

Session Meeting Update for the Congregation

Tuesday, 05 June 2018, 7:15-9:45 PM

Moderator: The Reverend Shari Jackson Monson

Constituting Prayer & Devotions (The Rev. Ronald B. Rice) Are you a Jerusalem church or an Antioch church? Acts 2

Prayer for Jerry Thornell as he leaves Session following retirement.

Pastor Housing Task Force (Lee Sundquist)

Report from the task force described several options to provide housing options for future called pastor(s). Next steps are to share the same information with the PNC so they can discuss housing needs with candidates.

Deacons Update

Ron Rice shared data from Karol Aronson's research: noting 78 adults at West Side are currently involved in a weekly or other regular responsibility of leadership or service. We have 48 slots for leadership on Session and Deacon Board currently. The nominating committee asked 49 people and got 4 yes responses. To ask our new pastor to solve this problem is an unrealistic burden. Our church is considerably smaller now than it was 5-10 years ago.

Incoming Deacon Moderator Larry West, deacons Dick Ramsey and Mike Morishima: Agreed we need to review and evaluate what we are doing as Deacons. Considering a By Law change, currently reads deacon board shall be "at least 30." Current board is ~20. The logic of 30 is to provide a team of two for each of the 15 districts. We do not see that fewer people would do a better job, but understand the reality of the number who have agreed to serve.

In discussion we agree a study of needs for the church and of current deacon responsibilities would be worthwhile, redistricting may be in order, many other ideas to consider.

*Note Ryan Avery is an expert in geospatial analysis, we can reach out to him as a resource.

Motion approved to establish a task force comprised of 3 elders (Dan Phillips to serve as chair), 3 deacons, 3 congregation members, to study this issue and be prepared by Nov 1 to come back to Session with a recommendation.

Nominating Committee Update

Currently we have 4 candidates to serve as elders for 3 year terms, 2 candidates for 1 year term.

Charters/By Laws Discussion

Charters (henceforth known as Action Plans) expire yearly and comprise the "how" of department ministry.

By Laws are like a Constitution, and comprise the "what" at a higher level.

Spiritual Life Dept. Report

Session approved Larry Burke, Phyllis Sorter, Ceilia and Keith Olsen, Jeff Vancil, Michael McLaughlin, Jacinta Tegman, Mark Mohrlang as guest preachers.

Update on Evening Service, great feedback received, your prayers encouraged.

9Stewardship & Finance Dept. Report

Currently Funding Guide is at 88%, consistent to this time last year.

Pastor Shari's Report (The Rev. Shari Jackson Monson)

New officer training Saturday June 16th, elders Don and Dave assisting

Ordination and installation of new officers in July (date TBD)

Moderators Report

Session approved extending Pastor Shari's contract to July 31.

Honoring Third Year Elders who served from summer to 2015 to now (their terms end when the new class of elders are ordained and installed)

Don Wilson: Shepherd the flock.

Dave Pimblett: Serving is an honor, good things are happening, invest in our youth.

Greg Hjort: Remember the Gospel.

Ryan Avery: Good work came out of our hardest years.

Nick Upton: Welcome healthy conflict, consider what God is building for future generations.

Kenny Kramer was absent tonight. His leadership will be missed around the session table.

We celebrated Communion together in the Chapel, reflected on the qualities that our 3rd year elders brought to the work of the Session, and departed with a hymn and prayer.