Passed by the Trustees: March 8, 2022
Passed by the Session: March 15, 2022

**Kirk in the Hills**
**Motion from the Facilities Committee**

**2022 Photography Policy**

1. Whereas prior to 2020, the Kirk had a policy which prohibited amateur or professional photographers on its grounds except for Kirk members, Kirk wedding parties, and others who received special permission from the business office.

2. Whereas that policy was eliminated altogether at pastoral direction in 2020.

3. Whereas the Kirk faced significant security concerns in 2021 on its grounds after the policy change due to increased property damage, crowds, wedding parties, and photographers.

4. Whereas the Kirk implemented a new temporary policy that prohibited wedding parties (except for Kirk wedding parties) and required permission and signed releases for all amateur and professional photographers (except for casual photos for personal or family use with a personal cameral or cell phone).

5. Whereas the Kirk’s new policy resulted in substantial increased administrative costs and continued security costs and concerns, as well as compliance difficulties.

6. Whereas the Kirk will soon begin construction to repair the back terrace and for the safety of the construction crew, Kirk members, and visitors, will need to keep all persons other than the construction crew and a limited number of authorized persons away from the construction area as well as any areas where equipment or materials are stored.

7. Whereas the Kirk faces significant budget challenges in 2022, such that the existing policy and security costs at existing levels are not feasible.

8. Whereas the Kirk should explore whether to charge photographers in the future to help offset ongoing security and facilities costs in light of the practices of other nearby churches (e.g., Christ Church Cranbrook) and non-profit institutions (e.g., Cranbrook Educational Community).

Now, therefore, the Trustees and Session hereby approve the following temporary photography policy for 2022:

1. No amateur or professional photographers may use Kirk grounds or facilities for the purpose of taking any photographs.

2. Exceptions will be made for (a) photography taken weddings of Kirk members, but only if arranged in coordination with the Business Office, (b) guests attending weddings at the Kirk taking pictures but only with a cell phone or a personal camera without any additional equipment like a tripod, additional lighting, etc., or (c)  Kirk members taking casual (not studio) pictures for personal or family use with a personal cameral or cell phone without any additional equipment like a tripod, additional lighting, etc.

The Facilities Committee, with input from the pastors and the staff, shall explore and recommend a new permanent photography policy beginning in 2023. The Facilities Committee shall consider all options, including but not limited to the policies in place at neighboring churches and non-profit institutions. The Facilities Committee shall present its recommendations to Trustees and Session no later than December 2022.