

**First Presbyterian Church of Steele, ND**

Report of Church Closing and Sale of Property:

The Presbytery of the Northern Plains acknowledges receipt of minutes of the Annual Meeting dated March 27th 2022, and Special Meeting dated May 9th 2022, of the First Presbyterian Church of Steele, ND, recording the discussion and unanimous vote, of the seven members in attendance and one absentee vote, to close the church. The reason for closing is stated as lack of membership to financially sustain the church.

The Presbytery of the Northern Plains has assigned Sherri Stern, Elder, First Presbyterian Church, Fargo ND, and Financial Investment Coordinator, PNP, to communicate and document correspondence between the Church and the Presbytery.

-Minutes dated 3/27/2022, Annual Meeting, received/PNP.

-Minutes of Special Meeting, dated 5/9/2022, received/PNP.

Discussion with Rev. Robert Schoepp, concerning the status and maintenance of the church building is as follows:

-PNP is responsible for insurance coverage and maintenance of the church building, until a change of ownership occurs.

-Contents of the Church include items donated by the membership and are available to be donated or sold, per agreement of the parties receiving this communication.

-PNP acknowledges the information indicating the congregation does not have funds to repay loan from 1923 or Per Capita debt recorded by the Treasurer of the PNP.

-Pastor Schoepp and Clerk of Session or Treasurer are responsible for canceling bank accounts and corporate status with the Secretary of State of ND.

-All inquiries regarding the sale of the property, building and land, will be directed to Sherri Stern, Presbytery of the Northern Plains, 701-429-3522.

March 1, 2023 Owners and Encumbrance report indicated no debts or liens associated with property.

March 4, 2023 Market Value of the property, determined by Pifer Realty, to be \$32,000-\$40,000.

March 7, 2023 Received inquire to purchase and negotiated Contract for Deed purchase of \$36,000.

Terms agreed upon, \$20,000 down/non-refundable. \$16,000 payable over 18 months at 6% interest per annum. Buyer: Bret Ruff of Home and Land Brokers, LLC. Purchase completed April 4, 2023.

All past records of the First Presbytery Church of Steele, ND and all current documents regarding the closing and sale of the property will remain in the permanent historical records files within the Presbytery of the Northern Plains and/or the Presbyterian Church Records of PCUSA.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri A Stern  
PNP Finance Coordinator

701-429-3522