

MOUNT PLEASANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
Stated Session Meeting Digest
April 28, 2020

CALL TO ORDER, OPENING DEVOTIONAL AND PRAYER, AND ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Due to the COVID-12 crisis the meeting was held via Zoom videoconference. Senior Pastor Peter Bynum moderated the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were approved:

- A. Approval of minutes: March 24, 2020 stated session meeting
- B. Approve excused absences
- C. Admit to the session records
 - 1. The celebration of the Lord's Supper on April 5 and April 9, 2020
- D. The Finance Committee recommends approval of the Corona Virus Response Grant Request from the Missions Committee for \$20,000 from the 2019 Challenge Gift Funds to be allocated to East Cooper Community Outreach, the Lowcountry Food Bank, Florence Crittenton, and One80 Place, with each organization receiving \$5000.

TIME FOR EDUCATION AND MUTUAL GROWTH

The pastor led a discussion on John Calvin's thoughts about confirmation.

CLERK'S REPORT

Due to the COVID-19 crisis the spring stated meeting of Charleston Atlantic Presbytery has been canceled.

The 224th General Assembly of the PC(USA) originally scheduled for June 20-27 in Baltimore will now be held online.

DEACON'S REPORT

Deacon C. Rivers reported that the deacons are reaching out to people on a regular basis.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Reports were also heard from the Congregational Nominating Committee and the following standing committees of the session:

- 1). The Christian Education Committee moved that the 2020 Vacation Bible School curriculum change from on-campus to a mission focus effort. This was approved.
- 2). The Christian Education Committee moved that when more than one vehicle is used for church-related travel, it is preferable for two leaders to be present with the youth. When two leaders are not available for every vehicle, each vehicle containing only one adult leader with youth must be in sight the other vehicles at regular intervals. At least one adult leader must be present with youth in all church-related travel. This was approved.

*Fellowship and Congregational Life: Gift bags with pocket crosses are being delivered to individuals who are isolated during this time of lockdown.

*Finance: With thanksgiving, MPPC is in good financial shape given the world situation. The stewardship campaign has begun. Consecration Sunday will be May 17.

*Mission: Financial support of our mission partners continues.

*Personnel: Appreciation was expressed for the work of the pastoral, program, and support staff during this time.

*Worship: The gift that provided for streaming worship services that we received two years ago was acknowledged. It allowed MPPC to be prepared for the virtual worship world in which we now reside. The Easter and Youth Sunday worship services were particularly singled out for their meaningfulness.

*Property and Grounds: The recent flood of the Hope House Cottage is being addressed.

NEW BUSINESS

*COVID -19 Update: A discussion was held about staging reopening of the church.

*Examination of new officers is scheduled for May 17. Ordination/Installation is scheduled for May 31.

*A letter has been received from the Historic District Preservation Commission wishing to designate the Hope House Cottage and the Seabrook Building as historic structures. This request is being studied.

STAFF REPORTS

Members of the staff present offered brief reports. Of note, a new class of Stephen Ministers has been trained. A successful blood drive has been held. The Lenten small groups have developed a number of mission ideas that need to not be lost due to the COVID-19 lockdown.