

SESSION MINUTES
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GREENVILLE, NC
March 20, 2016

The Session of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, NC, held a stated meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 5:00 p.m. on March 20, 2016.

Elders present: Rob Ables, Joe Asselmeier, Kelly Barnhill, Jodi Boal, Vinse Bowers, Doug Boyd, Griff Burgwyn, Tyler Burgwyn, Sue DelVecchio, Morgan Farrow, Daniel Griffis, Debbie Hahn, Jeri Jackson, Karen Kay, Linda Kean, Dave Kemble, Allen Lyle, Gibson McCall, Debra Mizelle, Eric Money, John Ogle, Mark Phillips, Elizabeth Swaggerty, Betty Williams, Holli Williams, Tammy Worden, and Jackie Wynne.

Excused: Anne Mauldin, Ray Spears, Craig Stanley, and Annelle West.

Absent: Jane Steele

Others present: Bill Neely, Senior Pastor and Moderator, Steve Prevatte, Campus Minister, Dick Marks, Clerk of Session, Derek Perry, Church Treasurer, Confirmation Class members Kayce Dilday, William Farrow, Quin Harris, Brooke Keefe, Madeline Mizelle, Samantha Pabst, Logan Saad, Russell Silvernail, Thomas Silvernail, Mallory Williams, and Richard Williams, and sponsors Emily Coffman, Jessica Davenport, Wendy Farrow, Bobby Hutchison, Luann Manning, Malcolm McLeod, Mark Pabst, Georganne Perry, and Chris Riddle.

Moderator Bill Neely called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.; a quorum was present. Debbie Hahn led an opening devotional and prayer.

PEOPLE ARE IMPORTANT

Illnesses:

Special mention was made for Sarah Allen, Betty Bailey, Ashtyn Clark, Beth Clark, Martha Coffman, Jerry Cox, Jim Finch, Thelma Flye, Gladys Howell, Ben Lattin, Joe Sullivan, Elizabeth West (Pete West's mother), Linwood Winbourne, and Margie Wright.

Death:

Charles Whitten, father of Rosemary Hayes, on February 19, 2016.

Birth:

Anneliese Noelle Price, granddaughter of Charles and Susan Price, on March 11, 2016.

Baptisms:

Claire Elise and Harper Grace Shannon, daughters of Brian and Amy Shannon, on March 13, 2016.

Steve Prevatte offered a prayer which included those mentioned in concerns and celebrations.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

Suzanne Morrow addressed the Session on behalf of the Mayfest Committee requesting members of Session to help with gathering sponsors for the Live Auction. A motion from the Mission Ministry supporting this request was passed.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

Members of the Confirmation Class were asked to respond to two questions: What did you learn in the Confirmation Class that you didn't already know or that surprised you? and What excites you about joining First Presbyterian Church? After they responded, members of Session were invited to pose other questions. When there were none, a motion passed to suspend the questioning, sustain the examination, and approve the confirmands for membership. John Ogle offered a prayer of thanksgiving for the confirmands, their sponsors and their training. The confirmands and their sponsors were dismissed.

COMMUNICATIONS

A letter of thanks was received from Union Seminary for the \$7000 gift as part of our pledge.

Notification was received from the Presbyterian Foundation that the Smith/Joyner fund has been converted to a Permanent Fund.

The clerk received notification about the meeting to review Session records.

A letter was received from the PCUSA Mission Agency announcing applications for unrestricted funds by the Agency. It was passed to Mission Ministry.

MINUTES

Minutes were approved for the stated Session meeting of February 21, 2016, and the called Session meeting of March 20, 2016.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Administration Ministry (Kelly Barnhill)

Building use requests from the Ministry were approved for a) New Hope Presbytery Clerk's meeting for Session Records review in Room 133 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on April 4, 2016; b) New Hope Presbytery for Healthy Boundaries training in the Fellowship Hall and/or small room from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on April 16 and 19, and on November 12 and 15, 2016; c) Greenville recorder group for rehearsal in the choir room on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon; d) Community Pops for concerts in the Sanctuary from 6 to 8 p.m. on May 13, September 9, and December 9, 2016; e) Greenville Women's League for monthly meetings in the Fellowship Hall from 6:45 to 8:30 p.m. on March 21, April 18, May 23, June 20, August 15, September 19, October 17, and November 21, 2016; f) wedding of Melinda Thomsen and Hunt McKinnon on May 14, 2016 at 2 p.m., with rehearsal on May 13 at 4 p.m.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve Debra Mizelle as the chair of the 2016 Stewardship Committee.

A motion came from the Ministry to approve moving a power pole and adding a security light to remove the unsafe guy wire from the playground as part of the renovation. The pole will be located in the parking lot and will result in the loss of one parking space, but one could be gained by eliminating some of the hedge on the south side. A bed with curbing will be created around the pole placed in the parking lot. Greenville Utilities will not charge the approximately \$9000 originally planned for this move. After some discussion, the motion passed.

Worship Ministry (Joe Asselmeier/Tammy Worden)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve moving celebration of the Lord's Supper at the 11 a.m. worship service from May 1 to May 15.

The Ministry reminded Session members that volunteers helped with folding of palm crosses on Saturday March 19. They also are working on updates to the Bereavement and Sanctuary Guild policies.

Membership Ministry (Eric Money)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve Fred Wood and grandfather Eugene Shannon to be presenting Elders at the baptisms of Claire Elyse and Harper Grace Shannon.

The Ministry announced that homebound communion was served to 5 individuals.

Mission Ministry (Dave Kemble)

The Ministry announced that \$500 has been awarded to Michelle Money for a mission trip to the Dominican Republic and that the Mayfest Live Auction will be on May 13 at the Greenville Country Club, with food, band and a live auctioneer.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Perry called attention to the financial report through February and noted that although the expected income should be at 16.67%, it is only a little over 14%. He would like to see members focus on fulfilling their pledges in a timely manner. When 1st quarter data are available, they will be posted in the bulletin. He also said the cash balances and investments are in good shape. Overall, he thinks the financial status is fine for this time of year.

OTHER BUSINESS

Kelly Barnhill and Dave Kemble gave a report as Commissioners to the stated meeting of New Hope Presbytery on March 5.

Bill Neely reported that some members have approached him about the possibility of creating an opportunity for an educational trip to Israel. He has investigated the options available and found a trip from September 13 through 27. A motion passed (DeVecchio/Money) to allow Bill and Kathleen Williams to plan and lead this trip.

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

William K. Neely, Moderator

Richard Marks, Clerk of Session