

Session Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2026; 6:15 pm- 8 pm

Present: Mark Albers, Tom Amblad, David Barnhart, Kris Bauman, Scott Berry, Wendy Buckler, Shelly Busby, Kirk Cherry, Dave Dillard, Jeff Freyschlag, Mary Frieg, Marguerite Hermanson, Peter Hurt, Leah Landolfi, Ken Laura, John Moe, Bonnie Ortivez, Susan Pattee, Bill Rhea, Angie Schweitzer, Kappy Stewart, Rev. Greg Hartnett, Rev. Mateen Ellass, Rev. Dr. Tim McConnell, Elizabeth Roth

Excused: Rev. Matt Holtzman, Rev. Ellen Dawson

Guest: Giselle Jenkins, Best Christian Workplaces

Dave Dillard moved to have guest Giselle Jenkins with Best Christian Workplace present with voice but no vote. Shelly Busby seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

A. Part One: Reading and Prayer

a. Mark 6:30-44

- i. What happened to the “quiet rest”? Why did Jesus promise that?
- ii. What moved Jesus’ heart to compassion? What need did he want most to meet?
- iii. Why did Jesus say, “You give them something to eat?”
- iv. How do we recognize and move toward the greatest needs of the lost/the next 1000/the City?

B. Part Two: Best Christian Workplace Review

- a. We received a score of 4.23 this year! We have 82.4% of our employees engaged.
- b. No new BCW projects are recommended, encouraged sharpening the strategy and continuing to lean into what we’ve already worked on.
- c. Discussion

C. Part Three: Discernment

a. Omnibus Motion to approve written reports. Motion to approve reports as written. Motion Carried.

- i. Clerk’s Report and Minutes
- ii. Treasurer’s Report
- iii. Ministry Team Notes.

b. New Business

i. Worship & Production Ministry Team Motion

1. **MOTION: Worship & Production Ministry Team moves to start Giving Stations in the Worship Center rather than Offering Plates.**
2. Discussion:
 - a. 23.6% of offering comes from the offering plate, 90% of that is from the Sanctuary, 10% out of the Worship Center. Total it is about \$200,000 per year.
 - b. Questions: How might we best train people on stewardship? What impact does this have on volunteer ushers? Will people be

standing at the stations? Is the plate the best discipleship offering to teach people? Etc.

c. MOTION: Mary Frieg moved to table the motion for another month. Bill Rhea seconded. Carried.

ii. Assistant Pastor Search Update

1. Greg Hartnett provided an update for the Pastor of Discipleship and the Family Ministries Pastor. Teams were assembled and launched in June so they are gathering resumes and have had some engagement in the positions. Neither team has decided to pursue an outside search firm at this time.

iii. Presbytery Representatives

1. The meeting is on September 18 and 19 in La Junta, CO. Friday will be a workshop with a speaker from Flourish Theological Institute. Saturday Morning there will be a business Meeting
2. Representatives = Susan Pattee, Jeff Freyschlag and Shelly Busby

iv. Communion Requests

1. Growing Together Wednesday Class would like to serve communion as well as the COSILOVEYOU citywide Worship Night on 10/2.

2. Tim McConnell Moved to approve both communion requests. Kris Bauman seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

D. Part Four: Vision

a. Café 225

i. Where have we been?

1. Café 225 first opened in 2012, prior uses included Friday night events, Third space, coffee shop, alpha course, Fuller Seminary site, ministry incubator. It was closed on April 29. 2022

ii. Where are we now?

1. What would it look like to open it again for a coffee shop, Light and Life Counseling, holding alpha courses, etc.
2. It is time to restore the facilities. The cost to reopen would be around \$700,000 – funding sources could include ESM sale, prior gifts, small capital campaign

iii. What leadership do we need? What could God do in a renewed 225?

iv. Discussion

E. Upcoming Dates

- a. Communion Dates: September 4, October 4, December 6, December 24, January 10
- b. Sermon Series Continues – Life Together (Aug 23 – Oct 25), In the Company of Friends (Nov 1 – Nov 22), What Can I Give (Nov 29 – Jan 3)
- c. New Members Class – August 22 – Need Elders in Commons/Landing August 30
- d. Presbytery Meeting – September 18-19
- e. September Session – September 21
- f. CityWide Worship - Frist Pres Sanctuary – Oct 2 6:30 pm

