

MONTCLAIR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Session Minutes

June 11, 2024

Elders Present: Rob Elia, Gretchen Garlinghouse, Karen Ray Gibson, Rick Heller, Sari Kulberg, Leslie Louie, Jean Rogenkamp, Linda Spencer, May Tong, Jerry White

Elders Abent: Linda Benson, Margaretha Derasary

Staff Present: Rev. Ben Daniel, Katie Kilby

Others Present: Suzanne Jones, Al Peters

Clerks Report: Rev. Ben Daniel called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. This was a hybrid ZOOM meeting. May Tong offered the opening prayer.

The next Presbytery meeting takes place in person on Tuesday, August 24.

- **MSP** to approve minutes of the May 7, 2024 stated session meeting.
- **MSP** to next meet on Tuesday, July 30, 2024.
- **MSP** to approve adding Lee Aurich to MPC's Schwab account and removing Earl Hamlin from the account, all in accordance with the required Schwab certification found at (1122-209N) APP70337-09 (4/23).
- **MSP** to approve MPC signing on to the letter from Coalition on Human Needs.

Electrification Update: Suzanne Jones reported that all four new electrical circuits run, including the one to the manse dryer. New water heaters have been installed in the office and Family Room.

Stewardship Drive: Susanne Lea reported that as of June 2 we were 16 pledges and \$19,067 behind last year. Follow up will occur.

Draft 2024-2025 Budget: Al Peters presented the attached proposed 2024-2025 budget. He reported that we budgeted well last year. The proposed budget is \$34,900 out of balance, expenses exceeding revenue. It assumes revenue will be the same as last year. The draft budget estimates \$10,000 for salary increases. The \$24,000 deficit in the B & G fund needs to be replenished.

A sub-team consisting of Al, Ben, Katie, Rick, Rob and Susanne will meet at 1 p.m. on July 16 to massage the budget deficit.

Mission for the Homeless: Susanne brought session up to speed on the \$50,000 grant to Mission for the Homeless from the Central Region of San Francisco Presbytery.

- **MSP** to empower MPC administration to receive, process and account for any payment from Presbytery for the Central Region's \$50,000 grant to fund Mission for the Homeless.

To release the funds, Presbytery needs session sign-off on two documents: (1) MOU for grantees; and (2) Regional Partnerships: Framework for Decision Making and Fund Distribution. Session members had a question about language in the MOU concerning liability. Susanne will check with Office Administrator Noel Moritz to determine if MFTH can be added as an additional insured to our liability insurance policy, and will then circle back to session for an email vote on whether to approve the above documents.

St. John's Update: Gretchen Garlinghouse informed session that St. John's kitchen will be closed during the bridge construction project. She suggested that the church might use our kitchen to prepare their lunches for Mission for the Homeless during this period. This would take place on Thursday mornings.

By consensus session approved the use of our kitchen for this purpose.

Pastoral Care Update: Katie Kilby reported that a team has been assembled to talk about improving communication around pastoral care issues. Linda Spencer has been helpful in jumpstarting the team which now includes Ben Daniel, Helen Hutchison, May Tong, Karen Ray Gibson, Katie, Linda S., Dave Hendricks, Rick Heller and Sally Cole White.

Staff Reports: Ben gave an update on his recent trip to the UK and Iona.

Ben closed with prayer at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susanne Lea, Clerk of Session