

SESSION MINUTES
First Presbyterian Church
Greenville, NC
April 15, 2018

The Session of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, NC, held a stated meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm on April 15, 2018.

Elders present: Rob Ables, Catherine Adams, Shelley Basnight, Clay Britt, Carol Cutler, Jessica Davenport, Sue DelVecchio, Kayce Dilday, Bill Farrior, Todd Fraley, Linda Kean, Bill Lehman, Allen Lyle, Frances Mallison, Suzanne Morrow, Dorothy Muller, Mary Jon Pabst, Mark Phillips, Kathleen Randall, Ray Spears, Greg Steele, Elizabeth Swaggerty, and Jim Worden.

Excused: Doug Boyd, Jeri Jackson, and Jason Lee.

Absent: Will O'Rear, David Webb, and Pete West.

Others Present: David McNeilly, Interim Pastor and Moderator, Amanda Hines, Associate Pastor, Derek Perry, Treasurer, and Dick Marks, Clerk of Session.

Moderator McNeilly called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; a quorum was present. Dorothy Muller led a devotional for the meeting and an opening prayer.

PEOPLE ARE IMPORTANT

Illnesses:

Special mention was made for Betsy Baggett, Beth Clark, Martha Coffman, Vernetta Dean, Thelma Flye, Debbie Hahn, Jean Klein, Ben Lattin, Joyce Lewis, Michael Nelms, Ron Sessoms, Jr., Jane Steele, Joe Sullivan, Odell Welborn, Harriet White, Sarah Whitehurst, and Margie Wright.

Deaths:

Margaret Kugler, on April 4, 2018.

New Member:

Melissa Parks on March 18, 2018.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY – Examination of the 218 Confirmation Class

Brian Dilday presented the members of the 2018 Confirmation Class – Emma Margaret Adams, Samuel Theodore Adams, Sarah Michelle Ange, Corrine Arabella Denham, Madyson Gabrielle Dilday, Hallie Katherinie Faulkner, Seth Anderson Hardee, Stewart Christopher Hardee, Stella Antoinette Harris, Matthew Christian Matthijs, Lillian Kirby Ozimek, Charles Davenport Robertson, and Duncan Boyle Robertson. He asked each to introduce their Elder sponsors and some family members who were present. Pastor McNeilly then asked each confirmand two questions: What have you learned in the Confirmation Class study? And How will your faith help you make a contribution to the church and community? Following their responses, the floor was opened to questions from the Session. When there were none, a motion passed to approve these 13 young people for membership in the church. They will be recognized in the worship services on May 20.

SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY – New members

Maggie Ruth Clifton and Timothy Vernon Clifton were present asking to join First Presbyterian. After each had told some things about their faith journey, a motion passed to welcome them into membership of the church, she by letter of transfer from Williamsburg Presbyterian Church, Kingstree, SC, and he by profession of faith. Dave McNeilly offered a prayer of thanksgiving for all of these new members of the church.

MINUTES

Minutes were approved for the stated Session meeting of March 18, 2018.

MINISTRY REPORTS

Administration Ministry (Rob Ables/Dorothy Muller)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve building use requests for a) Thursday AA Living Sober Group in the basement Fellowship Hall from 8-9 p.m. on Thursdays; b) AA High Noon group in the basement Fellowship Hall from 12-1 p.m. Monday through Friday; c) overeaters Anonymous Monday, Thursday, and Saturday from 7-8 p.m. and 11:00-noon; d) AA Crossroads group in Room 202 from 7:30-9:15 p.m. on Wednesday [All of the previous were renewals of existing building use requests]; e) Terrence Clemmons in the Fellowship Hall on March 31 and July 28 for a bridal shower and a baby shower.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve a renewal of the parking contract with ECU, with a payment of \$4000 per game. The contract will be sent to the Board of Trustees for signature.

Rob Ables gave a report on the city-wide meeting on church security that he and Bill Farrow attended. He shared some of the suggestions that we might incorporate, and there was discussion about the impact on other ministries.

Education Ministry (Ray Spears/Elizabeth Swaggerty)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve the Youth collecting for a raffle and luminaries for Relay for Life on April 22.

Membership Ministry (Catherine Adams/ Bill Lehman)

The Ministry indicated that there will be an organizational meeting in June for the pictorial directory update. August 22 and 23 will be a time for taking pictures of college students and their families. Other members will have pictures taken from September 18 to 26.

The Ministry reminded all that church organizations should go through their ministries to announce their activities, thus avoiding conflicts.

Mission Ministry (Linda Kean/ Mark Phillips)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve a post-Mayfest workday on Saturday May 12, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve a congregation-wide Mayfest evaluation from May 6 through May 31, with forms available in the Welcome Center and a drop-box for completed forms nearby.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve a post-Mayfest meeting on June 9 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. to review the evaluations and prepare a closure report on Mayfest 2018.

The Ministry reported that the Mayfest planning and coordination meeting on April 7 was productive, and that Mayfest activities in the Fellowship Hall will begin immediately after the mission study planning lunch on April 22.

Worship Ministry (Sue DeVecchio/Kathleen Randall)

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve having recognition of PW Scholarship recipients as part of Senior Recognition Day in the 11 a.m. worship service on June 3.

A motion passed from the Ministry to approve having an option for the congregation for purchasing flowers for the Sanctuary on Sunday, since it has been difficult to fill the flower calendar. The option would be a donation to one of FPC's programs or missions and would be recognized in the bulletin by appropriate wording.

Usher training sessions will be held following both services on April 22. The Ministry is phasing out the Elder Assistant program, with heartfelt gratitude to all participants. The Ministry is exploring the efficacy and alternatives to radio broadcast of our services.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Derek Perry called attention to the financial report through March and noted revenues are at 18.5%, rather than the expected 25%, and that expenses are at 20.9%, leading to a deficit of slightly over \$19,000. He noted that at a similar time last year, the deficit was \$32,000. So we are in better shape this year than last at the same time, and he is not losing sleep.

OTHER BUSINESS

Several ministries requested an overall discussion about all of the sales that are taking place in came from discussions in several ministries recently. The Clerk informed the Session that in 2005, the Session approved a policy regarding sales in the church: "a) special offerings, approved by Session, are acceptable in the Welcome Center; b) selling of items in the Welcome Center is not acceptable; c) private sales to members will not be prohibited; and d) sales in the Fellowship Hall, with prior approval of the Session, are acceptable." Pastor McNeilly suggested that once all Mayfest activities are over, probably in June, a committee be formed to discuss this issue and bring back a recommendation to the Session. Anyone interested in serving on this committee should notify the Clerk of their interest.

A motion passed to approve the request of Gail Joyner and Jackie Wynne to resign from the Session, for personal reasons.

A motion passed to approve Dale Kitchin to preach at the 8:30 worship service on May 6 as part of this program on becoming a Commissioned Ruling Elder.

A motion passed to approve a presentation of a PW Honorary Life Membership during the 11 a.m. worship service on May 6 to a recipient who was unable to be at the fall gathering where others were honored.

A motion passed to elect Catherine Adams to replace David Webb as a Commissioner to the July Presbytery meeting.

The meeting was adjourned after a closing prayer by Dave McNeilly.

David McNeilly, Moderator

Richard Marks, Clerk of Session