

SESSION MINUTES
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GREENVILLE, NC
January 22, 2017

The Session of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, NC, held a stated meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m. on January 22, 2017.

Elders present: Rob Ables, Catherine Adams, Joe Asselmeier, Doug Boyd, Clay Britt, Sue DelVecchio, Bill Farior, Daniel Griffis, Jeri Jackson, Karen Kay, Dave Kemble, Bill Lehman, Allen Lyle, Frances Mallison, Gibson McCall, Debra Mizelle Dorothy Muller, Mark Phillips, Kathleen Randall, Ray Spears, and Jackie Wynne.

Excused: Kelly Barnhill, Debbie Hahn, Sandy Jackson, Linda Kean, Will O'Rear, Elizabeth Swaggerty, David Webb, and Holli Williams.

Absent: Griff Burgwyn, Tyler Burgwyn, and Jessica Davenport.

Others present: Bill Neely, Senior Pastor and Moderator, Amanda Hines, Interim Associate Pastor, Dick Marks, Clerk of Session, and Derek Perry, Treasurer.

Moderator Bill Neely called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; a quorum was present. Bill Lehman led an opening devotional about Stephen Ministry and an opening prayer.

PEOPLE ARE IMPORTANT

Illnesses:

Special mention was made for Connie Bond, Beth Clark, Martha Coffman, Jim Finch, Thelma Flye, G. W. Lanford, Ben Lattin, Mary Smith, Joe Sullivan, and Margie Wright.

Deaths:

Margaret Strickhart (Carol Scull's mother) on December 10, 2016; and Greg Riddle (Leigh An Harris's father) on January 19, 2017.

Amanda Hines offered a prayer which included those mentioned under concerns.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

Ann Mannie met with the Session to request a transfer of her letter to the church from Jarvis Memorial United Methodist Church. After she told a little about her faith journey and her work in the church, a motion passed (J. Jackson/Adams) to approve requesting a letter of transfer of her membership.

COMMUNICATIONS

Thank-you notes were received from Hope of Glory; from Sylvia and Miracle Purvis for the hats and gloves from the mitten tree; from the Pitt County Council on Aging for \$800 for Meals on Wheels; from Elizabeth Swaggerty for the donation to Books from Birth of Eastern North Carolina; from the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina for a \$1200 donation; from Community Crossroads Center for a \$3600 donation; from United Way of Pitt County for a donation of \$3000 to the Imagination Library; from Children's Hope Alliance for a \$330 donation; and from Riley's Army for a \$1000 donation.

A letter received from Monty Atkinson-Bey, a prisoner at Maury Correctional Institution, commending the youth in helping the homeless was referred to the Mission Ministry.

The 2016 benevolence report was received from New Hope Presbytery.

MINUTES

Minutes were approved for the stated Session meeting of December 11, 2016, and the Annual Meeting of the congregation and corporation on January 22, 2017.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

A motion passed granting a letter of transfer for Grace Fuller to Northminster Presbyterian Church, Macon, GA.

A motion passed to approve removing Gail Bosch's name from the Active Roll at her request.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Administration Ministry (Rob Ables)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve building use requests for: a) Cub Scout Pack 452 for the Fellowship Hall on March 3, 2017 (6-9 p.m.) and March 4, 2017 (8 a.m. to 3 p.m.) for the annual Pinewood Derby; b) New Hope Presbytery using Room 202 for Healthy Boundary training for pastors and church staff on April 29, 2017 and May 2, 2017 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and c) Presbyterian Women using the Welcome Center on Sunday, January 22, 2017, for selling tickets to the Neighbor-to-Neighbor program.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve dismissing the Associate Pastor Search Committee with the thanks of the Session.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve Gerald McGowan as the congregational at-large member of the Personnel Committee.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve the 2015 financial review by the Financial Review team (attached).

Following a motion by the Membership Ministry that was passed to amend the 2017 budget presented by increasing the line for Stephen Ministry to \$3000 to include training new Stephen Ministers, a motion passed from the Administration Ministry to approve the amended 2017 budget (attached).

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve the Administrative Calendar for 2017 (attached).

Following some discussion, a motion passed to table a recommendation to change the regular times of stated Session meetings and Ministry meetings. A motion passed to refer this matter to a committee consisting of Rob Ables, Jackie Wynne, Bill Farrior, and Karen Kay to bring back a recommendation at the next meeting.

Education Ministry (Debra Mizelle)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve allowing the Youth to sell pancake breakfast tickets on Sunday, January 22, 2017 after both services.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve a Moment for Ministry for the Youth on January 29 for the Souper Bowl of Caring.

Mission Ministry (Dave Kemble)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve using the remainder of the Disaster Relief funds (about \$3000) to support efforts at First Presbyterian Church of Kinston for facilities repair.

The Ministry noted that the Mayfest Live Auction will be at Brook Valley Country Club on May 12, and that South Greenville Elementary School has asked for support for their Backpack Pals program. Dave Kemble has contacted Lori Cohens to inquire about specific requests.

Membership Ministry (Gibson McCall)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve having the services on April 30, 2017 conducted by Stephen Ministers.

The Ministry announced that homebound Communion will be served on February 19, and that the annual chili cook-off was held on January 18, with Bill Neely receiving the top vote.

Worship Ministry (Joe Asselmeier)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve moving Communion at the 11:00 a.m. service on March 5 to March 12 because of the children's musical presentation on March 5.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve using any donations for the Shrove Tuesday dinner on February 28 above and beyond the cost of food to provide scholarships for children attending the Montreat Worship and Music Conference.

The Ministry announced that a letter will be sent to the congregation concerning the rationale for having only one service in the summer (Memorial Day through Labor Day) and in the month of December. They also noted that Elder Assistant training will be on February 18.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer called attention to the financial report for the full year 2016. He said that overall it was a good year. Although income was down from expectations, overall spending was also down. A major influence on the budget was the information from Presbytery about new funding plans for Campus Ministry.

OTHER BUSINESS

A motion passed to approve the PCUSA annual statistical report for 2016 (attached).

Catherine Adams and Clay Britt were elected as Commissioners to the February 25 stated meeting of New Hope Presbytery at Cary Presbyterian Church.

The meeting was adjourned after a closing prayer by Bill Neely.

William K. Neely, Moderator

Richard Marks, Clerk of Session