and also a concern that several financial challenges still remain to address in the year to come. He also suggested that Session consider inviting a representative or representatives of the WECEP Board to attend Session meetings at least twice annually as a means of facilitating the exchange of required information, issues and concerns between the two organizations.

Elder LeBeau expressed a joy in the recent new members class' enjoyment of Dr. Lancaster's presentation on the history and tenants of the Presbyterian faith.

Elder Lee expressed a joy and his enjoyment of the recent annual bowling outing, and his appreciation of the efforts of Natalie Brown in putting the event together.

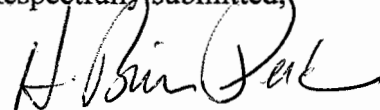
ADJOURNMENT WITH PRAYER

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:30 p.m. The next regular meeting of Session will be held on March 16, 2020.

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb. 26 Ash Wednesday Worship Service 7:30 PM
29 Rotary Pancake Festival
Mar. 15 Baptism

Respectfully submitted,



H. Brian Peck
Clerk of Session

Date approved: March 16, 2020

Attachments:
2019 Church Statistical Report

2019 Church Statistical Report

02553

Westminster Church

Pittsburgh Presbytery

Prior Active Members

1733

Adjusted Membership

1733

Gains

Certificate	6
Youth Professions	15
Professions and Reaffirmations	9
Total Gains	30
Total Ending Active Members	1683

Losses

Certificate	5
Deaths	29
Deleted for any other reason	46
Total Losses	80

Baptisms	
Presented by others	17
At Confirmation	0
All other	2

Ave. Weekly Worship Attend.	475
Female Members	946
Friends of the congregation	43
Ruling Elders on Session	26
Deacons	Yes

Age Distribution of Active Members

25 & Under	396
26-40	289
41-55	354
56-70	297
Over 70	47
Total Age Distribution	1683

People with Disabilities

Hearing impairment	40
Sight impairment	30
Mobility impairment	18
Other impairment	0

Christian Education

Birth - 3	7
Age 4	12
Kindergarten	15
Grade 1	17
Grade 2	17
Grade 3	13
Grade 4	10
Grade 5	21
Grade 6	14

Grade 7	18
Grade 8	11
Grade 9	16
Grade 10	10
Grade 11	10
Grade 12	8
Young Adults	0
Over 25	136
Teachers/Officers	36
Total Christian Education	371

Racial Ethnic

Asian/Pacific Island/South Asian	7
Black/African	1

Native American/Alaska	0
White	1675
Total Racial Ethnic	1683

Financial Data

Annual Income	\$2,093,893
Annual Expenses	\$2,066,518

Mission Expenses	\$85,188
Personnel Expenses	\$1,239,945
Facilities Expenses	\$311,000