

Highlights from the February 2024 Session Meeting

The regular Session meeting was held on February 20, 2024. After opening prayer and devotions, 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 Outreach and Evangelism Committee requests the use of Hassler Chapel and MPC kitchen for host an extended coffee hour from 9:00-9:45am prior to service on Easter, March 31, 2024.
- The Outreach and Evangelism Committee requests the use of Dale Hale and MPC front lawn for a plant sale on April 21, 2024.
- The Outreach and Evangelism Committee requests the use of MPC front lawn, Dale Hall, and the kitchen for the annual church picnic on June 2, 2024.
- Approve the following changes in membership status:
 1. Jane Carol Whitehead, register # 4496, removed effective December 31, 2023, per her request to Deacon Susan Hare (Church Directory project).

Total Worship attendance figures for January 2024: **394** attended in-person Worship Services and **472** viewed services on-line. Average weekly (both in-person and live streamed) Worship attendance for the last several months: January 2024, **217**; December 2023, 271; November, 181; October, 168; September, 189; August, 159; and July, 160. Average weekly Worship attendance for 2022 was 194. Average weekly Worship attendance for 2023 was **193**.

Request made last month by the Contemporary Music Leader search committee for a revised/simplified job description was **APPROVED** by the Administration Committee.

Finance Report – Elder Sandy Campbell reviewed her comments for the Annual Meeting scheduled for this Sunday (February 25). She also announced that a member of the congregation has agreed to fund the Parish Associate position in order to compensate Rose for a full-time instead of a part-time pay rate during the last six months of the position ending on February 28, 2025.

A **motion** from Finance Committee requesting Session accept a member's donation to cover the difference in the Parish Associate's salary for the period September 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025. This member is willing to donate money to return Rose to a full-time employee for the period of September 1, 2024 – February 28, 2025. The operating budget will pay 50% and this donor will support the other 50%. Funds to be placed into a designated fund

in advance of the action. Motion coming from a committee does not need a second. **Motion** was **APPROVED**.

Elder Campbell has also developed a sheet explaining the various ways members can contribute to the church to help with the budget situation. This will be distributed during the Annual Meeting and available for several weeks in the rear of the sanctuary.

The Clerk requested permission to respond on behalf of Session to members who sent correspondence to Session regarding the budget and staffing model situation. Letter to include statement to the effect that a generous member of the congregation has stepped forward to fund the Parish Associate's position at the full-time rate for the last six months of the position. Letters are to be reviewed by Dr. Cagle before they are sent. Session **APPROVED this request**.

There being no other new business, a **motion** was made and **seconded** to **adjourn** the meeting. **Motion** was **APPROVED** and the meeting was **adjourned** at 7:45 PM. The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

Joe Hare, Clerk of Session