

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA
JULY 10, 2011

A Special Called Meeting of the Congregation of Second Presbyterian Church was held Sunday, July 10, 2011 immediately following the worship service in the sanctuary. The meeting was called to order at 12:20 p.m. by the Moderator, Dr. Daniel S Williams. Dr. Williams opened the meeting with prayer. The meeting was called over the minimum standard of two Sundays. A quorum was present.

AGENDA: Purpose of the Meeting

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the recent passage of Amendment 10 -A (Ordination Standards) by a majority of the presbyteries in the Presbyterian Church (USA), what this means and does not mean, and to answer any questions members may have. No action was taken at this meeting.

Members of the congregation were provided copies of three papers to aid in their understanding and interpretation of Amendment 10-A, including:

- Historic Principles of Church Order
- Seeking to be Faithful Together: Guidelines for Presbyterians During Times of Disagreement
- More Thoughts on Amendment 10-A, by Dr. Daniel S. Williams

Dr. Williams reviewed the historical timeline of relevant actions of the Church on ordination standards from 1978 to the present. He commented at length on the meaning of the amendment and cited the scriptures as the highest authority. He commented that the passage of Amendment 10-A does not require any changes to be made by the churches, and churches cannot be forced to allow any person to serve as teaching or ruling elders. He suggested that now is the time to be calm, take a deep breath, and wait for a clearer interpretation of this issue.

Comments offered during the discussion included:

- Churches do not desire to turn anyone away, but we expect leaders to be of a higher standard.
- Amendment 10-A seeks to accomplish something for which its language does not specifically ask, nor logically support, and puts the church in the position of _____ which the Confession of 1967 warns when the church loses its moral and Biblical compass in such issues.
- Information published in the Presbyterian Layman is helpful, but not always entirely accurate.
- Presbyterian Outlook is a good source of information.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 12:40 p.m.

Nancy C. Swisher
Clerk of Session

Daniel S. Williams
Moderator