

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LAKE TRAVIS
SESSION MEETING
MARCH 28, 2021
12:30 PM
(CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM)

Session members in attendance: Rev. Dr. John H. Barden, Moderator; Mary Margaret MacMillan, Clerk; Lynn Fisher, Nancy Woodworth, Nancy Vanzandt; Larry Foster

The meeting was opened with prayer at 12:34 pm by Rev. Barden.

Minutes from the February 28, 2021, Session meeting were approved as submitted.

Moderator's Report

Rev. Barden reported on plans for regathering as a congregation in person. Travis County is currently in Stage 3 of Covid restrictions. The previous plan has been that when the county reaches Stage 2 we would invite 10-12 people for the Saturday morning recording session, then regather as a congregation on Sunday mornings sometime during the summer. Rev. Barden invited Session members and their spouses to attend the Easter Sunday recording session on Saturday, April 3, to determine how having 10-12 people in the sanctuary feels.

The congregation is invited to gather outdoors at the church on Easter Sunday at 10:00 am to place flowers on the cross.

PCLT has received a \$5,000 grant from Mission Presbytery to support our Hudson Bend work. In addition Shepherd in the Hills Lutheran Church has donated \$4,000 toward our Hudson Bend work. We are awaiting a decision by Synod of the Sun on our request for a \$5,000 grant.

Bob Kelley will have hip replacement surgery next Monday.

Committee Reports

Finance

A functioning budget will be ready for review at the April Session meeting.

PCLT has applied for renewal of our Paycheck Protection Plan loan in the same amount as the previous grant. Applying for a larger amount is more complicated than originally thought. Our application has been accepted.

Forgiveness process for the original PPP loan is ongoing. Debi Bankhead is working on this.

Worship

There was a drive-thru opportunity on Saturday before Palm Sunday to distribute Holy Week bags. Not many members attended, but many bags were delivered to members.

Easter Sunday worship will be filmed on Saturday, April 3. The congregation will gather in person outdoors on Easter Sunday morning to flower the cross.

There have been good comments about the online services, especially about having the words of prayers and hymns included on the screen.

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be combined in one online session in two parts. PCLT will join our friends from Laurel, MD; Dayton, Ohio; and Rahway, NJ to hear our four pastors in these services.

Christian Education

Facilitators to complete the springs curriculum are being recruited from a list of past participants.

Sunday School will be cancelled for Easter Sunday

Conversations that Matter: After a discussion regarding a presentation on Land Acknowledgement it was decided that more education on the topic would be needed before focusing on this topic. Jack Barden will lead a discussion on March 17 on how we engage in mission in our community. Suggestions for future conversations on April 21 and May 19 included Equality, Inclusion, and Accessibility, Equity and Gender Gap; how do Latinos suffer and presentations by seminary professors.

Jack Barden suggested *The Flawed Family of God* by Carolyn Helsel and Song-mi-Suzi Park (both at Austin Presbyterian Seminary) as a discussion book for either Women's Bible Study of Sunday School. The committee concluded the book would work for both, and probably best as a summer study for Sunday School.

The next CE meeting is scheduled for April 15 at 1:30 pm.

Outreach

The committee did not meet.

Property

Larry Neumann has agreed to chair the Property Committee.

Mission

There is no functioning committee at this time. Work continues on food security issues at the Hudson Bend community.

Hospitality

Terry McKetta has volunteered to lead the Hospitality Committee

Old Business

Elder Nominating Committee

Donna Beeman has agreed to serve on this committee if elected. A congregational meeting for this purpose is tentatively scheduled for April 8, 2021, at 4:30 pm by Zoom. If there is no quorum reached at this time, there will be an electronic vote.

Schedule for Vision Process Completion

The April 25 Session meeting will be a brief regular meeting, with the remaining allocated time devoted to utilizing the Purpose to Process model on visioning for PCLT.

New Business

March 6 Presbytery Meeting

Nothing outstanding to report

Memorial Water Feature

There has been a previous study on having a columbarium on the grounds of PCLT. A task force obtained several quotes which were higher than expected. Also, the designs available would not be unique to PCLT. The task force decided on a new direction. A recommendation was made for a water feature in the median of the parking lot. Memorial plaques would be placed on the walls of this structure. Jack Barden has given the outline of the water feature to Eric Brown, designer and builder of the rock wall outside the front door of PCLT, for a cost estimate. We anticipate that it will cost \$8,000-9,000, and we currently have \$4,500 in donations. Larry Neumann will talk with Eric. We will need additional donations, but it is believed that since this project isn't widely known within the congregations, there will be additional money raised. It was noted that water features are historically hard to maintain.

Miscellaneous

IAMLTL has been granted 501(c)(3) status. This is good news.

Rev. Barden closed the meeting with prayer at 1:32 pm


Mary Margaret MacMillan, Clerk


Rev. Dr. John H. Barden, Pastor