



MINUTES

MODERATOR: TIM MCCONNELL

Present: Rev. Dave Steane, Randy Case, Lindy Keffer, Kris Bauman, Bill Rhea, Rev. Dr. Tim McConnell, Elizabeth Roth, Mike Hodges, Pam Moore, Dorothy Alvarez, Dave Dillard, Kappy Stewart, Kirk Cherry, Rev. Greg Hartnett, Rev. Dr. John Goodale, Wendy Buckler, Ken Laura, Bonnie Ortivez, Scott Berry, John Moe, Susan Pattee, Shelly Busby.

Excused: Mark Albers, Mary Frieg, Megan Nilsen

Guest: Matt Holtzman, Bill Enns, Mateen Ellass

DEVOTIONAL AND PRAYER TIME

Tim McConnell – Taught on Acts 20:17-38.

1. What was the character of Paul's Ministry?
2. What challenges has the ministry faced?
3. What charge does Paul give?

Pray looking back with gratitude, looking forward to the challenges coming ahead, and for tonight.

BOARDABLE TRAINING

Elizabeth talked through Boardable and answered questions. She will follow up on the questions that were asked that she didn't have an answer to before the next meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Dave Steane

1. Omnibus Motion – To approve written reports.
 - a. Clerk's Reports and Minutes
 - (1) It is important to put human eyes on everything before it is imported to boardable
 - (2) Monthly membership report – can we add the online numbers?
 - b. Treasurer's Report
 - c. Ministry Team Notes

Kris Bauman motioned to approve Omnibus motion as presented. The motion was seconded by Wendy Buckler. Motion Carried.



2. New Members – there was a new member class on Saturday October 18 with 15 people. None have shared with an elder since we were not able to be there. Can we meet with them on Sunday or sometime soon? Give Dorothy names of who is willing to meet with them. It needs to be done before November 9.

CHURCH ON A MISSION

Tim McConnell

Café 225 – opened in 2011; third space for having a warm welcome mat and on ramp for Christian community. Lots of different activities happened there and it closed in 2022. We did vote to demolish it, but it was a lot pricier than we thought, so we have paused any action. We would like to look at new missions for this space.

Possible new ministries: Friday Night Social Ministry, Alpha. Light and Light Counseling, SRM partnership.

Tim asked the following ministry teams to consider the following motions at their November Meetings:

- Caring Ministry - Please consider a motion to explore the establishment of Light & Life Counseling and housing David Galvan with Suicide Prevention Partnership
- Facilities - Repeal the motion to scrape 225 Weber and ask Session to authorize a task force to draw up plans to restore Café 225 and renovate the third floor for use as a Counseling Center.

HEALTHY SESSION GOVERNANCE

Bill Enns – Knot Navigators

Dave introduced Bill Enns from Knot Navigators to discuss what it means to be healthy elders and what roles the elders play at a church our size.

Healthy Elders: The spiritual life of Elders – How does an elder stay spiritually healthy in the role? Their task is 1 Peter 5:1-4 - Elders are shepherds – this is their critical role. How does a Session lead a church alongside a Pastor and Staff? How does an individual elder play an appropriate part of governance, accountability, and responsibility alongside a Staff in a Lare church? Elders' primary role is pastoral not administrative. They should make sure people feel loved, encouraged and like they belong, no single pastor can do that. As you gather in meeting is to discern the will of the Lord, you have a discussion so that it isn't just a decision but a discernment.



Sessions have authority but no one elder does – we are a corporate body not a individuated group, an elder can be commissioned by the session for a specific responsibility but only session can speak with an authority.

What do you do when there is conflict?

- Actively Support
- Passively Submit
- Peacefully Withdrawal

Elders cannot contradict what session has approved. None of us act alone as individuals, we all must be part of the discussion. You must commission your Ministry Teams, the more authority you give to the Team the more effective your ministry is going to be.

Session oversees and holds Lead Pastor and Executive Pastor accountable according to the church's mission and overall goals, but it does not give orders to staff. If directives are given then it has to come through senior leadership. Elders can get to know staff and care for them, but may not function as the staff members supervisor.

When thinking about the session meeting, half of the meeting should be discerning the mission, clarifying the mission and conforming to the vision. If something doesn't directly relate to the vision, it doesn't get done. Review the vision every month; you don't need to make changes to it all the time but can be tweaked if something is not right, but this usually does not happen regularly.

The time with Bill Enns ended in discussion in table groups and then together as a whole body.

CLOSING PRAYER AND DOXOLOGY

Upcoming Dates:

- Advent Decorating – November 16, 2025
- Next Session Meeting: November 18, 2025
- Session/Staff Christmas Party: December 16, 2025 6:30 pm – Location TBD



FIRST PRES

Session Agenda | First Presbyterian Church
October 21, 2025 5:00 p.m.

- Next Sermon Series Faithful (Nov 2-23); Everlasting Love (Nov 30 – Jan4)
- Communion Dates: December 7, December 24 (9 and 11 pm), January 4
- ECO National Gathering – February 2-5, 2026