

What's In Session?

February 2024 Report

Each meeting begins with a devotion and prayer from a Session member. This month Dax Hawkins' message to us was encouragement to notice and appreciate when God puts us where we need to be—to do or to witness His plans as they unfold.

Deacons Alison Sineath and Kathy Benson (Connections subcommittee) spoke to us about Dinners for 8 upcoming this Spring and encouraged Elders to sign up to be hosts or be present at the dinners, so our church family can get to know them better.

Jack Richardson updated Session on the progress of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, an active and enthusiastic group that meets weekly. The group is currently interviewing candidates.

Via a monthly information packet, Session reviews church finances and statistics (attendance, livestream activity, social media engagement) at each monthly meeting. We review minutes from each Session committee: Human Resources, Finance, Officer Training and Governance, Strategic Planning and Training, and Congregational Engagement. This month the Session approved at-large members for Congregational Engagement: John Bohbrink, Jane Davis, and Rick Wheeler, and an upcoming baptism for the grandson of Beth and Bob Cherry.

At each monthly meeting, Session members are asked to “rehearse” for a scenario that could occur. We read the scenario and research procedures in the Book of Order and our Session policies document and discuss how we might handle each possible situation. We also review a Session policy or two each month to ask ourselves if we are following the prescribed policies. These two important exercises help us stay on our toes and speak as one voice as we are required to do once discussions and votes have taken place.

Per the Book of Order, boundary training is required for councils (Session) every 36 months. Currently, SACPC requires all staff, preschool teachers, and high-level volunteers for children and youth to complete the Ministry Safe Sexual Abuse Awareness training. Elders were reminded of our responsibility to take the time, individually, to complete the online training.

Reverend Harrington invited the Elders to share prayer concerns and closed the meeting with prayer.