

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

Meeting: Session
Type: Stated Monthly
Moderator: Dr Mike Anderson
Date: January 15, 2019
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, Marilyn Devine, Paul Green, Janet Martin, ~~Kyle Russell~~

Guest: Beth Gaines

Docket: Scott Panter made the motion to approve the Docket which was Approved Unanimously.

Congregational Care Report:

Mike reported that Hannah Salter gave birth last night by c-section to Jackson James Salter. Mike requested prayers for Tinsley Cline who is running a high fever. Rich Gaffoglio expressed gratitude for all the prayers and concern shown for his granddaughter.

Quorum: A quorum was present so the meeting was opened with prayer by Dr Anderson.

Clerk's Report:

The Minutes from the 12/18/2018 Stated Meeting of the Session on a motion by Paul Green and after a spelling correction were Approved Unanimously.

Consideration of Youth Deacons and Elders: Beth Gaines shared her experience having served as a Youth Elder at her local church for a one year term while a Senior in High School. Beth had a very positive experience and felt she was able to get started with service to her church earlier than usual. Mike distributed a handbook 'Being a Youth Elder' in September 2018 that provides more information including the expectations of a Youth Elder or Deacon.

Mike explained that the general process for FPC would be to nominate one youth elder and one youth deacon (preferably a rising Junior in High School) to serve for a one year term in addition to the existing 15 adult officers now serving on the Diaconate and Session. The nomination would come from the 2019 FPC Officer Nominating Committee. Each youth officer would go through officer training and would have a vote just like any other FPC adult officer.

A motion by Rich Gaffoglio that we begin the process of 'allowing' the nomination of a youth Elder and Deacon by the FPC Officer Nominating Committee in 2019 was Approved Unanimously.

Board Reports

Deacon's Report: No Report

Hands of Christ: Scott Panter reported that the HOC Ministry has 190 students, a Booth Museum student tour (K-5) is in the works, the 2019-2020 HOC Budget will be finalized by

1/31/2019, a missing vehicle title to the big bus is now in hand, and we currently operate four vehicles (60-Passenger School Bus, 25-Passenger Bus, and two 15-Passenger Buses).

Preschool Report: Rich Gaffoglio reported that we have 100 to 103 Pre-School students which is a normal number and no teacher changes.

Committee Reports

Hospitality Ministry: Mary Gilreath reported that plans are underway to host a Lenten Luncheon on 3/7/2019 and Valentine Bags will be distributed to elderly members.

Worship: Perry Rentz reported that we need to encourage the congregation to remember/honor loved ones by sponsoring flowers in the church on Sunday mornings. Several local florists could be used including Country Treasures. Anyone with an interest in sponsoring flowers should begin by letting Becky know.

On 1/27/2019, the children will be singing at the 11:00 AM Service and may include some HOC children.

The Worship Committee plans to begin the process of updating the Church Use Policy.

Faith Development: Jean Gilliland reported that Wednesday Night programs have started up again. The Older Adult Ministries will kick off with a luncheon on 1/27/2019. An adult Sunday School teacher is needed to replace Wes and Sharon Sullins and this would include lesson material. We currently have 4 adult Sunday School classes and would like to keep them all.

Mission: Brad Hughes reported that there was a Blood Drive last week. Souper Bowl Sunday is 2/3/2019 and Karen Russell is in charge. A Director has been hired at Hickory Log (Patty Egger).

Properties: Craig Clark provided a Property Committee Report from their 1/8/2019 meeting to all Session members. The highlights are: an opening and closing the church schedule for 2019 is complete, Southern Grounds was approved Effective March 2019 to provide FPC landscape maintenance, the sanctuary built-in speakers are not working and quotes for replacement are being sought, and the need for security initially during Sunday services is being evaluated.

A path is being charted for FPC to improve its security procedures. FPC has 14 entrances. We will begin with Sundays but need to expand to 7 days at some point.

We have several individual amplifier devices that stay in the rear of the sanctuary for those that have a hearing problem.

Finance: Scott Panter provided a Revenue & Expense Report as of December 31, 2018 (the 100% point of our calendar year) which showed that revenues are at 120.6% of the revenues budgeted, and expenses are at 98.48% of the expenses budgeted resulting in a **\$156,560.45 Year-End Surplus!** Scott reminded the Session that this year-end surplus was assisted by the \$100,000 Lynn Looney and the \$10,000 Susan Egger 2018 one-time gifts but even without these two generous gifts, the 2018 Surplus would have been \$46,560. Scott also reported that the current total FPC debt is approximately \$652,000 of which \$300,000 is a Line of Credit loan from First Bank of Dalton and \$352,000 is in the form of a loan at interest to ourselves from the FPC Endowment Fund.

A motion by the Finance Committee to make a \$110,000 payment to the First Bank of Dalton to reduce our Line of Credit Loan to approximately \$190,000 was Approved Unanimously.

Scott suggested that a watchful eye be kept on the FPC Budgeted General Benevolence expense line items to be sure that at a minimum, FPC pays the amounts budgeted. In 2018, FPC budgeted \$10,000 but paid \$15,977.96. While it is a good thing to pay more than budgeted to the General Assembly/Synod for outreach beyond the local church, any payment that exceeds the amount budgeted should be approved in advance by the Session.

Personnel: Rich Gaffoglio reported that Brice is no longer employed with FPC as of last week because his family moved to Jacksonville. Rene plans to use two people to cover Brice's position. One is a current nursery aide who will do admin work during the week. A search is underway to find someone to work with Wednesday night and Sunday Youth Group. Annual staff interviews will begin soon. Jennifer Nebergall is now working with Rene in efforts to reinvigorate the youth music and Christian education programs.

Old Business: None

New Business: Mike provided for information to all Session members a 'Budget & Stewardship Plan for the 2020 Budget' handout which included a time line beginning 5/1/2019 (Ask for 2020 budget requests) and ending 11/19/2019 (Session votes on 2019 Budget).

Mike also provided an 'Officer Nominating Schedule 2019' handout which included a time line beginning 4/28/2019 (Congregational Meeting to elect ONC) and ending 9/17/2019 (New Session convenes for first time). On a motion by Perry Rentz, Mike's proposed 2019 Officer Nominating Committee Schedule was Approved Unanimously.

Mike also announced that on 2/17/2019 during the Sunday School hour the 2019 Budget will be reviewed/presented to the congregation as information and a Question & Answer period will follow the presentation.

Motion to Adjourn: A motion by Craig Clark to adjourn with prayer was Approved Unanimously.

Closed in Prayer: Dr Anderson

Next Stated Meeting: February 19, 2019, 7:00 PM, Cornerstone Room