

Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting
Faith Presbyterian Church
Tallahassee, Florida
October 22, 2017

1. Call to Order/Opening Prayer

The Stated Session Meeting of Faith Presbyterian Church was called to order and opened with a prayer in the Room 110 of Faith Presbyterian Church by the Moderator, Senior Pastor Brad Clayton, at 11:45 a.m.

The Ruling Elders (17) present were Linda Antwi, Randy Beach, Sue Colombo, Jill David, Charles Dodson, Janet Evans, Dennis Ferguson, Skip Forsyth, Michaela Fredrickson, Chip Jennings, Pam Leslie, Becky Miller, Caitlin Ray, Lewis Shelley, Frank Walper, Shaun York and Elaine Youngblood. **A quorum of at least one-third of the members of the Session was present.**

The Ruling Elders (4) absent with prior notice were: Leigh Ansley, Alison Denny, Charles Ranson and Vicki Weber.

Also present (4) were: Trinity Whitley (Teaching Elder/Associate Pastor), Barney Ray (Clerk of Session), Randy Zepp (Church Administrator) and Bobby Bull (Deacon).

2. Devotion Jill David provided the devotion.

3. Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Joys were expressed for Maggie and Dennis Ferguson's expected birth of their first grandchild, the help of the FSU Business Fraternity with the Pumpkin Patch and six people at the morning's centering prayer. Concerns were expressed for the Scalf family as Heather recovers from surgery, Sue Columbo's husband's surgery and the thousands of Floridians who are incarcerated.

4. Clerk's Report

- a. Approval of the Minutes –The Moderator asked if there were any discussion or recommended revisions to the minutes from the **September 24, 2017 Stated Session Meeting and the Congregational Meeting for the same date**. One spelling correction was offered to the State Session Meeting minutes. With this correction, **both minutes were approved**.
- b. Commissioners for 10/24 Presbytery Meeting in Pensacola - Janet Evans volunteered to go. Barney Ray will check with Elders not in attendance to see if one of them will attend as the other commissioner.
- c. Draft of the 2018 Presbytery Budget - Information was shared about the meeting in September at Faith for the eastern district of Presbytery about the proposed budget. Churches are being asked to consider increasing their giving to Presbytery in the next few years in order to fully fund a full time Presbyter position once someone is hired.

5. Pastor's Report –

- a. Officer Nominating Committee Update – Looking for some more names for deacon and need some men. The committee is meeting again Monday night.
 - b. 2018 Budget - The Moderator said that the Stewardship Committee did not set a goal this year. A goal of \$1.2M was set last year and total pledges and estimated non-pledged receipts received were \$1.1M. The Moderator stated that he would like to add the Manna on Meridian program to the general operating budget. He stated that committees will receive a financial report that will provide a multi-year historical budget and expenditure information. Committees will be asked what their budget would be if no increase and also if there were an increase in pledges. This information is needed for the December meeting.
 - c. Presbytery Meeting – Zac Morton is the keynote speaker who the Moderator knew from his time at Roswell, Georgia. Zac’s mission is in new church development. The Moderator said that he is on the Presbytery’s General Presbyter Search Committee. He said the advertisement was published and the search committee is reviewing personal information forms (PIFs).
 - d. Elementary School initiative. The Moderator met with a volunteer coordinator with Leon County Schools and she is recommending that we consider Allison Hankerson recently retired from Sealey. The Moderator mentioned that several members of the congregation have talked with him about this initiative. Among those members mentioned were Loranne Ausley, Lewis Shelley, Kate Kile and Pat Farrell. Additionally, Neil and Janet Evans used to volunteered at Sealey.
6. Youth Elder Report – Michaela Fredrickson reported that Nov 5th lunch with youth group and meet with other church youth groups to do the CROP and then Nov 19th Night of Service with other church youth groups.
7. Finance Report – Lewis Shelley reported that we are about \$35,000 in receipts above expenditures. Receipts are about \$45,000 below budget receipts for the year. We normally assume that these will catch up by the end of the year. We will likely send out a letter near the end of the year to remind people to send in their contributions to meet their pledges for the year.
8. Diaconate Report – Bobby Bull reported next week is Jubilee. The meal will be more a normal monthly church luncheon. CROP Walk is November 5th. CROP Walk bags will be distributed on October 29th. Angel Tree (coordinated by Mary Chiles again this year) Donated items due between Nov 19 and Dec 3.
9. Consent Agenda –
- a. Adults and Families Committee requested approval for Father Meninger coming to Faith around Thursday, March 1, 2018 for a lecture titled *Tools for the Spiritual Journey*. This will be a community wide event. He has requested a “free will offering” to be collected for St. Benedict’s Monastery. There should not be any cost to Faith.

- b. Management Committee requested approval of updates to Section F of Chapter IX, Use of Church Property and Resources of the church's policies and procedures. The updates were to bring the policies in line with the current technology used by the church such as using cloud file storage.
- c. Stewardship Committee rolls review.

The Moderator stated that he intended the Stewardship Committee item for rolls review to be on the action agenda and this item was so moved to that part of the agenda. The Moderator asked if anyone wanted to discuss any of the items on the consent agenda. Hearing no further requests, **the remaining consent agenda items were approved.**

10. Motions in Action Agenda

- a. Old Business – No old business on the agenda.
- b. New Business – Stewardship Committee Rolls Review

The Moderator explained the process for how these names were identified for the Session's consideration. He stated that many forms of communication were attempted and if no responses had been received and no records of participation in church activities could be identified over the past two years, the names were identified to remove from the church rolls. In cases where adult children of current members were identified, the parents were contacted as well to see whether or not the adult children should be removed or not. He stated that an annual rolls review is required by the Book of Order and that it had been two or three years since this had been done.

A list of names to remove from the Active Roll was provided to the Session in their Session packets and each name was read aloud by the Moderator. The names of members requesting removal from the active roll were identified separately in the packet from those with whom no communication had been received after repeated attempts.

The Moderator said that if any member of the Session wanted a name to be withdrawn from this motion, he requested that they attempt communication as soon as possible after the Session Meeting and that the results of that attempt be communicated to Stewardship Committee to determine whether to submit the names for removal from the Active Rolls at the next Session Meeting.

The following Session members requested names be removed from the motion: Charles Dodson to contact James G. Biggart, Stacey R. Biggart, Randy P. Murrell and Karen E. Murrell.

Alison Denny to contact Christy C. Cameron, Leslie S. Carlson, Michael Moody, Alexander N. Omstead, Austin N. Omstead and Courtney M. Omstead.

Sue Colombo to contact Gary M. McManama and Laura L. McManama.

Michaela Fredrickson to contact Paige P. Brey and Karen S. Martinez.

Lewis Shelley to contact Mathew R. Chapman, Lynne M. Moeller, Andrew B Oseroff and Carol E. Oseroff.

Bobby Bull (Deacon) to contact Sean K. Marston and Whitney F. Marston.

The Moderator also stated that a recent communication had been received from Richard Glover and E. Lynne Witherspoon and he was removing their names from the motion. **The remaining names in the motion were approved for removal from the Active Rolls.**

11. Items Not In Agenda – The Moderator asked if anyone had anything they wished to add to the agenda.

Associate Pastor Trinity Whitley stated that one person in the new member class, Kayla Hammer Turner, will need a baptism during the service on November 19th.

A called session meeting on the morning of November 19th is required to receive eleven (11) new members prior to the service. **A motion to approve the baptism of Kayla Hammer Turner was made and seconded. The motion was approved.**

12. Informational Items – A book talk on Thursday will be led by Sally Bradshaw. Friday night is a big night because so many people from our community come to Truck or Treat and the Scary Movie. The last Wednesday night on the Reformation is this week.

13. Communion - Holy Communion was observed to conclude the meeting at 1:11 p.m.

Actions of Session Approved by Email between September 24th and October 22nd

No actions were conducted by email.

The next Stated Session Meeting is December 3, 2017.

Respectfully submitted by

Barney Ray, Clerk of Session

Approved by Moderator

Brad Clayton, Senior Pastor