

**REVIEW OF TREASURER'S REPORT:** October 2008

	<b>Month</b>	<b>Year</b>
Regular Giving. . . . .	9,504.00. . . . .	98,747.75
Total Income. . . . .	11,032.92. . . . .	133,299.36
Expenses . . . . .	10,974.32. . . . .	148,528.71
Income-Expenses. . . . .	58.60. . . . .	(15,228.95)

**CLERK'S REPORT**

1. Membership actions: none
2. Average worship attendance, November 2008: 85

**PASTOR'S REPORT**

1. **Next meeting.** A reminder was given that the next Session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 7, to avoid the week between Christmas and New Year's (when the pastor will be off).
2. **Annual Reports.** Committee Chairs were requested to turn in their annual reports to the Church Office by Sunday, January 11, by electronic means, such as email, if possible.
3. **New Elder training.** Since there were no elders elected in January that required pre-ordination training, the pastor will schedule a 'refresher' meeting soon for Elders in the Class of 2011. This class of Elders will be installed on Sunday, January 18, 2009.
4. **Communion Servers.** As the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated twice before the next meeting, a reminder was given of the serving assignments for both Christmas Eve and January 4. The number of elders needed for Christmas Eve was discussed. The pastor will look into this issue.
5. **2009 Communion Schedule.** Session approved the following schedule for celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in 2009:

<b>2009</b>	March 1. . . . .	Lenten (First Sunday)
	April 9. . . . .	Maundy Thursday
	May 31. . . . .	Pentecost
	August 2. . . . .	Summer
	October 4. . . . .	World Communion
	November 29. . . . .	First Sunday in Advent
	December 24 (Thursday). . . . .	Christmas Eve
<b>2010</b>	January 3. . . . .	New Year
6. **Advent-Christmas events.** The pastor provided a reminder about the following Advent-Christmas events:
  - Advent worship: will feature interpretation of the Advent candles and a sermon series based on the traditional candle designations of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.
  - Youth Choir practice, Sunday, December 7, 5:30 p.m.
  - Youth winter crafts creation, Sunday, December 14, 9:30 a.m.
  - Christmas Cantata, "Candles and Carols," presented by the Adult Choir – Sunday, December 14
  - Christmas Joy Offering Church Night – Sunday evening, December 14, 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The choirs will present a special program, and the Mission Committee will interpret and receive the Christmas Joy Offering.
  - Youth Christmas caroling, Sunday, December 21, 4:00 p.m. (meet in Fellowship Hall; we will be taking the crafts made on December 14 to those we visit; all ages are invited to attend)
  - Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion – Wednesday, December 24, 7:30 p.m.
  - Sunday, December 28 – First Sunday in Christmas; guest speaker – Mark Wilson
  - Sunday, January 4, 2009 – Epiphany Sunday/end of 12 Days of Christmas (actually, Tuesday, January 6).
7. **FOG Task Force.** The pastor reported that because the proposals drafted by the Task Force are now before the church for study until June 30, he has sent no time on this work since his mid-October trip to Los Angeles, save for a 45-minute conference call.
8. **Pastor's Terms of Call, 2009.** Based on the action taken at the October 29 Session meeting, Session approved the annual redistribution of the pastor's compensation for 2009. Mainly this involves transferring salary into housing allowance, for income tax-related purposes. This report will be available in January in the Annual Reports booklet.

9. **Boswell Jones Fund.** In response to questions raised at the last meeting, the pastor provided information from the Session action to create this fund in August 1982, which included an extract from the Session meeting and the original policy as it appeared in the Session manual.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES REPORTS

1. **Mission.** November 19 Church Night was well-attended (Disaster Plan program); Committee will work up a local disaster response plan ... Christmas Joy Offering dinner and program is scheduled for Sunday, December 14, 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall; program will interpret and receive the special offering as well as provide background on familiar carols. The Bell and Youth Choirs will also perform ... Action item: Session approved adding \$200 to line item 7107, Discretionary Fund, to cover greater-than-expected expenses in this area. Next meeting: January 7, 6:00 p.m. (Room 20)
2. **Property.** Committee has contracted with Messer Landscaping, Inc., for snow removal – \$35 per occurrence; snow removal and chemicals included; will only come if depth is two inches or greater. Next meeting: January 7, 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
3. **Stewardship and Finance.** 2009 Budget is in preparation ... impact on investment funds will be higher next year. Estimates of Giving received are running behind by about \$14,000. Two areas are impacting the 2009 budget: higher than ever natural gas costs (will be in excess of \$17,000 in 2008; \$11,500 was budgeted), and the Property Committee's plans to do extensive exterior painting and other projects next year (\$15,000 requested; maintenance line item was \$3,000 in 2008).
4. **Worship and Music.** No report. Next meeting – January 7, 6:30 p.m. (Youth Room)
5. **Christian Education.** Youth raked leaves at the Haessly's on Saturday, November 29, which was greatly appreciated ... Youth activities for December were noted (see Pastor's Report, #6, above). Meeting in January (TBA).
6. **Membership and Outreach.** Planned White House trip was not approved; too late to plan an alternative ... Christmas cards being sent to shut-ins ... Conversational Spanish course will be offered by neighbor of Frank Brown; will be held in church building. Next meeting: January 7, 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall Annex)

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Community Service Committee** – report given on Salvation Army work day: 17 people total worked; 7-8 additional were willing, but not enough room to utilize ... Committee will be looking into future projects for congregational involvement.
2. **Boswell Jones Mission Account** – reported under Pastor's report
3. **Shenandoah Presbytery Report** – Jerry Fry and Dan Williams reported on the November 11 meeting in Keyser, WV.
4. **Personnel Committee.** Bob Ridle reported on a conversation he had with Pam Snyder on her service as 'volunteer' Director of Music. It was also reported that Pam is once again a PW representative to the U.N. conference she attended last year.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. **Upcoming meetings:**
  - a. **Session:** Wednesday, January 7, 2009, 7:00p.m. in Fellowship Hall
  - b. **Shenandoah Presbytery:** Saturday, February 14, 2009 – Massanutten Presbyterian Church, Harrisonburg (9:30 a.m.)
  - c. **Highland-Augusta Mission Community:** Thursday, January 15, 2009, at TBA

#### ADJOURNMENT

Session adjourned at 8:27 p.m.