

Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting  
Faith Presbyterian Church  
Tallahassee, Florida  
August 26, 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 the Parlor of Faith Presbyterian Church by the Moderator, Senior Pastor Brad Clayton, at 11:45 a.m. Lee Andre provided the devotion.

The Ruling Elders (17) present were Lee Andre, Linda Antwi, Keagan Barrett, Randy Beach, Sue Colombo, Ginny Dailey, Charles Dodson, Janet Evans, Dennis Ferguson, Skip Forsyth, Cory Hill, Chip Jennings, Becky Miller, Charles Ranson, Jason Taylor, Malikah Woody and Elaine Youngblood. **A quorum of at least one-third of the members of the Session was present.**

The Ruling Elders (4) absent were Kevin Askew, Syauchen Baker, Bill Hollimon, and Frank Walper. Associate Pastor Trinity Whitley (Teaching Elder) was also present.

Also present (4) were: Amber Dodson and Jacob Taylor from the Diaconate, Church Administrator Randy Zepp and Clerk of Session Barney Ray.

2. Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Joys were shared by Chip Jennings for the expected birth of the first child of his former tennis coach. Janet Evans shared a joy for the birth of a granddaughter (Riley Addison Evans) born on Friday. Sue Colombo shared a joy for the new coffee bar in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday night and Sunday morning. Charles Dodson shared joys for the great turnout at yesterday's church workday and the work of Randy Zepp. Becky Miller and Lee Andre shared joys for the Splash Party and lock-in. The Moderator shared a joy for the church staff that got the new program year started and for the great job they do getting the facilities ready for every event. Concerns were shared by Charles Ranson for Wanda McBride (health) who is in a good nursing home that knows how to care for her condition but that she is not doing well. Chip Jennings shared a concern for the family of Senator John McCain who recently passed away but a joy for his life and service.

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 **July 22, 2018 Stated Session Meeting**. None were mentioned. **The minutes were approved as submitted.**

b. Approval of Commissioners for October 30<sup>th</sup> Presbytery Meeting

**Janet Evans volunteered to attend as a commissioner.** The Moderator requested that elders check their calendars for this date as we still need one more commissioner to serve.

c. Correspondence – The Clerk read a letter from Sally Bradshaw (member) expressing her appreciation to the Session for approving at their July meeting her use of the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for the literary event she is hosting. She stated that she believed this would be a wonderful opportunity

to expose Tallahassee to our Faith Church community. She said she would keep Brad Clayton, Randy Zepp, Sue Colombo and the library committee in the loop as she plans the event and she promised that her team would act professionally and with great respect towards our facilities and church traditions.

#### 4. Pastor's Report

Long Range Planning Committee Update - Charles Ranson reported that the committee of about 12 members was launched in June but with the summer vacations it has limited participation each meeting. He has made presentations to several church committees to help spark and facilitate discussion. He has asked committees to tell him what they would like to see at Faith in 10 years. He hopes to have responses from all committees by mid-September. He said they will also send out a survey to the entire membership and create focus group activities. He hopes to have something to bring to the leadership group and the Session in December 2018 or January 2019. The Moderator encouraged everyone to participate in this process.

#### 5. Youth Elder Report

Keegan Barrett reported that the summer high school Montreat trip went really well. She said that 39 youth and 7 adults attended. The theme was *Lift Every Voice*. The weather was great. There were no problems. Youth group kickoff was last Sunday night with some new families attending. The Rock the Universe trip (13 youth) is the next big event in two weeks. Sunday school is going well. Confirmation class is very big this year. Pumpkin patch meetings are beginning.

#### 6. Finance Report

Randy Beach reported that the finances are looking pretty good. They compare favorably with last year's finances. He said that he expects we will have another surplus this year.

#### 7. Diaconate Report

Amber Dodson reported that they are setting up electronic sign up opportunities for several needs such as ushering and for special events. Attendance at Diaconate meetings has lagged and they are creating incentives to help increase attendance. The next church luncheon is on September 23<sup>rd</sup> which is the day as the next State Session meeting.

#### 8. Consent Agenda –

- a. The Stewardship Committee requested approval for the following actions to the church rolls:
  - Members to be Dropped from Active Roll (G-2.0609) Per Their Request: C. Gary Williams and Wendy S. Williams.
- b. The Worship & Music Committee requested approval for
  - David Ernest Craig and Billie Ruth Sytsma request to use the Parlor for a small family wedding, Nov. 24th, 4:00 p.m. Ministers for the wedding are Caroline Craig Proctor and Allen Proctor who are both ordained Presbyterian Ministers in Asheville, N.C.
- c. The Youth & Families Committee requested approval for the following items:

- Allow the use of *The Seven Pillars of Creation: The Bible, Science, and the Ecology of Wonder* as resource for Sheldon Steen to craft/write lessons for Wednesday night high school Bible study.
- Allow the use of *Faith Questions* for the high school Sunday curriculum.
- Allow book club on book *Dear Martin* by Nic Stone and funding for a high school and parent field trip to Atlanta to visit MLK JR. sites in early November.

The Moderator asked if anyone wanted to discuss any items on the consent agenda. Hearing no such requests, he received a motion to approve the consent agenda which received a second. He called for a vote of the consent agenda. **All remaining consent agenda items were approved.**

9. Motions in Action Agenda - No items to consider.

10. Items Not In Agenda

The Moderator asked if there were any items not on the agenda that anyone wished to have considered. No requests were made.

11. Informational Items - Ginny Dailey reported that the Witness Committee minutes were submitted too late for the Session packets. She said she would forward to everyone next week.

12. Communion - Holy Communion was observed to conclude the meeting at 12:24p.m.

**Actions of Session Approved by Email between August 26<sup>nd</sup> and September 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Email vote was requested on September 11 to approve a baptism. Faith members Amanda and Brewster Bevis requested for Brad Clayton to baptize their 5-month old son, Ford, on September 23. Faith members Amanda and Brewster Bevis have requested that Brad baptize their 5-month old son, Ford, on September 23.

The next Stated Session Meeting is Sunday, September 23, 2018.

Respectfully submitted by

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Barney Ray, Clerk of Session

Approved by Moderator

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Brad Clayton, Senior Pastor