

“What’s In Session” March Session Report

Your session had two meetings in March. The first, on March 7, was a Called Session Meeting in order to Zoom with Susan Tamborini Czolgosz from Holy Cow Consulting. The purpose was to receive a proposal from Ms. Czolgosz regarding a recommendation for conflict resolution services. The results from the Congregational Survey (CAT Scan) that our congregation, staff and leadership completed before Christmas, pointed to the need to deal with aspects of SACPC’s history that may be difficult to talk about, but are critical to work through, for our future success. The session also discussed shifting its emphasis from delegation and oversight to a more active leadership style. There was conversation about whether that can be done while still abiding by Policy Governance’s primary tenet of keeping the focus on ends rather than means. Everyone agreed that the session should move away from meetings totally focused on the details of the Policy Governance Document.

The Stated Session Meeting was held on March 28 at 6:00 pm. Our SACPC youth prepared and joined us for a wonderful meal and shared some thoughts and ideas from this year's confirmation class. Cindy Litzinger (SACPC Director of Music) and Shelley Hobson and Becky Barefoot (from the Pastor Nominating Committee) were guests for the meeting. The consent agenda of the meeting contained items regarding: changes to our worship, guest preachers, combined services for Confirmation Sunday, Church Picnic Sunday, (high school) Senior Sunday, and a Healing and Wholeness Service to be held in May. So many exciting things are happening at SACPC!

There were two motions considered for changes in the Policy Governance Document, one from the Human Resources (HR) Committee and one from Training and Governance Committee. The first motion from the HR committee regarded the authority for hiring, terminating, and establishing salary and benefits for administrative and program staff. The Head of Staff and the HR Committee (on behalf of the session) will now work in coordination with each other and neither party has the sole authority to make staffing decisions without the agreement of the other. The second motion from the Training and Governance Committee revised wording in the Policy Governance Document and was passed by common consent.

The session also discussed the proposal from Ms. Czolgosz. The decision was made to hire Holy Cow Consulting in a limited manner to work with the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). This will include presentation of the CAT results to the congregation and designing and facilitating congregational listening sessions. The goal is to provide the PNC with further insights/data about the “state of the congregation” as they prepare the mission study report.

The session continued its ongoing discussion about our Contemporary Worship Service. Rita Pasquariello reported for the team that an employment posting for a Contemporary Worship Leader will soon be placed online. The team is working as quickly as they can in the scope of their responsibilities and have determined that May 1 is not a viable date for the new service to begin, but the goal is now to hold the service in the sanctuary by the second Sunday in June. Please check the SACPC website in the near future for the job posting and keep these team members in your prayers.

In new business, it was announced that the Preschool Playground Fundraiser has raised \$50,880 of the \$70,000 goal. If you have not made a donation, there is still a need! This playground is used not only by our Preschool, but also our church and the neighboring community. What a blessing! The next Stated Session Meeting is April 25 at 6:30 pm in the church dining room. You are welcome to attend.

Your session members feel positive about the changes taking place and we pray that when you are called to act, you will answer that call! Until that time, please continue to pray for our staff, our session and diaconate, and our church family. As always, if you have comments, suggestions or questions, please contact any session or diaconate member directly or send an email to session@sacpc.org.

Session

Class of 2022

Jeff Flynn
William Gwathmey
Brian Lanier
David Massey
Rita Pasquariello
Paige Williams

Class of 2023

Lisa Bohbrink
Kathy Denlinger
Russell Herring
Matthew Hilliard
Tony McEwen
Eddie Stuart

Class of 2024

Lynn Atkinson
Hugh Caison
Beth Cherry
Joan Gray
Cliff Hester
Jim Snyder

Diaconate

Class of 2022

John Bohbrink
Beth Chadwick
Joe Dixon
Chris Richardson
Melinda Stewart
Marianne Wayne
Mary Tyler
Brent Williams

Class of 2023

Angela Brownfield
Margo Davy
Sandy Garner
Jennings Lathan
Linda McMurray
Cindy Pierson

Class of 2024

Kathy Benson
Stanton Bisette
Alison Sineath
Rick Wheeler