

## Session Business

May 17, 2020

1. The following six confirmands were introduced by Dena Sowden and questioned by the Elders before being examined: Jeselyn Graham, Henry Quekemeyer, Morgan Smith, Allison Spratt, William Stewart, and Alexander Williams. Session approved a motion to sustain the examination in full and receive each as active members of the church.
2. A status report was received on actions being taken to address columbarium water leakage problems. To prevent future water issues (1) the support structure will be redone to include aluminum tubing at the bottom and (2) the outside landscape and cement structure will be modified. The Building and Grounds Committee is currently awaiting cost estimates for rebuild materials.
3. The recommendation from Worship Committee that Communion not be served during Sunday worship service until further action is taken by Session was approved. (Related to coronavirus restrictions/considerations.) Also, Ushers will have expanded responsibilities due to coronavirus restrictions and guidance provided by the governor and other authorities.
4. Dr. Green reported on valuation actions being taken by the appointed committee in preparation to sell the Corvette asset donated to the church.
5. Dr. Green received as correspondence to Session a request to consider accepting a donation to replace sanctuary chairs with pews. A discussion ensued on various considerations. After cost and supplier research has been completed, a task force will be appointed to consider this generous offer.
6. Dr. Green reported on preparations for a limited sanctuary opening on Memorial Day Sunday, May 24, at 10:00 a.m. Changes are needed to provide as much safety as possible and to comply with the governor's coronavirus related directives. Initially, sanctuary seating will be both limited and designated, doors other than specific sanctuary doors will be labeled as emergency exits only, the nursery will not be open, and doughnuts will not be served until further notice. Because we deeply desire to resume our worship and have fellowship in the church facility, everyone is hopeful that restrictions will be removed as soon as feasible. Patience / support from the congregation was requested.
7. A suggestion on ways to receive special offerings to offset added expenses related to Covid-19 was discussed. Dr. Green indicated that two scheduled special offerings have not occurred due to limitations (Youth auction on April 26 and Missions Outreach offering in May) and that the pastor's discretionary fund has been depleted due to unexpected coronavirus-related expenses. He also indicated that giving is lower compared to this time last year. Missions and Administration Committees were requested to recommend actions to Session next month.
8. Discipleship Committee is planning for re-arranging Sunday School classes and Vacation Bible School according to coronavirus considerations and directives. Suggestions may be sent to Anne Spinks, Mark Sowden, or Dena Sowden.
9. Everyone needs to update their Zoom software before June 1 because at that time the software provider is implementing required passwords and waiting rooms for Zoom meetings.

New Members: Jeselyn Graham, Henry Quekemeyer, Morgan Smith, Allison Spratt, William Stewart, and Alexander Williams

Baptisms: Sara Catherine Hargate, infant daughter of Cory and Elaine Hargate