

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

The Session of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, NC, held a stated meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m. on November 20, 2016.

Elders present: Rob Ables, Kelly Barnhill, Griff Burgwyn, Tyler Burgwyn, Sue DelVecchio, Morgan Farior, Daniel Griffis, Debbie Hahn, Jeri Jackson, Karen Kay, Dave Kemble, Anne Mauldin, Gibson McCall, Debra Mizelle, Eric Money, John Ogle, Jane Steele, Elizabeth Swaggerty, Betty Williams, Holli Williams, Tammy Worden, and Jackie Wynne.

Excused: Joe Asselmeier, Doug Boyd, Allen Lyle, Mark Phillips, and Craig Stanley.

Absent: Vinse Bowers, Linda Kean, and Ray Spears.

Others present: Bill Neely, Senior Pastor and Moderator, Dick Marks, Clerk of Session, Elders-elect Catherine Adams, Clay Britt, Jessica Davenport, Bill Farior, Sandy Jackson, Bill Lehman, Frances Mallison, Kathleen Randall, and David Webb.

Moderator Bill Neely called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; a quorum was present. Rob Ables led an opening devotional.

PEOPLE ARE IMPORTANT

Illnesses:

Special mention was made for Connie Bond, Beth Clark, Martha Coffman, Jim Finch, Thelma Flye, Ben Lattin, Genet Lilley, Caroline Ogle, Mary Jon Pabst, Greg Riddle, Mary Smith, Joe Sullivan, and Margie Wright.

Deaths:

Burt Aycock on November 10, 2016.
Bob Leith on November 3, 2016.

Marriage: Rachel Bond and Chris Haddock on November 5, 2016.

Baptisms: Addison Harvey (adult) and Logan Harvey (infant), on October 30, 2016.

Bill Neely offered an opening prayer which included those mentioned in concerns and celebrations.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

The Elders-elect present were examined about their background and training. Each was asked what surprised them or they learned in their training and why they were excited about becoming an Elder at this time. Following this and an opportunity for questions from the Session, a motion passed to sustain this part of their examination.

Before the Elders-elect were given the opportunity to leave the meeting, Stewardship co-chair Debra Mizelle gave a summary of the current status of the stewardship program and passed out pledge cards and "Worship Plus Two" brochures to all present with the urge to submit them as officers of the church.

COMMUNICATIONS

Thank-you letters or notes have been received for the church's contributions to Books From Birth: Early Literacy Coalition of Eastern North Carolina, Pitt County Council on Aging, and Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina.

The Clerk has reviewed current Membership Rolls with the office staff.

MINUTES

Minutes were approved for the stated Session meeting of October 16, 2016, the called Session meetings of October 30 and November 6, 2016 (2 meetings), and the called congregational meeting of October 23, 2016.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Administration Ministry (Kelly Barnhill)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve building use requests for: a) rescheduling of Greenville Cotillion to March 11, 2017 to make up for the flood-canceled event in October; b) Cub Scout Pack 452 Lions group on the 1st and 2nd Mondays in the K-1 classroom from 6 to 8 p.m.; c) Pack/Troop 452 in the Fellowship Hall on December 10, 2016 from 3 to 8 p.m. for a Christmas party; d) Sarah Cherry to use space in the church to locate a collection box for winter coats for the needy; and e) Princess of North Carolina to host An American Girl Tea Party on March 25, 2017 from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, with donations going to Victory Junction.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve 2017 Elder Ministry assignments (attached).

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve installing signage in the Welcome Center.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve a service contract with AED for defibrillator service (about \$150/yr).

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve having the Red Cross train 8 people (\$110 each) on use of the defibrillators.

After some discussion as to the purpose and expectations of having a congregational gathering, a motion passed from the Ministry to approve a congregational gathering in the Fellowship Hall on December 7 at 6 p.m. to hear a preliminary report and comment on a feasibility study for a capital campaign.

The Ministry noted that they have approved the Administration Ministry budget request for 2017.

Worship Ministry (Tammy Worden)

The Ministry noted that Advent preparation plans are in progress, with the Greening of the Church service on November 27. Registration opens for Montreat Worship and Music Conferences on November 15, and children and youth will attend Week 2 (for the first time), with adults attending Week 1. The Prayer for the Nation service was held on Monday, November 7 at 6 p.m., with the church open for prayer from 4 to 7 p.m.

Membership Ministry (Eric Money)

The Ministry will be looking to add \$3000 in the 2017 budget for Stephen Leader training.

Mission Ministry (Dave Kemble)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve designating the Christmas Eve Offering to be used to pay a month's mortgage for all 72 Pitt County Habitat for Humanity homeowners.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve Hurricane Matthew relief from the Disaster Relief Fund: \$1000 to Outreach Network; \$527 to Terrence Clemmons's mother, and \$500 to Health Gift.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve \$250 for a deposit for Emily Steele's Haiti Mission Trip scheduled for June 2017.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve Advent Alternative Giving opportunities as disaster relief from Hurricane Matthew and handbell/chime purchase.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve donation to Interfaith Clergy Network: \$1600 for rent, and \$3500 for a forklift battery.

The Ministry will invite Dale Kitchin to attend the December meeting to discuss Mayfest 2017.

Education Ministry (Anne Mauldin)

The Ministry will be requesting an extra \$2000 in the 2017 budget to support Youth Ministry.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Moderator called attention to the financial report through October and noted that although we are about \$9000 in the red, this should be taken care of with year-end receipts.

OTHER BUSINESS

A motion passed to change the time of the December stated meeting to December 11, 2016, immediately following the 11 a.m. worship service.

A motion passed to approve the request of Linda Wilms to be removed from the Active Roll.

Rob Ables gave a report as a Commissioner to the October 22 stated meeting of the Presbytery of New Hope.

The Moderator announce that a candidate for the Associate Pastor position had declined and that the committee would consider alternatives.

The Moderator also announced that the Rev. Wanda Neely had submitted her resignation as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Kinston to take a position as Transitional Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Morganton, NC.

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

William K. Neely, Moderator

Richard Marks, Clerk of Session