

First Presbyterian Church
183 West Main Street
Cartersville, Ga. 30120

Meeting: Session
Type: Stated Monthly
Moderator: Dr Mike Anderson
Date: September 18, 2018
Place: Cornerstone Room
Time: 7:00 PM

Elders present

2019: Rich Gaffoglio, Jean Gilliland, Mary Gilreath, Perry Rentz, Randy Thompson

2020: Phil Bridges, Tinsley Cline, Brad Hughes, Nancy Kelly, ~~Scott Panter~~

2021: Craig Clark, Marilynn Devine, Paul Green, Janet Martin, ~~Kyle Russell~~

Others present:

Amy Bergman, Brandon Bowen, Jo Clark, Melinda Mauney, Kim Rentz, Renee Shields, Sharon Sullins, Wes Sullins

A quorum was present. The meeting was opened with prayer by Dr Anderson and then called to order.

Docket Approval: Craig Clark moved to approve the Docket which was Approved Unanimously.

Congregational Care Report:

Mike reported that Joe Noble (blood clots) is back at home, Tom Nebergall (infection) is in the hospital, and Jackie Thompson's father is having a biopsy.

Clerk's Report:

The Minutes from the 8/21/2018 Stated Meeting of the Session on a motion by Randy Thompson were Approved Unanimously after some name spelling corrections.

There was an affirmative email vote by the Session after our last stated meeting approving a request by Dolly Pardon Productions to use the rear parking lot on 9/12/2018 for a turn-around point during the filming of a NetFlix series. There were no dissenting votes.

A request by Doris Dockery to move her membership to the Episcopal Church in Blairsville where she now resides with her son on a motion by Randy Thompson was Approved Unanimously.

Board Reports

Deacon's Report: No Report

Hands of Christ: No Report

Preschool Report: Rich Gaffoglio reported that approximately 100 children are currently enrolled and that they are dealing with some teacher turnover. A love offering for Preschool Para-Pro Madison West who has moved to Charlotte, NC suggested by Perry Rentz will be considered. We currently have Preschool Co-Directors (Lindsay Scoggins and Beth Weathersby) with plans to transition to Lindsay Scoggins as Director in 2019.

Committee Reports

Hospitality Ministry: On a motion by Randy Thompson, Amy Bergman was Approved Unanimously to speak on behalf of the Hospitality Committee and presented a written 'Hospitality Ministry Proposal' to the Session. Amy's request which comes as a motion from the Hospitality Committee was: (1) to cease using Sam Jones for catering in favor of Genella Hedeisky (Aroma Mill Bakery) and Scott's Walk-Up BBQ; and (2) to increase the Wednesday Night Dinner suggested donations (on the honor system) to \$10 per adult (\$28 Maximum per Family), \$5 Children 10 & Under (Children under 3 eat free), \$7 per Senior (age 60+), and \$5 for Leftover To-Go plates. The Session Approved Unanimously these recommended changes on a 3 week trial run basis.

Worship: Nancy Kelly reported that World Communion Sunday is October 7, 2018 and the next 5th Sunday (Joint Services) will be on September 30, 2018. The Worship Committee has the year mapped out.

Faith Development: Jean Gilliland reported that the Bible in 90 Days initiative is still going well. Our 8th Grade and older youth will assist with ushering and liturgy in the days ahead. Craig Godfrey plans to start and lead a 4th Adult Sunday School Class.

Mission: Brad Hughes will be the new Session liaison on the Mission Committee.

Properties: Craig Clark reported that an HVAC repair was completed in August at a cost expected to run about \$11,000. A Work Day is planned for 10/13/2018 from 8 AM to 12 Noon. Cartersville Janitorial Services (Gary Wilkins-Owner) will replace the current FPC cleaning service on 9/10/2018. Gary quoted \$675 per week (\$35,100 per year) to clean areas not used by Pre-K and HOC during the day and those areas used during the day at night (offices, classrooms, bathrooms).

Finance: Randy Thompson provided a Revenue & Expense Report as of August 31, 2018 (the 66.67% point of our calendar year) which showed that revenues are at 62.75% of the revenues budgeted, and expenses are at 67.36% of the expenses budgeted resulting in a \$32,612 deficit. We have not drawn on our Line of Credit and we are still on track to complete the year in the black without having to borrow money.

Randy also reported that our church has been notified of a bequeath from the Lynn Looney Estate made on behalf of Lynn's mother and former member Julia Looney in the amount of \$100,000. This bequeath is an unrestricted gift to the church. Once received, these funds will be deposited into our operating account and posted as a Non-Pledged Gift. It is anticipated by the Finance Committee that some or all of these funds at some point will be applied to our First Bank of Dalton loan balance of approximately \$210,000.

Stewardship Sunday will be October 28, 2018.

Randy provided a handout to the Session containing the proposed 2019 Preliminary Expense Budget approved on 9/17/2018 by the Finance Committee after reviewing the funds requested by the various FPC committees.

Perry Rentz pointed out that 'Music' is reflected in the budget under its own expense line item and suggested that it should be listed under 'Worship' which would provide additional clarity that the Worship Committee is responsible for proper oversight of Music. Mike concurred with Perry's

suggestion and agreed to make it happen as soon as Becky can make the adjustments after the 2019 Budget is presented to the congregation.

The 2019 Preliminary Expense Budget comes to the Session as a motion from the Finance Committee with the understanding that in order to fund the need of \$701,743 (down from \$707,700 in 2018), we would need a successful Fall Stewardship Campaign.

Before a vote was taken, on the 2019 Preliminary Expense Budget, Randy suggested that we hear from the Personnel Committee.

Personnel: Rich Gaffoglio reported multiple meetings/discussions since our last stated meeting with regard to the Personnel Committee's 2019 salary proposal for Robert Reed (Director of Contemporary Music). Rich indicated that he has met with the Finance Committee, with Robert Reed, and with other members concerned about a reduction in salary proposed for Robert currently included in the 2019 Preliminary Expense Budget. Rich acknowledged that anxiety levels are high and suggested that a cooling off period may be in order. Perry Rentz asked Rich if there was a plan in place to minimize the disruption to the Upper Room Band should Robert resign between now and the end of the year. There being none, Perry provided a 'Proposal for a Peaceful Upper Room Transition' handout to members of the Session wherein Perry offered a Phase One and Two plan in the event that Robert resigns.

After all was said and done, Randy's motion from the Finance Committee that we approve the 2019 Preliminary Expense Budget was Approved Unanimously.

Old Business:

Mike passed out handouts 'Being a Youth Deacon' and 'Being a Youth Elder What, How, Who and Why' for the Session to review. Due to time constraints, action on the Youth Elders and Deacons initiative was Tabled.

New Business:

Need for a Manual of Operations/Design for Ministry: Mike recommended that any existing FPC committee that did not already have one should prepare a 'Manual of Operation' that could be provided to interested parties which would provide a general outline of the responsibilities of each body.

Motion to Adjourn: A motion by Randy Thompson to adjourn was Approved Unanimously.

Closed in Prayer: Dr Anderson

Next Stated Meeting: October 16, 2018, 7:00 PM, Cornerstone Room