

**MOUNT PLEASANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**  
**Stated Session Meeting Digest**  
**August 22, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order in the sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. by Transitional Pastor Danie DeBeer who moderated the meeting. Andrew de Holl gave the opening devotional and offered the opening prayer. The Lord’s Supper was celebrated.

**SPECIAL ORDER: APPROVAL OF A COMMISSIONED PASTOR/COMMISSIONED RULING ELDER**

Martha Feil came before the session to share her journey of faith and her call to become a Commissioned Pastor/Commissioned Ruling Elder. The Commissioned Pastor Covenant for Martha Feil was approved. A prayer was offered for Martha and her ministry.

The meeting moved to Grace Hall 123-125.

**SPECIAL ORDER: LEADERSHIP & DECISION MAKING TEAM** David Cole and Susan Dalton led a discussion on the areas of strategic and critical decision making and of transparency.

**CONSENT AGENDA** Approval of minutes: June 27, 2023

- A. Approval of excused absences: Ellen Gower, Towner Magill, Terry Steyer,
- B. Admit/Approve changes to the membership rolls:

**CLERK’S REPORT**

- The Lord’s Supper was celebrated on June 27, 2023 and August 6, 2023
- The 2023 session minutes were submitted for annual review to CAP on August 10, 2023
- Due to approved amendments to the Book of Order, MPPC needs to revisit or create sexual misconduct, harassment, child and youth protection, and antiracism policies.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** Reports were circulated electronically prior to the meeting.

**Christan Education** The Learning Center will begin classes Tuesday September 5. Enrollment has decreased, especially for kindergarten. A study is underway of the physical changes that would be necessary to extend the school day. Rally Day is scheduled for September 10. The church-wide Advent Study has been chosen: “Experiencing Sights and Sounds of Advent” by Mat Rawle. The intergenerational Advent Workshop kick-off will be Wednesday November 29. Children’s programs are moving from Sunday night to Wednesdays from 4:30-6:00pm.

**Fellowship and Congregational Life** The RiverDogs game in July saw approximately 60 people in attendance. There will be no Sunday Night Live program this year. There will be at five opportunities for sharing a meal with one another besides breakfast.

**Finance & Stewardship** Consecration Sunday will be October 22.

As of July 31, 2023	Actual YTD	Budgeted YTD	Difference
Total Revenues	\$1,163,141.06	1,040,460	122,681.06
Total Expenses	\$1,344,162.54	\$1,374,026.08	\$29,863.54
Net Total	(\$181,021.48*	(\$333,566.08)	(\$152,544.60)

Bank Balances as of July 31, 2023

Operating \$ 61,281                                  MM/TRF \$400,556                                  Endowment \$1,596,244

**Missions** The trip to the Lamb Institute in Honduras was successful with a mix of adults and youth. Jeff Taylor with Palmetto Mission Building has returned from several weeks in Honduras. Due to

unrest, it is still not safe to send mission teams to Haiti. Rise Against Hunger will be held on September 24th.

**Personnel** The Staffing Model Subcommittee is developing a staffing and organization model for guidance in making future staffing decisions: short, mid-, and long term.

**Property and Grounds Committee** The church parking lots are being used by people at the Shem Creek restaurants and other places. Concern has been expressed that this may not leave enough spaces for people worshipping or on church business to park. MPPC uses a lot of neighborhood spaces on Sunday and would like to reciprocate with the local community when we can. We also want to be perceived as a welcoming church. "Park at your own risk" signs have been added to all of the MPPC parking lots. Our insurance company confirms that the church assumes no liability for cars parked on our property. The committee will be moving ahead with a keyless entry system to the buildings.

**Worship Committee**

Worship Attendance		June 4	June 11	June 18	June 25
	Streaming	100	92	102	66
<b>9:00</b>	In-person	111	91	112	82
<b>11:00</b>	In-person	N/A	196	216	242
<b>Total</b>		211	379	430	390

Worship Attendance		July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
	Streaming	104	90	113	118	85
<b>9:00</b>	In-person	90	120	89	94	87
<b>11:00</b>	In-person	196	193	223	174	204
<b>Total</b>		480	403	425	386	376

The following motion was approved, to set the Sunday morning schedule as of September 17 to be  
 8:30 Worship (The Net)  
 9:45 Sunday School  
 11:00 Worship

**NEW BUSINESS:** Susan Dalton, Jim Deavor, Anne Farmer, and Susan Mellichamp were elected as commissioners to the summer stated meeting of Charleston Atlantic Presbytery.

**ADJOURNMENT** With no further business to conduct, the moderator adjourned the meeting. Amy Murrell offered the closing prayer at 8:35 p.m.