

Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting
Faith Presbyterian Church
Tallahassee, Florida
April 28, 2019

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 room 110 of Faith Presbyterian Church by the Moderator, Senior Pastor Brad Clayton, at 11:48 a.m. Linda Antwi provided the devotion.

The Ruling Elders (15) present were Lee Andre, Linda Antwi, Bob Apgar, Kevin Askew, Randy Beach, Amanda Bevis, Ginny Dailey, Neal Evans, Andee Harrison, Cory Hill, Becky Miller, Molly Novin, Charles Ranson, Frank Walper and Malika Woody. **A quorum of at least one-third of the members of the Session was present.**

The Ruling Elders (6) absent were Syauchen Baker, Bill Hollimon, Lee Marsh, Mike Metz, Linda Shelley and Jason Taylor.

The Church Administrator Randy Zepp, Diaconate Representative Allen McConnaughay, and the Clerk of Session Barney Ray were also present. Associate Pastor Trinity Whitley (Teaching Elder) was on maternity leave.

2. Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers were requested for Mollie's grandfather's best friend Neal, Al McCully, Betsy Fisher, Karen McGhee, Duff Maki and Brad Clayton's father.

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 **following meetings:**

- March 31, 2019 Stated Session Meeting
- March 31, 2019 Called Session Meeting for new members
- March 24, 2019 Called Session Meeting for new members

A few grammatical changes were identified to the 3/31 Stated Meeting Minutes and to add Molly Novin as present in the 3/24 Called Session Minutes. With the proposed revisions, a motion was made **to approve all minutes. The motion received a second. The Moderator called for a vote of the motion. The motion was approved.**

b. Confirmation Exam April 30th at 6pm – Cory Hill, Kevin Askew, Lee Andre, Malika Woody, Frank Walper and Ginny Daily indicated they would attend the meeting. The Clerk will send out an email to all elders asking for at least one more to attend to have a quorum of one-third of the Session present.

c. Spring Presbytery Meeting at Lynn Haven on May 21st. Two commissioners from Faith are needed to attend this meeting. Elders are requested to check their calendars and let the Clerk know if they can attend.

d. A letter received from Sheldon Steen at UKirk Tallahassee inviting elders to attend their annual meeting on May 14th at 5:30pm. The letter asked for RSVP communications for dinner by May 3rd.

4. Pastor's Report –

- a. Focus 2019 Update – Strengthening Connectedness in the Church and with the Community – The Moderator and Neal Evans shared that Faith was honored by Leon County School Board as Partner of the Year for its work at Sealey Elementary School. Faith volunteers held a Teacher appreciation event at Sealey Elementary recently. The church hosted a trivia night on Wednesday night that was an intergenerational event which was a goal from last year for camping but was mentioned for this year as another type of event. Ginny Dailey announced that Manna Mission received a special local award and \$500. A luncheon is planned in May for Manna volunteers. Frank Walper shared that Evangelism Committee is looking to update the policies & procedures for their committee. He mentioned that they gave out 200 invitations to attend Easter services at Manna and new member welcome communications were sent to the congregation. They are also looking to establish some more partnerships across committees. Randy Zepp shared that Building & Grounds Committee is planning to freshen up the Fellowship Hall since it is used by many community groups. Linda Antwi said that Stewardship Committee is connecting with all committees to develop a narrative budget to share with the congregation. Malika Woody said that the Adults & Families Committee may change their meeting date from Monday night to another day to increase attendance at monthly meetings. They are also going to try to track attendance at their events and to seek congregation input for ideas and suggestions for future events.

Ginny Dailey shared that the Witness Committee has continued to organize local mission trips to the Panhandle. She said the Preschool Board is fundraising to fully fund four full time scholarships to the preschool. Molly Novin shared that Youth & Families is planning a retreat to Dogwood Acres and that they want to recruit a couple of more youth to serve on the committee. For the Children & Families Committee, Lee Andre said that Vacation Bible School is full and that a waiting list has been started. She said the Easter Egg Hunt was well attended and provided an opportunity to share with the community about Faith programs. Andee Harrison said Worship & Music Committee is going to start tracking the metrics of the many events they sponsor. The Moderator passed out copies of the list of volunteers from the recent church survey. He will have Cheri email the spreadsheet to everyone for use including the Diaconate. He said we need to contact these people in the next 30 days to get them connected. Ginny Dailey mentioned that there were only 66 names on the list and said this seems smaller than the past. The Moderator said we need to especially contact new members on the list or people we don't think are currently connected. Ginny charged all committee moderators to contact people on the list in the next month and report back on who they contacted. Frank said that Evangelism will contact new members from the past year to find out if they are connected. Everyone was asked to contact at least 5 members and report back to the Moderator.

- b. Long Term Strategic Plan (LTSP) Update – The Moderator reported that another meeting was held since the last Session Meeting. Ruth Reynolds presented on national trends in religion. The no affiliations group has grown into the largest group nationally. September 1st is the target date to launch the LTSP survey. There was some discussion among elders about the need know everything that this church does currently before we can decide what we may need to give up. We need to know what we could do better before we start new programs or

initiatives. Ginny Dailey mentioned that Chad Van Iddekinge is collecting an inventory of all programs and events to include in the survey.

- c. Thank you Note to Pledgers Update – The Moderator said the Stewardship Team completed all of the remaining Thank You cards. Linda Antwi said that she has received several positive comments from members who received the cards.

5. Youth Elder Report – Molly Novin reported that a survey was sent out to parents of youth about starting a youth choir. They received 25 responses back from parents. They also want to survey youth. They are planning for a Y&F retreat at Dogwood Acres and planning for the Montreat Youth Conference in July.

6. Finance Report – Randy Beach reported that the financial trends continue to be good.

7. Committee Reports – The Moderator asked if there was anything anyone wished to share or highlight. Neal Evans said that the Management Committee seeking to get a certificate to secure our (internet) lines and that Shaun York is exploring options to recommend. He said the committee is thinking about creating some templates to standardize all policies and procedures for the church. Lee Andre said that Children & Families Committee is planning for a Splash Party and Mother's Day. Bob Apgar said Personnel may propose a part time position to help with coordinating volunteer recruitment and coordination. Ginny Dailey said that the Outreach Committee is fundraising for Guatemala mission trip which was funded for 16 people at a total of \$10,000. However since 28 are signed up to go, they are looking to raise \$12,000.

8. Diaconate Report – Allen McConnaughay reported that Manna is still going strong, that Easter breakfast was a success and that Easter lilies were delivered after the services. The deacons are happy to have a summer reprieve from Wednesday night meals and dish washing. He said their next meeting is May 9th. The deacons thought that having the breakfast in-between two services on Easter worked out well. It allowed deacons to attend one service either before the breakfast or after the breakfast.

9. Consent Agenda –

- a. **Witness Committee recommended approval of Guatemala Solicitation Email to Congregation**

- b. Youth & Families (Y&F) Committee requested permission to host a viewing of the documentary *Screenagers*. The cost of hosting the film is \$650, which will come out of Y&F budget. The movie will be shown to parents and youth of Faith and other PC(USA) churches in our area.

The Moderator asked that after reading the information provided with each motion, did anyone want to remove an item from the consent agenda for discussion. Hearing no such requests, the Moderator called for a vote of the motion. **The motion was approved.**

10. Motions in Action Agenda

Children & Families Committee called for action on the Fire Evacuation and Policies which should be posted in each Sunday School Classroom. We also decided there was need for a fire drill.

Lee Andre said that the recent fire alarm malfunction during Sunday school classes brought to their attention that we need to have the procedures posted in each classroom and the need to hold a fire drill during a Sunday school hour at a date to be determined.

The Moderator asked if there were any discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote of the motion. **The motion was approved.**

11. Items Not In Agenda – No items were mentioned.
12. Informational Items – No items were mentioned.
13. Communion - Holy Communion was observed to conclude the meeting at 1:12 p.m.

No actions of Session Approved by Email between March 31st & April 28th

The next Stated Session Meeting is on Sunday, May 19, 2019.

Respectfully submitted by

Barney Ray, Clerk of Session

Approved by Moderator

Brad Clayton, Senior Pastor