

SPRINGHILL CHURCH SESSION MEETING MINUTES

Loving people into a relationship with Christ

Date, Place/Time: November 16, 2016, at the Bozeman Site, at 6:30 PM

Session Meeting opened with Prayer by Pastor Sam Knight.

Session Members Present: Elders, Clint Croft, Karen Cargill, Lynn Owens, Ginny Richards, Merlin Nelson, Julia Hardaway, Leslie Garner, Joe Nelson, Dan Hertel, John Grossenbacher (Clerk) and Sam Knight (Moderator).

- **Session Members Absent:** Elder Rick Ramler.
- **Staff Present:** None.

Visitor(s) Present: None

- **Approval of Minutes:** The October 26, 2016 Session Meeting minutes were approved as written.
- **Next Meeting Dates:**
 - **The Leadership Christmas Party is planned for December 9 at 6:30 pm at the Legacy Site.**
 - **Prayer, Vision and Business Meeting: December 14, 2016 at 6:30 pm, Bozeman Site.**
- **Correspondence:**
 - There was an update from the Session Team that met with Nate and Jana Peterson.
 - A letter received from confirmed members, Molly and Henry Glenn was reviewed and discussed.
- **Item 1: Ministry Reports:**
 - Reports were submitted, handed out or discussed from the Clerk (membership & Dashboard), Finance Team, Multi-Site Project/Fund Raising, Care, Leadership Team, Barnabas Base Camp and Personnel.

- **Item 2 - Financial Report Summary: (Operations Budget with Mortgage Payment)**

(Fiscal Year 7/1/16 through 6/30/17)

	Oct Actual	FYTD Actual	FYTD Budget
Total Income:	\$85,148	\$322,755	\$355,469
Total Expenses:	\$73,787	\$274,347	\$356,953
Net Operating Income:	\$11,367	\$48,408	-\$1,484
Mortgage Principle:	\$10,154	\$29,806	\$23,077
Net Cash Flow:	\$1,207	\$18,602	-\$24,561

Mortgage Balance 10/31/16: \$1,957,050

Total Reserve Accounts Balance: \$528,442

- **Item 1: Family Ministries Pastor Search Team:**
 - The Cook family will arrive on November 28 and Pastor Ryan will preach on December 4.
 - Since the Cooks are coming from Texas, a winter clothes fund has been set up on the website for donations to the Cook's winter clothes fund.
 - Meals will be requested to be brought to them in their first few days in Bozeman.

- **Item 2: Missional Pastor Search Team Report:** This Search Team will hold second skype interviews with two candidates on Thursday, November 17, after first reviewing their PDP profiles with Elder Lynn Owens.

- **Item 3: Legacy Site Pastor Search Update:** This Search Team has been formed and are meeting with the following members: Elder Karen Cargill (Chair), Elder Joe Nelson, Eric Wandishin, Sue Noble, Dave Stanish and Marsha Montgomery. **Session unanimously approved the members of this Search Team.**

- **Item 4: Update for Pastor for Worship Search Team:** This Team has been meeting with the following members: Elder Merlin Nelson, Robyn Erlenbush, Rachel Osen, Dave Stanish, Bryan Kelsey, Keith Anderson, Kody Van Dyke, and Kristen Robinson.

- **Item 5: A Search Team Progress Chart for all Search Teams will be posted at both sites.**

- **Item 6: Town Hall Meetings will be scheduled once per quarter in order to answer questions from the congregation.** The first Town Hall Meetings are scheduled for: Legacy Site on January 15, 2017 and Bozeman Site on February 5, 2017.

- **Item 7: New Deacon Structure:** Deacons will be assigned to one of the three Leadership Teams: Worship, Equipping and Missional. The Deacon assignments to each team were handed out, so the Team Leaders can invite the assigned Deacons to their next meeting.

- **Item 8: Review of Springhill's Membership Process:** Pastor Sam reviewed the Book of Order's membership requirements and how Springhill Church implements them. This Includes the three steps in the Springhill Membership Process:
 - **New Member's Class (Springhill's Discovery Class):** *The Book of order states that **The Session should provide a suitable course of instruction in faith, worship, and the mission of the Church, as well as instruction for participating in the governing and decision making life of the congregation.** Springhill's six week class meets this standard.*

 - **New Member Candidate Interviews with Elders and approval by Session:** *The Book of Order states that **The Session shall satisfy itself that each***

applicant for membership demonstrates evidence of true commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and determination to live as become a follower of Christ. It is appropriate for the Session to ask for testimonials of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and a sharing of one's growth in faith.

- **Affirming the five Membership Questions before the Congregation:** The Book of Order states that *Those being received by profession or reaffirmation of faith shall answer the following or like (membership) questions before the Session (SPC's membership questions meet this standard)*. This is done by Session during the Elder Interviews. Springhill also asks that those coming in through a Letter of Transfer also participate in affirming these same five membership questions. In the tradition of Springhill Church, all new member candidates affirm the five membership questions before the congregation on a "New Membership Sunday". If a new member candidate requires Baptism, it will also be done on that same "New Member Sunday".

Pastoral exceptions to this process were discussed and supported by Session. These exceptions will only be made where the Book of Order does not absolutely require what may be excepted.

- **Item 9: Budget Discussion:** Pastor Sam led a discussion regarding the planned new Staff hires effect on the 2016/2017 FY Budget. It was agreed, in faith, to continue working on getting the staff members planned for this fiscal year. The Budget Team will determine, for Session, the total annual cost for each new positions being considered, in order to help Session accurately monitor the budget impact as the fiscal year goes by.
- **Item 10: Elder Communications Plan:** This Plan, that was developed by Session, in a previous meeting, and is now being implemented with a lot of enthusiasm from the Elders.
- **Item 11: "Narrative on the Health of Mission and Ministry" Question 2: (Home Work for December 14 Session Meeting):** *How has your congregation extended itself beyond its bounds through the establishment of new communities of worship and discipleship, expanding the Kingdom of God?*

- **Item 12:** Items from this meeting that will be communicated to the congregation within the next two weeks:
 - *Progress Boards for all Search Teams will be displayed at both locations*
 - *Town Hall Meetings will be held, at both locations, once per quarter, starting in 2017, to provide the congregation with an opportunity to ask questions of Session.*
 - *The Cook family arrives on November 28 and will be preaching on December 4.*

- The Meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Sam Knight.

Respectively Submitted by:

Attested By:

John Grossenbacher, Clerk

Sam Knight, Moderator