

First Presbyterian Church of Colorado Springs
Annual Congregational Meeting
February 4, 2024
Worship Center
12:30 p.m.

1. Welcome/Call to Order/Opening Prayer
 - a. Tim McConnell, Lead Pastor, opened the meeting at 12:30 p.m.
 - b. Kathy Freyschalg, Clerk of Session, stated that a quorum was present and read the Session's call for the meeting.

2. Purpose of Meeting (Agenda)
 - a. Tim McConnell reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

3. Lead Pastor Report
 - a. Tim McConnell, Lead Pastor, reported that Vision Sunday will be September 8, 2024. The 2023 income report was noted and included in the booklet. We ended 2023 with a surplus and we kept all our commitments to mission partners and went above and beyond the needs presented.
 - b. We have been working on several facilities projects, the Sanctuary, the Commons, etc., and there are still a few remaining items that need attention.
 - c. We were hoping the organ was going to be installed before Easter, but it is not quite there yet. The installation of the organ will be after Easter and the memorial service for Dr. John Stevens.
 - d. The Commons is mostly complete with just a few more tweaks needed to complete, including lighting adjustments and furniture.
 - e. The Embracing Jesus statue will be coming back, it is currently getting a new base and will be installed at the bottom of the accessibility ramp. We expect that to happen in the next couple of months.
 - f. The Library was flooded and instead of putting it back exactly as is, we talked to Session and staff to reimagine what we should do with the library collection and how it can be best used in our context. We are looking at a home-schooling resource center to educate your kids

in a different way than the schools are providing, so we are looking at how we can be partnered without families.

- g. Tim McConnell advised that the building at 225 Weber is in disrepair as it stands now and we are looking at what is next there but the current projection is to sell the property.
 - h. We are in the middle of a reorganization of staff, Session and culture, this is the biggest change that is happening within our church. Changes have been made to our staff organization chart, which can be viewed here. Tim McConnell, highlighted the changes that were made withing different ministry areas that should help promote staff culture and more cohesive working relationships between ministries. The theme for this year at First Pres is evangelism and you will hear more about that during vision weekend.
4. Clerk of Session Report
- a. Kathy Freyschlag, Clerk of Session, provided the clerks report for 2023 noting that we had an increase in members of 60, while 53 of our members were promoted to glory and another 18 dropped from the rolls, showed an overall decline of two members in 2023. This finished our year with a total of 3,018 total members in 2023. We did have the previlage of baptizing 13 people and confirming 9 youth. We are grateful for the way the Lord is sustaining and growing our church year by year.
5. Trustee Report
- a. Randy Case, Treasurer, provided the Trustee Report noting that we finished 2023 with an unexpected surplus of \$532,449, and that the Trustees are working to assess the best use of any remaining surplus as we step forward into 2024. Our mission giving allowed us to meet all the needs presented to us this year with a total of 18.6% or \$1.7 Million of all the dollars that came in to our church to go back to our local and global partners. And finally, we finished our 2024 stewardship campaign strong as commitments were up by \$241,000. This allowed us to project a total budget for 2024 of \$8,162,525, which will allow our ministries to do incredible work for the Kingdom.

6. Nominating Committee Report

- a. Heather Bauman, Nominating Committee Moderator, provided the Nominating Committee report.
 - i. It was moved to elect *Mark Albers, Kris Bauman, Shelly Busby, Kirk Cherry, Ken Laura, Bonnie Ortivez, and Kappy Stewart* to serve as Elder, class of 2027. Motion carried.
 - ii. It was moved to elect *Debbie Anderson, Sharon Bieszk, Jan Bolin, Gary Campbell, Margaret Campbell, Randy Carpenter, Glenn Conklin, Karen Converse, Dennis Cowger, Joanie Dionisio, Walk Fischer, Cary Fisher, Beth Gramith, Shelley Haenze, Louann Helvie, Joyce Holden, Blythe Hunt, Maggie Hunt, Jamieson Kennedy, Charlotte Kinsman, Terry Laura, Ronald Lehmann, Melody McCreight, Skip Morgan, Mary Norman, Sue Rogers, Diane Rossin, Sue Wear, Jeanie Wilson* to serve as Deacon, class of 2027. Motion carried.
 - iii. It was moved to elect *Linda Boyles and Sam Edwards* to serve as Nominating Committee members, class of 2027. Motion carried.

7. Reforming our Session

- a. Tim McConnell, Lead Pastor, introduced the newly approved restructure for the Session by noting how the current bylaws and Session structure had not served the church well and had resulted in several unintended consequences contributing to staff dysfunction and confusion about alignment and strategy.
- b. Dave Steane, Transitional Executive Pastor, provided a PowerPoint presentation that showed the change to the current session organization as approved by the Session. We will be moving from three subcommittees of Session, Executive Ministry Team, Trustees and Session Ministry Leadership Team, to ten Ministry Teams that will allow for more staff and elder interaction and collaboration. The ten Ministry Teams are: Communications, Discipleship, Human Resources, Mission, Family Ministries, Facilities & Technology, Finance & Stewardship, Pastoral Care, Invitation & Engagement, and Worship & Music. Ministry teams will be comprised of 1-3 elders, along with the designated staff members, and at least 1-3 at-large members. We will also form an Advisory Council, which will function

as a combination of SMLT and EMT, and have a clearly defined role with no sessional decision-making authority. The authority will continue to reside with the Session.

- c. Elders Mary Frieg, Kris Bauman and Christina Harrell shared their support for the reorganization.
 - d. Tim McConnell, invited feedback and questions as needed. The Session Policy and Procedures manual will be revised to reflect the new structure. The new structure will be implemented in April.
8. Closing Remarks/Prayer
- a. Tim McConnell provided closing remarks. What will 2024 hold? We are entering into a year to be a healthier, more aligned ministry than it has ever been here at First Pres. Business meeting is concluded at 1:48 pm. Tim McConnell closed in prayer.