

**MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF SESSION**

**02787**

On Monday, March 17, 2025, the 661<sup>st</sup> 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 7:00 pm.

Attending were Dr. Forrest and Rev. Bentley, and Elders Berrott, Conroy, Davis, Eccher, Few, Galbreath, Hallums, Ludwig, Malarkey, McGee, Null, Page, Price, Ralston, Sarraf, Serene, Thornburgh, Widmar, and Waller, constituting a quorum.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Prior to the business meeting, Dr. Forrest welcomed the new members who will be received by the Congregation during worship on March 23, 2025:

Tony Bellora  
Joseph Brennen  
Lauren Simmons  
Jeff Greenwald  
Beth Greenwald  
Phil Kondrot  
Laura West  
Ed Nusser

The Elders who were present introduced themselves and each gave brief summaries of their history and activities at Westminster. Each of the new members briefly discussed their families, their interests, and their reasons for joining Westminster.

Following these introductions, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to recommend acceptance by the Congregation of each of the new members into the fellowship of Westminster.

**REPORT OF THE CLERK**

A motion to approve the minutes of the 660<sup>th</sup> (January 11, 2025) regular meeting of Session, and the Special Meeting of Session of February 20, 2025, was made, seconded, and approved. A motion was made, seconded, and was passed to approve the membership actions indicated below. The Clerk also reported that the 2024 Annual Statistical Report was submitted to the Pittsburgh Presbytery in January, 2025.

## **BAPTISMS**

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### **March 16, 2025**

George Andrew Moore: Parents, Emily and Christian Moore

Harvey Clair Moore: Parents, Emily and Christian Moore

## **DEATHS**

Joseph D. Thoresen, January 5, 2025

Kay L. Fazio, January 16, 2025

Joshua J. Willy, January 17, 2025

Robert O. Smith, February 15, 2025

Paula W. Huffman, March 3, 2025

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **Inactive by Request**

George Carson

Gary Giallonardo

Catherine Giallonardo

Kathy Parry

### **New Members**

Faith Kemmler, Letter of Transfer

## **SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

During worship services on Sunday, February 2, 2025, and Sunday, March 2, 2025, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered to communicants.

## **UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

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

Regular Session Meetings: April 21, 2025, May 19, 2025, August 18, 2025, September 15, 2025, October 20, 2025, and December 8, 2025.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **Communion Servers**

Dr. Forrest encouraged members of Session to volunteer to serve Communion during worship services on the first Sunday of each month. She stated that Carolyn Kerr will send monthly reminders and that Elders can schedule to volunteer through Realm.

Elder Allison McGee led a discussion on expanding and communicating opportunities for hands-on mission by combining the work of the Community Engagement Commission and the Outreach Commission. She informed Session that these commissions have had multiple conversations about combining resources and talent, with a goal of creating greater understanding by the Congregation of the process of selecting mission partners and providing greater awareness of opportunities for members to engage in the missions of Westminster. Following a thorough and informative discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to approve the merger of the Community Engagement and Outreach Commissions.

### **SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Forrest reported that the first meeting of the newly confirmed Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) would take place on March 18, 2025. She stated that the PNC's role is to act on behalf of the Faith and the Congregation from the perspective that the Church is not in a period of transition but is moving forward and building on its accomplishments.

Dr. Forrest advised that Westminster's Safe Church Policy, including proposed changes, has been posted on SharePoint. She asked that Session members review the proposed additions and deletions so they will be informed and will be prepared to consider the proposed changes during the next meeting of Session.

Dr. Forrest also encouraged members to read two articles that she recently uploaded to SharePoint titled *Christianity's Decline in U.S. Appears to Have Halted* and *Are Americans Really Losing Their Religion?*

### **ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT**

Rev. Bentley reported that the Deacons recently served extended communion to 25 members, including members who reside at Providence Point and Friendship Village. She gave an update on the current Confirmation class and stated that members of the class will be presented to Session for confirmation on April 21, 2025. She also reported that her Bible study on Jonah, which began on March 12, will continue to be held on Wednesdays at 6:15 pm through April 2.

### **COMMISSION and COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Adult Spiritual Development  
Bridge  
Communications

Community Engagement  
Endowment and Special Gifts  
Outreach  
Property  
Stewardship  
Worship  
Youth Ministry

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In addition to the written reports, Roberta Sarraf, Chair of the Worship Commission, led a discussion concerning the review of the number of Sunday worship services and the consideration that is being given to eliminating the 8:30 am service beginning in the Fall. She discussed reasons for discontinuing one worship service and the advantages and disadvantages that the members of the Worship Commission have raised. The matter was then opened for discussion. Several members voiced both their ideas and concerns. Elder Sarraf will take the various opinions to the Commission for further consideration before the Commission makes its recommendation to Session.

#### **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 8:45 pm with prayer led by Rev. Bentley. The next meeting of Session will be held on April 21, 2025, at 7:00 pm in Galbreath Memorial Chapel.

Respectively submitted,



William C. Ludwig  
Clerk of Session

Approved: