

STATED SESSION MEETING MINUTES
December 5, 2017 7:00 PM in the Thornhill Room

Elders Present:, Frank Dauby, Kristin Dwelley, Gretchen Garlinghouse, Rick Heller, Shelley Kelly, Leslie Louie, Mary Ellen McKey, Paula Moseley, Rayno Niemi, Jan Stites

Elders Excused: Dave Miller, Brenda Steinmetz-Vallenas

Staff Present: Rev. Talitha Aho, Rev. Ben Daniel

Others Present: Jim Allardice, Al Peters

Rev. Ben Daniel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and offered an opening prayer.

Clerk's Report: The next regular session meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9 at 7 p.m. Presbytery meets again on Tuesday, February 13, location tbd.

NextEdge Networks Proposal: Ben reported that NextEdge Networks proposes installing a small modem on our property for a term of three years for \$1,000. This would be a small box installed on a wall, probably in the storage room off the kitchen. Leslie Louie raised the issue of exposure to electromagnetic fields. By consensus it was agreed that Ben should move forward with the conversation, raising the issues of compensation and exposure.

Overture for Parental Leave: The attached Overture for Parental Leave was distributed and will be discussed at the January session meeting.

Personnel Update: Personnel Chair Blake Thompson reported that Gil Chiguila's wage claim has been taken off calendar, and presumably will be rescheduled.

Special Appeal Update: Susanne shared that the special appeal has brought in approximately \$26,175 in one-time gifts and \$11,316 in pledge increases, for a total of \$37,491!

Report from Church Front Task Force: Rev. Talitha Aho and Gretchen Garlinghouse related that St. John's Episcopal Church intends to install a bridge over Temescal Creek. In order to proceed, the City has tasked it with undertaking a mitigation project. St. John's has approached MPC about the possibility of accomplishing our bridge demolition and creek bed restoration as its mitigation project. Discussions are underway.

Further, an anonymous donor has volunteered to underwrite the design and landscaping of the front of the church. Further, Jean Smart's family

has made a memorial gift that would go to hardscape, landscaping and benches.

Peace Church Declaration: Ben described the background and work leading up to the attached Peace Church Declaration. Much discussion followed. It was suggested that a companion document that is less dry and legalistic, one that emphasizes the moral and spiritual underpinnings for becoming a peace church, accompany the declaration. Suggestions for incorporating the declaration and its concepts into the life of the congregation and educating us all as to its background and purposes include using sermons and adult education classes to underscore the underlying concepts, and sharing resources through a comprehensive bibliography. Ben will make revisions accordingly for session to revisit in January.

Ben closed with prayer at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne Lea, Clerk of Session