

SESSION MINUTES  
First Presbyterian Church  
Greenville, NC  
November 19, 2017

The Session of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, NC, held a stated meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm on November 19, 2017.

**Elders present:** Rob Ables, Catherine Adams, Kelly Barnhill, Clay Britt, Sue DeVecchio, Bill Fariior, Daniel Griffis, Debbie Hahn, Jeri Jackson, Karen Kay, Dave Kemble, Bill Lehman, Allen Lyle, Frances Mallison, Gibson McCall, Debra Mizelle, Dorothy Muller, Mark Phillips, Kathleen Randall, Elizabeth Swaggerty, and Jackie Wynne.

**Excused:** Doug Boyd, Linda Kean, Ray Spears, David Webb, and Holli Williams.

**Absent:** Griff Burgwyn, Tyler Burgwyn, Jessica Davenport, Sandy Jackson, and Will O'Rear.

**Others Present:** Bill Neely, Senior Pastor and Moderator, Amanda Hines, Associate Pastor, Dick Marks, Clerk of Session, Derek Perry, Treasurer, Kayce Dilday, and Gail Joyner.

Moderator Bill Neely called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; a quorum was present. Jackie Wynne led a devotional.

PEOPLE ARE IMPORTANT

**Illnesses:**

Special mention was made for Todd Ange, Betsy Baggett, Connie Bond, Beth Clark, Martha Coffman, Dawn Flye, Thelma Flye, Linda Kean, Ben Lattin, Lynne Marks, Malcolm McLeod, Michael Nelms, Wilma Piner, Joe Sullivan, Odell Welborn, Harriet White, and Margie Wright.

**Deaths:**

Pennie Johnston Dunn, on October 7, 2017.

Etta Rhea Bailey (sister-in-law of Betty Bailey) on October 22, 2017; and John Griffin Burgwyn, Jr. (father of Griff Burgwyn) on October 11, 2017.

Bill Neely offered an opening prayer, which included those mentioned under concerns.

COMMUNICATIONS

Two letters of thanks were received from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for support during recent disasters, and two more letters of thanks were received from owners of Habitat houses. A letter of thanks was received from Fellowship for Christian Athletes for support and use of church facilities.

A request for funds was received from New Hope Presbytery for the 2018 benevolence budget.

MINUTES

Minutes were approved for the stated Session meeting of October 15, 2017, the called Session meetings of November 12 and 19, 2017, and the called congregational meeting of November 12, 2017.

MEMBERSHIP ISSUE

A letter of transfer was approved for John and Cathy Moss to Wake Forest Presbyterian Church.

MINISTRY REPORTS

**Administration Ministry (Rob Ables) and Worship Ministry (Karen Kay)**

A motion passed from these two Ministries to approve dividing the communion table in the Sanctuary into two parts so that it may be moved more easily and safely.

The stewardship program has seen more pledges come in early, and they should be about \$8000-10,000 above the comparable period for last year. The budget planning should be in good shape.

**Education Ministry (Debra Mizelle)**

A motion passed from the Ministry for the Youth to have a cake auction on November 19, 2017.

The Christmas Joy program will be at 5 p.m. on December 3, 2017, with dinner at 6 p.m. and the Advent Festival following the meal.

**Membership Ministry (Gibson McCall)**

Homebound Communion was served on November 19, and the "opioid awareness" program was held on November 13, with about 60 people in attendance.

**Mission Ministry (Dave Kemble)**

The Angel Tree for residents of Winterville Manor is up in the Welcome Center, and presents should be returned to the church by December 10. The celebration for residents will be held on December 17.

**Worship Ministry (Karen Kay)**

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve having only one service at 11:00 a.m. on March 11, 2018 for the children's musical "In the Image."

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve sponsoring a piano recital on March 15, 2018 at 7 p.m. featuring ECU faculty and students. This will be another opportunity for dedication of the new piano.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve an organ recital by Dr. Adam Ward on April 15, 2018 at 3 p.m. A benefactor has donated funds to cover the expenses for this event.

The Ministry requests help for the "Greening of the Church" preparations on Tuesday, November 28, and Thursday, November 30 at 7 p.m. College students will help with the latter. Help is also needed for the reception after Bill Neely's retirement service on December 10 and special services during Advent.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Perry called attention to the financial report through October and noted that revenues and expenses should be at the level of 83.3%. Both are somewhat below this level, but overall the budget is in good shape, with the payment from ECU due soon, and stock transfers likely toward the end of the year. Compared to the past, we are in good shape. Moderator Neely talked about each of the church's permanent endowment funds with the Presbyterian Foundation that were included as information in the agenda packet.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Catherine Adams gave a Commissioner's report from the 102<sup>nd</sup> stated meeting of New Hope Presbytery, held in Goldsboro on October 28. Of special interest were the Honorable Retirement service for the Rev. Bill Neely and the positive report from the Commission on Ministry concerning the request of the Rev. Amanda Hines to become part of the Presbyterian Church, USA.

The meeting was adjourned after a closing prayer by Catherine Adams, which was the prayer offered by the Rev. Katie Crowe for Bill Neely during the retirement ceremony for him.

William K. Neely, Moderator

Richard Marks, Clerk of Session