

**STATED SESSION MEETING
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STAUNTON, VIRGINIA
January 4, 2012**

The Session of Second Presbyterian Church held its December 2011 Stated Meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 2012. The meeting was postponed to this date due to the holiday season. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall by the Moderator, Dr. Daniel S. Williams. The meeting was opened with prayer. A quorum was present.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chuck Blackley, Frank Brown, Barbara Daugherty, Jerry Fry, James Mader, Kay Moyer, Darlene Mason, Bob Ridle, Mark Robertson, Maxine Robertson, Nancy Swisher, Paul Wolfe, and Dan Williams.

Excused: Debby Bibens, Caroline Woebke, and James Wright.

Guest: Elder-elect Sue Gochenour.

AGENDA

The agenda was adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the November Stated Meeting held on Wednesday, November 30, 2011 were approved with one correction: On page 142, Line 46, change Oak Room to Narthex.

REVIEW OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and filed for audit. It was noted that regular giving is 6.36% behind the 2011 projections. The checking account balance is \$8,874.30. Mission expenses funded by the Hunger Fund offering have been paid. Excess Hunger Fund monies have not been designated.

ORDER OF THE DAY: Examination of newly -elected Elder Sue Gochenour

A period of study and preparation for new elders provided by Dr. Williams has been completed. Sue shared her faith journey from childhood to the present. A motion to sustain the examination and approve Sue for ordination and installation in the Class of 2014 on January 15, 2012, passed. Andy Easley, Darlene Mason, and Stewart Sherwood will also be installed in the class of 2014.

CLERK'S REPORT

- 1. Membership Actions** - Remove from active members roll: Bobby Dale (death 12/8/2011); Marcette Routt (death 12/10/2011); Dan Tyree (death 12/18/2011).
- 2. Average worship attendance:** December 4 - 25 = 61; Christmas Eve Service = 128
- 3. Correspondence:** Prayers were requested for Rev. Les LaPrade. Rev. Joel Thornton, family of Rev. Fred Holbrook, and Chadwick Bazzrea.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- 1. Annual Reports - Reminder.** Annual Reports are due to the Church Office by January 8, 2012. The annual meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2012.
- 2. Bible Study.** Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, January 17, with a study of the gospel of John. This study will run until April 4.
- 3. Staunton pulpit exchange.** The annual Staunton Presbyterian pulpit exchange is in the process of being planned.

4. **New Form of Government implications.** A special committee of Session met and recommends the following:
- a. **Congregation issues - bylaws.** Session voted to recommend to the congregation the following changes in the bylaws:
- Quorum. In section B-1.0207, that “(G-7.0306)” be struck out, as this reference is obsolete.
 - Required Notice - That the following language be substituted for section B-1.0204: “Notice for stated meetings of the congregation shall be published in the Sunday worship bulletin during month when the meeting is scheduled, with specific mention during the concerns of the congregation on the Sunday prior to and of the meeting. Notice shall also be given on the web site (home page and calendar), and by email the week of the meeting. Special meetings may be called with two Sundays notice, using the above-mentioned means of notification.”
 - Parliamentary Authority - That a new section, B-1.0208, be added to state: “Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent edition of Robert’s Ruled of Order, Newly Revised.”
 - Nominations Process - That the following language be substituted for current B-1.0602: “The Nominating Committee shall be composed of five members: two (2) Elders elected by the Session, who shall serve as chairperson and vice chairperson, and three (3) from the congregation, chosen in the following manner: one person nominated by Presbyterian Women, one person nominated by the music ministry (choirs), and one person nominated by the Lucille Sanger Sunday Bible Study Class. One (1) alternate will be nominated from the floor during the annual meeting where members of the nominating committee will be confirmed. No member of the committee shall serve more than three years consecutively. The Pastor shall be an *ex officio* member, with voice but not vote. At the October meeting of the congregation, the Nominating Committee shall submit a slate of nominees for all offices to be filed. The nominating committee shall not nominate its successors.”
- b. **Session items - manual.** In addition to editorial changes that need to be made to the manual (updated Form of Government references and terminology), Session approved the following recommendations to amend its manual of operations:
- Quorum - That “(See G-10.0202)” be stricken from M-2.0103, as this reference is obsolete.
 - Special meetings notice - That the following language be substituted for M-2.0102: “Special meetings of the Session shall be called by the Moderator when deemed necessary or requested in writing by any two members of the Session. Special meetings may be convened on no less than five (5) days notice given by email, text message, or telephone.”
 - Inactive roll. The Form of Government no longer requires that a session maintain an inactive members roll, as the term “inactive member” was judged to be contradictory. Membership and Outreach has decided that it will continue to list persons who no longer qualify for the active, baptized, or affiliate members roll on an inactive list.
 - Term Lengths. No change to current practice is recommended.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Property - no report

2. Stewardship and Finance

- The proposed budget for 2012 was presented for review and discussion. The budget includes a 2% salary increase for all staff, as recommended by the Personnel Committee. It was noted that transfers from the Invested Funds in the amount of \$37,800 will be needed to balance the budget. The Committee recommended approval of the Budget for 2012. Session approved the recommendation. Review of the Pastor's Terms of Call will appear in the Annual Report to be

presented at the Annual Meeting on January 29, 2012. [See Appendix A, page 148, for the 2012 Budget display.]

3. **Worship and Music** - no report
4. **Christian Education**
 - Committee recommended approval of scholarship applications for Michael Nuckols and Katie Dice. Session approved the recommendation for \$500 scholarships for both applicants.
5. **Membership and Outreach**
 - Committee will provide pizza and drinks for the folks who will take down the Christmas decorations on January 8.
6. **Mission**
 - Committee recommended that excess Hunger Funds money in the amount of \$537.45 be designated for Valley Mission. Session approved the recommendation.
 - Committee will sponsor the Church Night program on January 19. April Miller from the Windy Cove Presbyterian Church will give and update on their Church's work in Haiti.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Community Service Committee.** Thanks were expressed to the members who volunteered as Bell Ringers for the Salvation Army, those who worked in the Toy Store, and assembled Angel Tree bags.
2. **Changes prompted by new Form of Government.** See Pastor's Report, above.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Shenandoah Presbytery Commissioner** - to be elected at the January 25 meeting
2. **Thanks to Elders completing terms of service - Class of 2011:** Chuck Blackley, Jerry Fry, Darlene Mason, Maxine Robertson, Caroline Woebke, and James Wright were thanked for their years of service on Session.
3. **Upcoming meetings:**
 - a. **Session:** Wednesday, January 25, 2012
 - b. **Shenandoah Presbytery:** Saturday, February 11, 2012- Mt. Olive Church, Hinton, VA (9:30 a.m.)
 - c. **Highland Augusta Mission Community:** Tuesday, January 31, 2012 - Mrs. Rowe's (11:45 a.m.)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 8:20 p.m.

Nancy C. Swisher
Clerk of Session