

Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting
Faith Presbyterian Church
Tallahassee, Florida
March 25, 2018

1. Call to Order/Opening Prayer/Devotion

The Stated Session Meeting of Faith Presbyterian Church was called to order and opened with a prayer in Room 110 of Faith Presbyterian Church by the Moderator, Senior Pastor Brad Clayton, at 12:00 p.m. The Moderator stated that he would like to move the item under the Action Agenda to immediately after the Clerk's Report so that Peter Pursino who normally does not Session meetings could be present to answer questions about the motion and leave once this order of business was completed.

The Ruling Elders (18) present were Lee Andre, Linda Antwi, Kevin Askew, Syauchen Baker, Keagan Barrett, Randy Beach, Sue Colombo, Ginny Dailey, Charles Dodson, Janet Evans, Dennis Ferguson, Cory Hill, Chip Jennings, Becky Miller, Caitlin Ray, Jason Taylor, Malukah Woody, Elaine Youngblood. **A quorum of at least one-third of the members of the Session was present.**

The Ruling Elders (4) absent were Skip Forsyth (out of town), Bill Hollimon (family illness), Charles Ranson (illness) and Frank Walper (recovery from surgery),

Also present (4) were: Trinity Whitley (Teaching Elder/Associate Pastor), Barney Ray (Clerk of Session), Randy Zepp (Church Administrator) and Peter Pursino (Director of Worship Arts).

2. Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Concerns were shared for Frank Walper, Ann Wild, John Neely and Keagan's friend Blake for their recent surgeries and Karen McGehee's health. The Moderator led the Session in prayer for those mentioned.

3. Clerk's Report

a. Approval of the Minutes

The Moderator asked if there were any discussion or recommended revisions to the minutes from the **March 3, 2018 Stated Session Meeting and the March 18, 2018 Called Meeting to receive new member.** Linda Antwi requested a correction to the Stated Meeting Minutes to reflect that the Spring Faith event on April 29th was for the purpose of volunteer recruitment and does not include volunteer appreciation. With the correction requested, **all minutes were approved.**

b. Communications

The clerk reported receiving a letter addressed to the Session from UKirk Board President Shannon Guse. The letter invited members to attend the inaugural concert fundraiser on Sunday, April 8th at 3pm and to their annual meeting on Tuesday, April 10th at 5:30pm. A dinner is planned as part of the meeting and reservations are requested by March 30th. The letter was circulated among the elders.

10. Motions in Action Agenda

a. The Worship & Music Committee

- i. Fellowship Hall AV System – Purchase of new system for Fellowship Hall for \$6,806.80 estimate from Music Masters.

Peter Pursino (Director of Worship Arts) was present to provide background to the motion and answer questions. He stated that the system is used by groups from the community that in addition to the church and it isn't easy to understand how to use. The proposed equipment would be much more user friendly for anyone to use. He mentioned that there were questions about bids. He said that Music Masters is really the only option in town and that we have a long and good history with them. He said that that in the past they have come out to provide technical assistance at no cost to the church. He said that Music Masters looked for the lowest prices for each item of equipment. Sue Columbo said she wondered why this item didn't come through the committees in the 2018 budget that was just approved. She said that two other requests were turned down in the past because they did not come through a committee. She said that the church policy requires more than one bid but doesn't state that it has to be the lowest bid. The Moderator said that it was his responsibility for why this wasn't in the budget request. He said that it was brought to Worship & Music Committee but that since it was a one-time request and that he was used to those not coming through the budget process. She mentioned according to the church policy that the Church Administrator receives bids over \$5,000. Peter said that he works with these types of vendors in his work with the school system as well. He said that the cost for an out-of-town vendor would be much higher due to travel costs to come to Tallahassee and install. Chip asked about what a delay would mean if this was not approved now. Peter mentioned that some programs have to either relocate to another room or not use the equipment. Jason Taylor asked if other components might need to be considered for replacement. Peter said probably not since they are newer. The equipment is much newer than the equipment in the Sanctuary which is about 20 years old. He said the sound board was about 5 years old. Ginny asked if a motion is needed or a second to the motion. The Moderator said it was a motion from the Finance Committee and would need a second.

Chip Jennings seconded the motion. Janet Evans called the question. After no further discussion, the Moderator called for a vote. **The motion was approved without dissent.**

4. Pastor's Report

- a. Officer Retreat April 20-21 or 27-28

The Moderator said that he had heard from several elders and deacons that they could not attend the 27th-28th weekend for the retreat. He said he would be driving back from a Synod meeting the weekend of April 20th-21st and would probably be late but he has people from Florida State University (FSU) facilitating the retreat and could join as soon as he returned. He asked elders about availability for either weekend or even the first weekend of May. After receiving input, he decided to keep the same dates of April 27th-28th. He

said that he plans to hold annual retreats in late January and asked everyone to put January 2019 on their calendars. The retreat will start with a dinner on Friday night and then meet for 2-3 hours before returning Saturday morning at 9am and finishing about 1pm.

b. Safety Meeting Update

In response to the recent shooting in Texas, the Session appointed a Safety Committee to study what, if anything, the Session should consider to address safety. The committee is still meeting but Church staff will have CPR training on the morning of April 26th and anyone else can attend just let Randy Zepp know. The committee is looking at documents from other churches and our preschool. He also met with a law enforcement officer to walk the grounds and received feedback for things to consider. The primary advice was to be vigilant and don't be scared to go up to someone to see if you can help them. Charlie Dodson asked if the CPR training could be videoed for those who cannot attend. Randy Zepp said an additional training class could be scheduled at night so that more people could attend. Malika Woody mentioned that a public awareness event called Press the Chest sponsored by the City of Tallahassee is usually held in the summer. She said that this doesn't provide certification but provides information for people to know about what they can do.

c. 2018 Mission Trip Update

The Moderator wanted to make sure that everyone is aware that the deadline for volunteering for the summer mission trip to Key West is April 1st which is next Sunday. He said he hoped that everyone would consider going and also for everyone to mention it in their groups. The cost is \$200 per person which is much less than international mission trips which cost \$700 per person last year. The dates for the trip are June 24th -30th and it is intergenerational for middle school ages and up with a parent or grandparent.

5. Youth Elder Report

Keagan Barrett reported that youth group is doing well. They did not have Sunday night programs the last two Sundays due to spring break however about six (6) youth showed up to help clean up at Sealey on Monday, March 19th. The high school Sunday School class had a discussion about Black Panther and then went to see the movie.

6. Finance Report

Randy Beach reported receipts are ahead of projections and expenses are less than projected so everything is looking good so far.

7. Diaconate Report

The Moderator reported that Lindsay Volpe is the new moderator for the Diaconate, Amber Dodson is the new vice moderator and Mary Steen is the Secretary. The Diaconate has organized into three major groups: service, fellowship and care. The Diaconate is reviewing our local charities to evaluate what they spend their money on and their mission statements which is something that hasn't been done in a long time. They will honor the budgets for each charity this year. For the Sealey Elementary School partnership, four (4) church volunteers have already gone through the process to

become volunteers and are currently volunteering at the school. Easter Breakfast is next Sunday and a sign up genius has been sent to the congregation for people to bring in food.

8. Stewardship Committee Report – Spring Faith on April 29th

Linda Antwi reported the responses from committees have been great. There are three committees who still need to contact Stewardship and Linda said she would reach out to them.

9. Consent Agenda –

- a. The Adults and Families Committee requested approval the ecumenical study *The Work of the People* for the Faith Fusions Sunday School class.
- b. The Stewardship Committee requested approval for the following actions to the church rolls:

New Members Received: Michael R. and Allison Ranson Amway (received into membership at the March 18th Called Session Meeting).

Request for Transfer by Letter from Active Roll: F. Thomas and Loraine V. Longerbeam to Lafayette Presbyterian Church (Tallahassee).

Baptisms: Michael P. Amway on 3/18/2018 and Kyler L. Zimmerman on 3/25/2018.

The Moderator asked if anyone wanted to discuss any of the items on the consent agenda. Hearing no further requests, **a motion was made and seconded to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda items were approved.**

11. Items Not In Agenda

The Moderator asked if anyone had anything they wished to add to the agenda. No such requests were made.

12. Informational Items

The Mission Trip Luncheon is April 15th and the Shelley's will be providing their Key West chicken for the luncheon. Mission team members will help with the logistics of the luncheon.

Randy Zepp said the Wednesday Night dinners are going well. He said 80 to 100 people have signed up each week this month but more were served because not everyone signs up in advance. They have not run out of food though.

Charlie Dodson said that we had a great turnout at the Church workday yesterday. However the bad news is that we have a leak somewhere on the church campus at a rate of about 100 gallons an hour. They've been working to find where it is but haven't found it yet.

Trinity said that she and Shannon Guse have been working to create monthly Young Adult Gatherings to try and build community for this group. They are excited to share that as a part of this work, they have received a grant to be part of a new cohort through Montreat that will help them with ideas and support as they continue to minister to this group. The cohort is called Young Adult Initiators. Montreat will support ten to fifteen small groups of young adults for a year with each group led by an initiator. The groups will be different experiences but will all model ways of being community. These initiators will attend two retreat meetings in Montreat at no cost and will receive ongoing support throughout the year. She and Shannon will travel to Montreat, April 11-13, for the first of their cohort retreats.

13. Communion - Holy Communion was observed to conclude the meeting at 1:02 p.m.

Actions of Session Approved by Email between March 4th and March 25th

No actions were conducted by email.

The next Stated Session Meeting is Saturday, April 28, 2018 following the end of the Officer Retreat.

Respectfully submitted by

Barney Ray, Clerk of Session

Approved by Moderator

Brad Clayton, Senior Pastor