Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting

Faith Presbyterian Church

Tallahassee, Florida

February 23, 2020

1. Call to Order/Opening Prayer/Devotion

After determining that everyone expected was present, 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, Associate Pastor Trinity Whitley, at 12:15 p.m. Lee Andre provided the devotion. Senior Pastor Brad Clayton was on leave.

The Ruling Elders (13) present were Linda Antwi, Bob Apgar, Lee Andre, Randy Beach, Ginny Dailey, Andee Harrison, Cory Hill, Lee Marsh, Mike Metz, Becky Miller, Charles Ranson, Linda Shelley, and Malikah Woody. **A quorum of at least one-third of the members of the Session was present.**

The Ruling Elders (7) absent were Syauchen Baker, Amanda Bevis, Neal Evans, Bill Holliman, Molly Novin, Jason Taylor and Frank Walper.

Barney Ray (Clerk of Session) and Randy Zepp (Church Administrator) and Allen McConnaughhay (Diaconate representative) were also present.

2. Sharing of Joys and Concerns –

A joy was expressed for the newest Ranson grandchild born this morning. Mike Metz shared that his eye surgery went well and he is back to work full time. Prayers for requested for Neal Evans, Kevin Askew and Duff Maki as they seek to heal from their respective health challenges. Jim Pumphrey and Liz Peters passed away and prayers were requested for their families. Prayers were requested for the Preschool Director search committee, candidates and the families affected by this decision. Prayers were requested for Caitlin Ray who is teaching in Seoul, South Korea and for everyone around the world dealing with the corona virus epidemic. The Moderator said a prayer for those mentioned by name.

3. Clerk’s Report

1. Approval of the Minutes - The Moderator asked if there were any discussion or recommended revisions to the minutes from the **January 26, 2020 Stated Session Meeting, the February 2, 2020 Called Session Meeting or the February 16, 2020 Congregational Meeting.** Ginny Dailey moved to **approve minutes as submitted. The motion received a second. The Moderator called for a vote of the motion. The motion was approved.**

4. Pastor’s Report –

1. New Officer Exam – Roy Youngblood (elder) and Shayne McConomy (deacon) were present to give their faith statements and were examined by the Session. A motion to sustained the examination and approve the candidates for installation was made and received a second. The Moderator called for a vote of the motion and it was approved.

5. Youth Elder Report – Molly Novin was absent.

6. Finance Report – Cory Hill reported said we are doing well compared to last year. He said he did not have an update on the 38 pledgers from last year who had not pledged yet this year.

7. Diaconate Report – Allen McConnaughhay reported Chad Linville is the new moderator and George Reynolds the vice moderator of the Diaconate. Blaine Click is lead on the church fellowship luncheons. They are making preparations for Easter Sunday. They are looking to fill the void on Wednesday nights by Liz Peters’ passing. The Van Iddekinge family will be moving to Iowa at the end of the school year for a new job so deacons are looking for a new coordinator to replace Chad for Manna on Meridian.

8. Communications Reports – Amanda Bevis was absent but the communication report was in the Session packet.

9. Consent Agenda – The Moderator asked if anyone had wanted to discuss any of the items on the consent agenda. Hearing no such request, the two motions were moved to the Consent Agenda.

a. The **Worship & Music Committee** recommended the Session’s approval of the following communion dates for 2020-2021.

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| Worship Services | Session Meetings |
| March 8, 2020 | February 23, 2020 |
| April 9, 2020 (Maundy Thursday) | March 29,2020 |
| April 12, 2020 (Easter) | April 26, 2020 |
| May 10, 2020 | May 31, 2020 |
| June 14, 2020 | July 26, 2020 |
| July 12, 2020 | August 23, 2020 |
| August 9, 2020 | September 27, 2020 |
| September 13, 2020 | October 25, 2020 |
| October 4, 2020 (World Communion Sunday) | December 6, 2020 |
| November 8, 2020 | Dates to be Determined |
| December 13, 2020 | Middle School Montreat |
| December 24, 2020 (Christmas Eve) | High School Montreat |
| January 10, 2021 | Family Retreat at Dogwood Acres |
| February 28, 2021 | Youth Retreat at Dogwood Acres |

b. The **Stewardship Committee recommended approval of the** Membership Report to reflect Thomas E. and Farra T. Noel as new members received on 2/02/2020. James Biggert as a member dropped from the Rolls. Joetta J. Heerma (1/16/2020), Lois Conn Easley (1/21/2020) and Kay S. Trammell (1/29/2020) as deceased. Jane Elizabeth Humphrey (1/26/2020) and McKenna Brook Noel (2/2//2020) as baptized. With these changes, the total membership of the church is 827 members.

Ginny Dailey moved to approve the consent agenda and a second to the motion was made. The Moderator called for a vote of the consent agenda. **The Consent Agenda was approved.**

10. Motions in Action Agenda –

a. The **Management Committee requested** the Session’s approval to direct the Management Committee to perform a feasibility study on the possible acquisition of the property contiguous to Faith’s southwest corner commonly referred to as the Girl Scout Building (250 Pinewood Dr).

The property owners (Girl Scout Council) are providing the church a chance to acquire the property without listing it for sale. The initial informal suggested selling price is $250,000 or $59.40 per square foot. A decision whether to proceed needs to be made no later than the 28th of April. The building was constructed in 1982 and while structural sound, a more close evaluation noted that a new roof, new siding, some window replacements and some bathroom renovations are needed.

Questions were asked about what types of purposes or programs were being considered for this property if acquired. Some different possibilities were mentioned such as expanding Manna on Meridian, Middle-school after school programs, housing a social worker and a few other ideas. The feasibility study would try and provide some different options. Someone asked if Management Committee was hiring a consultant or conducting the study internally. It was stated that the committee would discuss options with members of the church with special expertise. The reason that this motion was brought to the Session was to show the property owner that the church was very interested in the possibility of acquiring the property.

Hearing no further discussion and since the motion was coming from a committee and no second required, the Moderator called for a vote of the motion. **The Motion was approved.**

11. Items Not In Agenda – The Moderator asked if there were any items anyone wanted

12. Informational Items – Management & Finance Committees have identified a preferred on-line giving application to pursue for implementation. The merits of this application include better security and lower fees.

The church has hired True Waste for cleaning services in the Preschool to fill the gap left by Liz Peter’s passing. No solution yet for Wednesday night programs.

Each committee moderator provided verbal reports on initiatives and information to share with the Session.

# 13. Communion - Holy Communion was observed to conclude the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

**Actions of Session Approved by Email between January 26th & February 23rd**

An email was sent to members of Session on 1/28 to approve a request for a baptism for on Sunday, February 2 and that Worship & Music has approved it. The request was for a baptism of 13-year-old McKenna Noel. Her parents are joining the church that day and McKenna would like to be baptized at that time. **The request was approved by email vote of members of the Session.**

The next Stated Session Meeting is on Sunday, March 29, 2020.

Respectfully submitted by

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Barney Ray, Clerk of Session

Approved by Moderator

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Trinity Whitley, Associate Pastor