

## Highlights from the April 2024 Session Meeting

The regular Session meeting was held on April 16, 2024. After opening prayer Session received the reports of staff, standing committees, and the Report of the Clerk and voted to approve all reports and items of a routine nature from committees and staff in the Consent Agenda. Items approved included:

- The Spiritual Formation Committee requests use of Kitchen, Dale Hall, Hassler Chapel, room 102, and room 103 for the Womens Day Apart program to be held on Saturday, May 4, 2024, between 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM.

### Membership changes:

- Constance Hughes who requested to be removed from rolls last month subsequently requested a transfer of membership to Swarthmore Presbyterian Church, Swarthmore, PA. Effective March 27, 2024.
- Joshua David Hoeffner, register # 4473, remove from the rolls per his mother's request to Elder Cindy McPeak. He has moved to San Diego, CA.
- Michael Joseph Kohute, register # 4157, Christine Marie Kohute, register # 4158, and Hanna Rose Kohute, register # 4475, removed from the rolls per their request to Elder Cindy McPeak.
- Robert Young, register # 3799, and Susan Young, register# 3800, removed from the rolls per their request in email to the MPC office.

A lengthy discussion was undertaken. No straw vote was taken but a consensus formed around keeping the property for a year or so as a rental. Several expressed a desire to sell immediately. A walk through of property by several people with knowledge of the need for repairs was completed in early April. Second walk through by a real estate agent was also completed and it was stated that the rental potential would be around \$3,600 per month and a sale price of between \$800,000 and \$850,000 may be likely. General consensus is that there are no major issues. Biggest problem is with water infiltration in second story by rear window in which the sill is rotted out. Internal plaster work, crack repairs, painting, and a deep cleaning is necessary regardless if we rent or sell. **Motion** was made and **seconded** to ask the Ad Hoc Committee to seek bids to perform the internal repair, plastering, spackling, painting, and deep cleaning. If the bid is under \$35,000 the work is authorized to proceed. Motion to **amend** the amount to \$41,000 **failed** for lack of a second. **Motion** as previously stated was **APPROVED**.

Total attendance figures for March 2024: **747** attended in-person Worship Services and **541** viewed services on-line. In addition, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services had 33 and 39 in-person attendance respectively, and 34 and 40 were viewed on-line. Average weekly (both in-person and live streamed) **Sunday** Worship attendance for the last several months: March, **258**, February, 226, January 2024, 217; December 2023, 271, November, 181, October, 168; September, 189; August, 159, July, 160. Average weekly Sunday Worship attendance for 2023 was 193. Average weekly Sunday Worship attendance for 2024 is **234**.

**Finance Report** – Elder Sandy Campbell reviewed the financial statements distributed with the Session packet. Receipts for March 2024 totaled \$75,310 compared to a March 2023 total of \$55,906. Expenses for the first three months of 2024 are down 28% from 2023’s first three months. The surplus finally appeared for the first three months of 2024 in the amount of \$7,844 compared to the first three months of 2023 which produced a deficit of \$50,826. This surplus for 2024 is mostly a result of cost reductions in the salary lines.

An action item from last month’s meeting requested the finance committee to prepare a policy regarding the refund of donations. The policy was submitted for the first reading and will be voted on at next month’s meeting. Only one minor change was added under: 1.a.i. ...in-kind services must be approved by Session and/or the relevant.....

**Under New Business:**

The Session was informed that the Mission Study is completed and will be forwarded to Session members on April 17. The Moderator called for a Special Meeting of Session for Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 6:30 PM for the purposes of approving the Mission Study Report and setting a date for a Special Meeting of the Congregation to: receive the Mission Study Report, elect members of the Pastoral Nominating Committee, and elect candidates for the Elder and Deacon Class of 2027.

Joe Hare, Clerk of Session