

FPC – Session Meeting Highlights – January 17, 2023

- Peter Kelley led the opening devotion and prayer. He also began a series of discussions on Emotional Processes, with the first handout about Anxiety, and how it affects people and relationships.
- Liz Burns gave the Clerk's Report. We received a beautiful handmade thank you card from a recipient of a Hobby Lobby gift card from our Christmas Giving Tree. The Session approved letting North Fork Chorale use our property for their January board meeting.
- Jan Falkowski presented the Treasurer's Report. Expenses in 2022 were down more than \$61,000, but revenues/donations were shy of 2021's level by \$10,000. So far, 42 households that pledged in prior years had not returned Estimates of Giving for 2023.
- The Presbytery will have an online Stated Meeting on January 28th. Karen Murray will participate and report back to Session.
- Peter Kelley thanked several people who were key to our efforts to move Christmas Eve and Day worship from the heatless sanctuary to the CE building: Dave Collins, Doug MacArthur, Bob Burns, Jan and Ron Falkowski, and the Mraz family.
- Jan added that, since the Church does not have a sexton, Dave Collins has been doing a lot of critical repairs and maintenance as head of the Buildings & Grounds Committee.
- Charles Barkley reported for the Deacons that they served Communion for Kirsty Dickson-Maret's ordination ceremony, they received \$595 from the Cookie Walk, and they will be coordinating the Church's participation in the second annual WinterFest, which should be much bigger than in 2021.
- Dave Collins, head of Buildings & Grounds, described how the boiler broke on Christmas, and how the remote sensor helped prevent the pipes from being frozen. George Berry helped with the repairs. The other boilers (in the Old Manse and the CE wing) will also be checked and monitored. In addition, ServePro cleaned out the Old Manse and treated the floors and rugs for pet stains/odors. Work continues on that building, and there is a group that is pursuing ideas about how to use the Old Manse as part of our Matthew 25 initiative.
- Mark Bridgen reported that the Cemetery Committee will sponsor a talk on Tuesday, April 11 called "Slavery on the North Fork."
- Sue Russell reported that the Faith Formation team has started a Faithful Friends program for preschoolers on Saturday mornings. There were 41 elementary school-aged children at SALT the prior week. Volunteers are needed to help in the kitchen for SALT.

Come at 2:30 if you can help – you don't have to stay for SALT. Youth Group will start up again with weekly gatherings in February. There was a Youth Group reunion at Lucharitos in December, and it was well-attended. And 17 people are signed up for the Winter Retreat at Holmes.

- There will be a new series of Inquirers' Meetings on February 26 and March 5 after worship. Elders are asked to attend. There will be a potluck supper on Friday, March 10 to welcome new members, and new members will be received in Worship on Sunday, March 12th.
- Karen Murray reported that the Hospitality and Fellowship Committee hosted a reception after Kirsty's ordination, with about 50 attendees. Bonnie Hoffner, John Ross, Muffie Baker and Heather Lee helped prepare, serve and clean up. Fred Lee donated a lot of vegan treats, as well. The Annual Meeting will be February 5th, with a soup and sandwich lunch. Helpers are needed. And we need additional teams for Sunday Fellowship.
- Karen also presented a draft of the Session Highlights from the December meeting. These were approved, and will be posted online with the November meeting highlights.
- Colleen Clark reported for the Mission Committee that the next two build dates for Habitat for Humanity will be Tuesday, January 24th and Saturday, February 25th, both days from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Please join if you are able. In addition, the Covid Relief fund granted a request for financial assistance. And the Session voted to approve participating in the One Great Hour of Sharing offering this spring.
- Jim Spiess reported for the Personnel Committee. The search for an organist to replace George Moravek continues. Jennifer Kennedy will fill in on some dates.
- The Stewardship Committee is working on reducing withdrawals from the Endowment.
- Patty Shuford reported for the Worship Committee. She thanked the volunteers who helped un-decorate the Sanctuary on January 7th. She noted that this year, Christmas Eve will be on a Sunday. We will have a 10 am worship service and a 4 pm Christmas Eve service, but not an 8 pm service.
- Helping hands are needed for lunch on March 15th after the Lenten worship service. Pastor Don Russo will be preaching. Please reach out to Karen at karenmurray25@gmail.com if you can provide soup, salad or dessert, and/or help serve and clean up.