

Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting
Faith Presbyterian Church
Tallahassee, Florida
May 19, 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 12:15 p.m. Malikah Woody provided the devotion.

The Ruling Elders (19) present were Lee Andre, Linda Antwi, Kevin Askew, Syauchen Baker, Randy Beach, Amanda Bevis, Ginny Dailey, Neal Evans, Andee Harrison, Bill Hollimon, Cory Hill, Lee Marsh, Mike Metz, Becky Miller, Molly Novin, Charles Ranson, Jason Taylor, Frank Walper and Malikah Woody. **A quorum of at least one-third of the members of the Session was present.**

The Ruling Elders (2) absent were Bob Apgar and Linda Shelley.

The Church Administrator Randy Zepp, Diaconate Representative Shellie Camp, and Associate Pastor Trinity Whitley (Teaching Elder) were also present. Clerk of Session Barney Ray was absent. Malikah Woody served as clerk for the meeting.

2. Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers for Trinity and the Wilson family; Trinity's uncle (mother's brother) passed away. Brad asked for prayers for Connie Alford's family. Connie passed away. Molly shared that it has been 1 year since Marshall Fisher passed and asked for prayers for his mother. Joys-Sheryl Ranson has 1st infusion and immunotherapy at Moffit. It went well. Molly's French exchange student is now leukemia free. Neal Evans had his last treatment for bladder cancer.

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:**

- April 28, 2019 Stated Session Meeting
- April 30, 2019 Called Session Meeting for Confirmation Examination
- May 5, 2019 Called Session Meeting for Confirmation Examination

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. Commissioners for Presbytery Meeting on May 21 – Brad asked if any session members are available to attend. None responded. Trinity suggested looking into whether other commissioned elders would be able to attend instead. The session agreed with this idea and supports moving forward.

4. Pastor's Report –

Brad read a thank you card from First Presbyterian Marianna. Faith sent \$16,000 for Hurricane Michael relief.

a. Focus 2019 Update – Strengthening Connectedness in the Church and with the Community –Ginny Dailey: The preschool has 3 sub committees. They did not previously have much connection to church members, but there are now 53

church members on the preschool committees. Guatemala team ramp build took place 5/18/19. The home owner was very grateful, a neighbor helped and the lead contractor, JC was great. Neal Evans reported that an electronic communications “chat room” is being considered and mentioned that Skip Forsythe has suggested periodic moderator opportunities. Frank Walper states that 21 new adult members have joined so far in 2019 (34 if confirmation class included). The new member profile with photos and bios has received very positive reception. Frank stated that 1 out of every 10 attending service is a new member and encourages current members to introduce themselves to others as part of our connectedness efforts.

- b. Long Term Strategic Plan (LTSP) Update – The Moderator recapped that the last committee meeting was held 5/16/19. At the meeting, he gave a presentation on those with no religious affiliation, called “Nones”. Robert Volpe gave an update on the physical space at Faith including how interior and exterior spaces are used. The next meeting will focus on the upcoming survey that Chad Van Iddekinge is developing.
- c. Time and Talent Follow-Up Update – The Moderator reminded Session that members were asked to make phone calls to people who filled out Time and Talent forms, then email updates to Cheri with a CC to Brad.
- d. Gift from Estate of Carolyn Brown – The Moderator recommended that the monetary gift get deposited into a non-designated funds account. **A motion was made and seconded. The motion passed.**

5. Finance Report – Randy Beach reported that giving is down by about \$35,000 from last year. However, the church has budgeted for \$42,000 less from last year.

6. Committee Reports – Neal Evans spoke about management and enhancing the use of the Shelby website and attendance data. Worship service counts and head counts are beginning to include children. He is working with Frank to input visitor data. Malukah Woody reported that the Adult and Families bulletin board was updated to highlight the theme of connectedness. Becky shared that Children and Families has collected more info about their Easter event attendees. Eight neighborhood children, who are not current members, went to the event. Fire procedure needs to be updated and information should be displayed on the walls. The splash party is scheduled for 6/8/19 and will celebrate and welcome the summer intern. Holly Pursino is in leading the music for VBS. Dogwood Acres is seeking camp counselors. Linda Antwi reported that Stewardship is looking into updating their plans and developing procedures on how to store information from the Time & Talent surveys. The committee is also looking at how to thank givers who do not pledge. Ginny Dailey represented Witness and Preschool. She spoke about going to Guatemala in June and collecting supplies for the trip. The mission fundraising lunch was very successful. The preschool is establishing diversity scholarships. A Trike-A-Thon is being held to raise money. \$3,600 has been raised so far. The goal is \$36,000. An email to all church members asking for support went out and the alumni association is planning a Homecoming weekend to raise funds. Checks can be made payable to “Faith Preschool” with “Scholarship” in the memo line. Frank noted that VBS Sunday will be held June 22nd and VBS attendees will be invited to

service. This is another way for Faith to reach out to the larger community. Randy Beach shared that Building & Grounds is getting proposals for new flooring in the Fellowship Hall.

7. Communications Reports –Amanda Bevis; This committee was born from the retreat held earlier in the year. The focus is on improved communications with members. They have held one meeting so far. Cheri advised on all the various forms of communications Faith can engage in and the committee has decided to focus on social media since it is the most wide-reaching with the least effort. So far, the team has identified that Faith reaches about 150 people with each Facebook post, but 300 with FB live video posts. Moving forward, info will be provided to place in the session packet so everyone can be aware of the metrics. To facilitate more social media posts, more administrators have been added to the page and are allowed to post. EventBrite is being used to publicize and contact people with automatic reminders and other helpful features. A second meeting is coming up. Those who wish to help can do so by sharing posts, inviting people to follow online and confirming attendance for events on Facebook.

8. Diaconate Report – Shellie Camp; The Fellowship lunch went well. Meals on Wheels needs more kitchen volunteers and more delivery volunteers for Monday 5/27/19. An email will go out to the congregation to recruit help. Martha ministries is also in need of more volunteers.

9. Consent Agenda –

- a. Youth & Families: Tough Topics Summer Curriculum
- b. Personnel: Modified Health Insurance Policy-This item was discussed earlier in the meeting with the consent of the moderator. **Motion made to table this item and item 9c for later discussion. Motion seconded and approved.**
- c. Personnel: Modified Description of Duties for Policy Manual- This item was discussed earlier in the meeting with the consent of the moderator. Neal Evans expressed that this description of duties is redundant and already in the policy manual.
- d. Membership Report- This item was discussed earlier in the meeting with the consent of the moderator.

The Moderator asked if there was additional discussion needed. A **motion was made to approve. Motion seconded and approved.**

10. Motions in Action Agenda

- a. Gift from Carolyn Brown-Motion approved earlier in meeting. See item 4d.
- b. Personnel: Part-time Volunteer Coordinator. Neal Evans requested the opportunity to discuss earlier in the meeting than scheduled. The Moderator permitted discussion at the beginning of the meeting. Jason Taylor introduced the topic and provided details. Faith is considering a Part-time Volunteer Coordinator to work 10-20 hours per month, help with Shelby, coordinate people, events and locations. The cost would be approximately \$10,000 per year. Jason asked for permission to explore this potential need and consider the budget possibilities. Frank Walper **Motioned to explore.** Neal Evans expressed reluctance to move forward without figuring out how to pay for it first. He spoke about learning Shelby and its functions the past 4 months and suggested working to find out exactly what the church needs a coordinator to do. Lee Marsh clarified

that he thought Jason was proposing the opportunity to explore the potential need and define the role. Frank added historical perspective stating that this is the 2nd time the desire for a Volunteer Coordinator has been brought up, the first time being 15 years ago. Molly Novin added that Youth thinks it's a good idea to have a coordinator. Charlie Ranson asked a question to further clarify whether the motion is to hire vs. Explore the need and put together a job description. Jason confirmed that the request is for exploration only at this time. Cory Hill **seconded the motion and the motion passed.**

11. Items Not In Agenda – No items were mentioned.
12. Other – None
13. Communion - Holy Communion was observed to conclude the meeting at 1:19p.m.

No actions of Session Approved by Email between April 28th & May 19th

The next Stated Session Meeting is on Sunday, July 28, 2019.

Respectfully submitted by

Malikah Woody, Acting Clerk of Session

Approved by Moderator

Brad Clayton, Senior Pastor