Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting

Faith Presbyterian Church

Tallahassee, Florida

May 22, 2022

1. Call to Order/Opening Prayer/Devotion and 2. Joys & Concerns

The Stated Session Meeting of Faith Presbyterian Church was called to order in the Fellowship Hall by the Moderator Dr. Brad Clayton and opened with a devotion by Alison Denny at 11:46 a.m. Joys and concerns were shared and the Moderator offered an opening prayer.

Elders (20) present were Courtney Atkins, Ruth Bedell, Aggie Bell, Leon Corbett, Alison Denny, Charles Hood, Stephanie Humphrey, Chip Jennings, Karen Linville, Laura Ketcham, Brittany Long, Angela Madden, Wayne McDaniel, Anita Parish, Lewis Shelley, Matt Sirmans, Ashley Spicola, Jason Welty and Roy Youngblood and Teaching Elder Trinity Whitley (Associate Pastor) was also present. **A quorum of at least one-third of the members of the Session was present.**

Elders (6) absent were Blaine Click, Curtis Jenkins (out of town), Robert Volpe (illness), Frank Walker III, Vicki Weber (out of town) and Carter Wilson (out of town).

Barney Ray (Clerk of Session) and Randy Zepp (Church Administrator) was also present.

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 April 24 2022 Stated Session Meeting, April 26 Called Meeting and May 1 Called Meeting. The Moderator asked if there were any revisions to any of the minutes presented. Hearing none, **the minutes were all approved as submitted by acclamation.**
2. Spring Presbytery Meeting Report – Karen Linville and Wayne McDaniel provided a report from the meeting on May 21st.

4. Pastor’s Report

1. Faith Worship by the Numbers – Numbers of in-person and virtually viewing of services were included in the Session packet.
2. Re-engagment – The Moderator discussed ideas for getting members re-engaged with the programs of the church. One example was to make direct and personal invitations to a member to help with a specific initiative rather than relying on mass communications such as emails asking for volunteers. He also stated that elder will be assigned specific Sunday’s to serve communion and they will be responsible for switching with another elder if they have a conflict.

5. Financial Report – Karen Linville reported that the finances are still doing very well. Roy Youngblood requested that only the balance sheet for the church and the preschool (single page) be printed for the Session packet in the future. The other pages of those financial reports will still come electronically to moderators of committees.

6. Diaconate Report – No deacon was present but the Moderator mentioned that summer breakfast before Sunday services begins May 30th. Deacons will service with set up and clean up. They will try to use dishes to wash rather than paper products when possible. Ashley Spicola asked if members who are not deacons but feel especially drawn to sustainable practices could be asked to volunteer to help with the breakfast set up/clean up to help fill the dates needed this summer.

7. Consent Agenda – The Moderator asked if anyone wanted to pull anything from the consent agenda for discussion. **Jason Welty moved approval of the consent agenda and Courtney Atkins seconded the motion**. **The consent agenda were unanimously approved.**

1. **Membership Report** presented for the Session approval included addition of twenty-one (21) new members received at the Called Session Meetings on April 26 and May 1 and the two previously approved baptisms at those meetings. Two deceased members reported as Kevin Askew and John Schimdt Jt. The total membership reported as 818 members.

8. Action Agenda

1. **Buildings & Grounds Committee** requested the Session approval to **designation of male and female bathrooms in Administrative wing as unisex handicapped bathrooms**. Charles Hood (from Buildings & Grounds Committee) provided some information about the motion. Discussion mentioned installing a baby changing station in those bathrooms if possible. **Motion was approved.**
2. **Evangelism Committee** requested the Session approval to **circulate electronic survey to congregation**. Laura Ketcham (from Evangelism Committee) provided some information about the motion. Discussion about when the survey would be sent (in June). **Motion was approved.**
3. **Personnel Committee** requested the Session approval to **waive the nepotism policy temporarily to allow Julianne Clayton to serve as full time interim for the Youth Ministry beginning June 1st and not to exceed six months or until a full time Director is hired whichever comes first. She would report to Associate Pastor Trinity Whitley. Julianne is not a candidate to fill the position long term.**  Ashley Spicola (from Personnel Committee) provided some information about the motion. **Motion was approved.**

9. Items Not In Agenda – The Moderator asked if there were any items anyone wanted have considered adding by a two-third’s (2/3’s) vote. No items were requested.

10. Information items – Alison Denny asked if elders could opt out from receiving printed copies of the Session packet and just use the electronic copy. The Moderator agreed with this request to save paper. Elders must email Renee opt out. Lewis Shelley asked the Church Administrator could be empowered to allow use of the Delta Court property by Sustainable Tallahassee. Charles Hood said that the Buildings & Grounds Committee heard the request at their last meeting but were not comfortable with allowing use of the building until further plans could be developed to perform maintenance and use of the building. The Moderator said that it is the Session’s responsibility to approve use of buildings.

The Moderator said that there are two baptism requests expected before the next scheduled Session meeting on July 24th and that he will send the requests to Session via email for approval by electronic vote.

The Moderator served communion and closed with prayer to conclude the meeting at 12:52 p.m.

**Summary of Motions Approved by the Session**

* **Approved of the minutes from the Stated Meeting of April 24 and the Called Meetings for April 26 and May 1.**
* **Approved the membership report and changes to the church rolls.**
* **Approved designation of male and female bathrooms in Administrative wing as unisex/handicapped bathrooms.**
* **Approved electronic survey to congregation from the Evangelism Committee.**
* **Approved temporarily waiving the nepotism policy to allow Julianne Clayton to serve as interim for the Youth Ministry beginning June 1st until a permanent candidate is hired or for six months whichever comes first and report to Trinity Whitley. Julianne is not a candidate for the position long term.**

**Actions of Session Approved by Email between April 24, 2022 & May 22, 2022:** No actions were requested by email.

Respectfully submitted by

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Barney Ray, Clerk of Session

Approved by Moderator

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Dr. Brad Clayton, Senior Pastor

***~ To God Be the Glory ~***