

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024
REGULAR MEETING OF SESSION

02769

On Monday, October 21, 2024 the 658th regular meeting of Session of Westminster Presbyterian Church was held in Galbreath Memorial Chapel. Dr. Forrest was the Moderator and opened the meeting with prayer at 7:05 pm.

Attending were Dr. Forrest and Rev. Bentley, and Elders Davis, Eccher, Few, Galbreath, Heilman, Locke, Ludwig, Malarkey, McGee, Null, Page, Price, Ralston, Rost, Sarraf, and Thornburgh, constituting a quorum.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Beth Ketterman, on behalf of the Community Engagement Commission, presented the new members listed below. The new members who were present introduced themselves and provided brief personal histories and reasons for choosing to join Westminster. The Elders present then introduced themselves, gave brief summaries of their families, their histories at Westminster, and their responsibilities as Elders. Following the introductions, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve all the prospective members for membership in the congregation.

New Members

1. Barbara Botkin, reaffirmation
2. Lester Botkin, reaffirmation
3. Anne Marie Christian, letter of transfer
4. Laurence Christian, letter of transfer
5. Norman Dingmore, letter of transfer
6. Norman L. Dingmore (Norm), letter of transfer
7. Christian Lesnett, letter of transfer
8. Kathryn Lesnett, letter of transfer
9. Dennis Loos, reaffirmation
10. Heather Loos, reaffirmation
11. Katelyn McCombs, reaffirmation
12. Sharon Moorcroft, letter of transfer
13. Christopher Salera, reaffirmation
14. Mary Shaffer, reaffirmation
15. Eric Tallon, reaffirmation
16. Valerie Tallon, reaffirmation
17. Ann Thomas, reaffirmation
18. Alison Weiss, letter of transfer
19. Matthew Weiss, reaffirmation

REPORT OF THE CLERK

A motion to approve the minutes of the 657th (September 21, 2024) regular meeting of Session was made, seconded, and approved. In addition to the acceptance of new members, a motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the membership actions indicated below:

BAPTISMS

October 20, 2024

Noa Grace Bollman: Parents, Cassandra Pfeuffer and Marcus Bollman

Molly Jeanette Eddy: Parents, Colleen and Keith Eddy

DEATHS

Richard (Dick) Hestwood, September 28, 2024

MARRIAGE

Matthew Copeland and Demi Blair, September 21, 2024

MEMBERSHIP

Inactive by Request

Ellen Hart, living in South Carolina

Jonathan Hart, living in South Carolina

Reinstate

James Meyer

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

During worship services on Sunday, October 6, 2024, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered to communicants.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Dr. Forrest reported the following scheduled meeting dates and topics:

Congregational Meeting, October 27, 2024, Election of Officers

Session Meeting December 2, 2024, Approval of 2025 Operating Budget

Officer Retreat, January 10 and 11, 2025

Annual Meeting, January 26, 2025, install and ordain officers, congregational luncheon

BUSINESS ITEMS**Electrical Panel Progress and Funding**

Elder Page reported that the installation of the new electrical panel has been finished. The brick work on the outside containment also is finished. Only landscaping and the activation of the new panel remain. Due to church activities during the Holidays, the conversion from the old panel to the new one is scheduled for January 21 and 22, 2024.

Dr. Forrest gave a brief update on the progress of the *Let There Be Light* campaign. She reported that of the \$350,000 goal, approximately \$300,000 has been paid or committed.

SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Forrest recently returned from study leave and stated that she is looking forward to Advent. She stated that the theme of the Spire for Advent will be *A New Beginning*. She also advised that Westminster has purchased an Advent devotional booklet titled *Words for the Beginning*. Copies will be available at the Church during regular hours, Monday-Thursday. Regarding traditional Christmas season events, she stated that the Quiet Christmas service will be held at 6:30 PM on December 11, following the Wednesday night dinner. Three worship services will be offered on December 24. A traditional candlelight will be held in the Sanctuary at 3:00 PM. A contemporary Christmas Eve service will be held in the WROC at 5:00 PM, and a second traditional service will take place in the Sanctuary at 8:00 PM.

ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT

Rev. Bentley and elder Carol Galbreath attended the meeting of the Pittsburg Presbytery at Crestfield on September 28. The Deacons will offer *Deacons with Donuts* each Sunday in November. Deacons will be offering donuts in the North Entrance Welcome Center and will be available to discuss the many projects that the Deacons are pursuing at Westminster. Harrison Burgess, Associate Director of Youth Ministry, is spearheading a program to send Care Packages to College Students. Names and addresses of college students who might enjoy a care package should be given to Harrison by November 30. Rev. Bentley advised that she will be on study leave at Duke University Divinity School from November 11 to 15.

COMMISSION and COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following commissions and committees submitted written reports prior to the meeting:

Adult Spiritual Development
Bridge
Community Engagement
Children's and Family Ministries/WECEP

Finance
Outreach
Property
Stewardship
Youth Ministry

The Dismantle Anti-Semitism Task Force also submitted a written report. Commissions and Committees did not request action by the Session on any reported items.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Meeting participants shared individual joys and concerns for the Church, its members, and their families and for the community.

ADJOURNMENT WITH PRAYER

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm with prayer led by Rev. Bentley. The next regular meeting of Session will be held on October 21, 2024, in Galbreath Chapel.

Respectively submitted,



William C. Ludwig
Clerk of Session

Approved: