

IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TW@I Session Minutes
March 19, 2025 5:15 PM
For TW@I

CALL TO ORDER, OPENING PRAYER, APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Session gathered at 5:15PM for fellowship and dinner. At 6:05PM Rev. Powers opened the meeting with prayer. Rev. Gale led the Session in spiritual practice. Quorum was determined. A motion was made to approve the agenda (motion: J. Lackie; second D. Ruch), the motion passed unanimously. Visitors were recognized. A motion was made to give them voice (motion: J. Jones; second: J. Haddad), the motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS FROM CLERK, PASTORS, AND TREASURER

Clerk's Report

Margaret Apple reminded the Session of the February minutes and Statistical report noting two corrections. Rev. Powers requested that a motion be made for a New Member Meeting to take place on March 23, 2025 at 10:30 in the Chapel (motion: J. Haddad; second: D. Ruch), this passed unanimously. Margaret reminded the Session that the vote by email passed for the Annual Called Congregational Meeting to take place on March 30, 2025 following the 11:00AM worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to review the terms of call for all pastors and share the approved operating budget with the congregation. Rev. Powers will make a brief statement of the church address which will serve as an annual report to the church. A motion was made to approve the minutes (motion: M Logan; second: D. Ruch) the motion passed unanimously.

Pastors Reports

Rev. Gale

Rev. Gale stated that the Lenten Lectio Groups are in full swing. She shared the Lenten Devotional and thanked the Session for being engaged in the life of the church. She asked for prayers for Adult Formation as they enter a retreat this weekend to discern and envision programming that will be created. Rev. Gale mentioned that training for incoming Deacons will begin next week. Individual meetings will take place as well to address Deacons' particular gifts and fit the needs of the congregation. She stated that the Diaconate will continue to envision new ways to support and engage the community and congregation. John Jones noted the vacant position on the Diaconate. As Chair of Nominations he wanted to let Rev. Gale know they are aware and working to fill the position.

Rev. Narcisse

Rev. Narcisse gave a report of his most recent engagements including a time away in London for rest and reflection. He shared that the staff has paused gathering for regular spiritual care workshops. In lieu of meeting he has spent time connecting individually with staff members to check in and provide spiritual support. Rev. Narcisse also commented on the healthy working relationship that exists among the pastoral team, and how that sets a positive tone for the wider Idlewild staff. Rev. Narcisse concluded his report noting his upcoming absences due to supply preaching and other pastoral duties including preaching at Buntyn on March 6, preaching at Farmington on March 23, and officiating a wedding the weekend of March 28.

Rev. Powers

Rev. Powers thanked Session members who have helped him with travel plans for his Sabbatical which begins April 28, 2025 and ends July 28, 2025. He expressed gratitude for pastoral staff who have prepared for worship during his sabbatical period. Three different sermon series will guide worship during his time away. Each of the sermons will speak to the needs of the congregation with special consideration on transition and rest. Rev. Powers mentioned Easter and Pentecost worship. Rev. Powers noted Pete Sanders' excellent work on Generosity. Rev. Powers mentioned he is hosting a gathering for congregants who are part of the Inaugural Cornerstone Society which is part of Legacy Giving. These members have made their legacy gifts known to the church in writing. The goal for the Cornerstone Society was 30 gifts which is the current number of gifts that have been recorded. He expressed gratitude to Keith Cole, Elizabeth Rouse, Ellis Haddad and the other members of that subcommittee. Rev. Powers mentioned that he has been working on Elder preparation. Incoming Elders had their first gathering for training at the beginning of March. Their second and third meetings will take place in the next two weeks with their examination at the May 21, 2025 in person Session meeting. Rev. Powers thanked Nominations for their hard work in selecting the incoming Elders.

Rev. Veazey

Rev. Veazey mentioned that NaCoMe will take place March 28 - 30, 2025. She is looking forward to spending time retreating together, talking about mental health, well being and wholeness and what that looks like in the life of Christ. Rev. Veazey noted that MICAHA has its Issues Convention this Sunday, March 23, 2025 at 3:00PM. She encouraged us to attend and hear the issues this organization wants to focus on in our community.

Treasurer's Report

For the visitors David Ruch mentioned that Idlewild's fiscal year is April 1 through March 31. He stated the fiscal report, as represented in the Session packet, shows that Idlewild is on target to meet projections. David expressed gratitude to all committees that have stayed within their budgets. The church is ending its fiscal year within budget.

