

The Session held its November stated meeting on Wednesday, December 2, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The meeting was postponed one week due to the Thanksgiving Eve Service on the regularly-scheduled date for the meeting.

REVIEW OF TREASURER'S REPORT: October 2009

ITEM. October. YTD
Regular Offerings. 9,752.33. 93,651.02
Total Income. 16,898.97. 128,795.00
Expenses. 11,158.47. 125,044.33
Income-Expenses. 5,740.50. 3,690.57

NOTES:

- Thomas Patterson annuity bequest now being received monthly (\$1,437.41 per month). Four months payment received in October.
- Total amount taken from invested funds so far in 2009 to support budget: \$15,000 (\$62,405.51 budgeted)

CLERK'S REPORT

1. Membership actions:

- Remove Loretta Clemmer from active roll (death, 12/1/2009)
- Shari Hippeard: transfer to St. Mark's UMC, Tuscon, Ariz; retroactive to March 2009 [Action was taken, but does not appear in our minutes?]

2. Average worship attendance, November 1-29, 2009: 78; Thanksgiving Eve = 37

3. Correspondence. Clerk shared several items of correspondence with the Session.

PASTOR'S REPORT – Separate printed report.

- 1. Next meeting.** A reminder was given of the prior action of the Session to set the next (December) meeting for Wednesday, January 6, to avoid the week between the Christmas and New Year's holidays.
- 2. Annual Reports.** Committee Chairs were requested to turn in their annual reports to the Church Office by Sunday, January 10, via email, if possible.
- 3. New Elder training.** No elders require pre-ordination training this year. A 'refresher' meeting will be scheduled in early January for Elders in the Class of 2012. Newly-elected Elders will be installed on Sunday, January 17, 2010.
- 4. Communion Servers.** The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated twice before the next Session meeting. Elders were reminded of who is serving for these services (December 24; January 3).
- 5. Shenandoah 2010 Study.** After the departure of General Presbyter Tom Hay at the beginning of this year, Shenandoah Presbytery put together a study team to do a comprehensive study of the presbytery, to inform the process for calling a new executive. Part of this process involves a survey of Sessions, which is due March 15, 2010. The survey was distributed to all members of Session, and will be handled at the January and February meetings
- 6. Shenandoah Presbytery summary.** The summary of the November 10 stated meeting of Shenandoah Presbytery was included with the papers for the meeting. Eve Thomas and Dan Williams attended the meeting.
- 7. Home Communion.** Dan Williams served home communion to six persons on the pastor care list, assisted by Elder Bob Ridle. Jerry Fry agreed to assist the pastor in additional home communions on Thursday afternoon.

STANDING COMMITTEES REPORTS

1. Mission — Next meeting: January 6, 6:00 p.m.

The committee has assessed the remaining General Mission line items remaining to be paid for 2009, and communicated them to the Stewardship and Finance Committee ... Session approved committee recommendation to transfer missionary support to Rev. Larry and Barbara Moir, missionaries to Ethiopia; Bethel Evangelical Secondary School, Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus (3 payments remaining, \$750 each, 2009, 2010, 2011; the Moir's replace the Whearty's in this position) ... Six members of committee attended the Ethiopian Partnership Banquet in November celebrating the 20th anniversary of the partnership between Shenandoah Presbytery and the Illubabor Bethel Synod (EECMY).

2. Property — Next meeting: January 6, 6:30 p.m.

November was a very wet month, which has affected the Lewis Street exterior painting project ... The final coat of paint may get delayed until 2010.

3. Stewardship and Finance—Next meeting: January 4, 6:30 p.m.

Certificate of Deposit, Bank of America – rolled over in November; will come due again in May 2010 ... Requesting reimbursements from Presbytery for Scholarships and Memorial Fund ... Session approved the recommendation to grant \$500 to Jonathan Williams and Pickle Nuckols (pending application received from Pickle).

4. Worship and Music — Next meeting: January 6, 6:30 p.m.

Calendar sign-ups for ushers and lay readers has worked well; sheet for January will be in the sanctuary this Sunday ... Candles for Christmas Eve need to be checked to assure sufficient amount are available for the service ... Committee

recommends that existing choir robes be evaluated: Red ones: too worn? Blue ones: too heavy/hot?

5. Christian Education — Next meeting: TBA

Christmas Caroling, Monday, December 21, 6:00 p.m.; C.E. Committee will prepare refreshments for the carolers, afterwards in Fellowship Hall

6. Membership and Outreach — Next meeting: January 6, 6:30 p.m. – No report

7. Personnel Committee.

Session approved committee recommendation: no COLA increases for 2010 for church staff at this time; issue be revisited in June 2010.

UNFINISHED (OLD) BUSINESS

1. Shenandoah Presbytery meeting – Report from November 10 meeting – see Pastor Report, #6.

2. Community Service Committee update – Chuck Blackley

* Bell Ringing: Staunton Big Lots, Saturday, December 12, 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Good response has been made; could use ringers for the evening (one hour). Rest of the day is covered; more would be welcome to assist those already on the schedule.

* Salvation Army Gift Store set-up: 1-5 people needed at any time; call Jeanne at the store (886-9830) one or two days in advance. Need people for set-up at store in the Staunton Mall (near Penney's) on Saturday at 10:00 a.m.; throughout the day until finished.

3. Session Size special committee. Will report next meeting; recommendation: reduce size of Session from 18 to 12 members over next three years. Requires congregational approval at January's annual meeting. Committee does not recommend changing the policy stipulating that members of the same household cannot serve on the Session at the same time.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Upcoming meetings:

a. Session: Wednesday, January 6, 2010 – 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

b. Shenandoah Presbytery: Saturday, February 13, 2010 – Spring Hill Presbyterian Church (9:30 a.m.)

c. Highland-Augusta Mission Community: Thursday, January 14, 2010 at Augusta Stone (6:00 p.m.)

ADJOURNMENT Session adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Summary prepared by Dan Williams, Moderator