



MINUTES OF A STATED MEETING OF THE SESSION

DATE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2018

LOCATION OF MEETING: DISCUSSION CLASS ROOM

Class of 2018		Class of 2019		Class of 2020	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ed Campbell	<input type="checkbox"/>	D.R. Beeson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike McCalmont
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Grindstaff	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jerry Cole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Charles Parker
<input type="checkbox"/>	Charles Herndon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Emily Jordan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Charles Spears
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jane O'Connor				

Present: X

Absent, excused: Beeson, Cole, Herndon

Absent:

Minister present: The Reverend Mr. Louis Imsande

Others present: Mr. M. Onks, Church Treasurer; Ms. J. Urse, Moderator of the Diaconate

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by moderator Louis Imsande.

The clerk declared a quorum present.

Opening Prayer and Devotional:

The moderator opened the meeting with prayer. Mr. Imsande posed a question to members of session, 'Have you introduced yourself to a visitor who is attending a worship service at FPC JC? We need to greet and welcome visitors at every opportunity.' Mr. Imsande then read from the Scriptures; 1 Thessalonians 5:17-19; ...¹⁷ *pray continually,* ¹⁸ *give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.* ¹⁹ *Do not quench the Spirit.* Mr. Imsande reminded those present we should pray to be led by the Spirit. A time of corporate silent prayer was observed.

Pastoral Care:

The moderator led those present in prayer for the concerns of the families of Pat Simpson Stover Trivett, T. Henry Jablonski, Peter Lynn Huff, and Jean Matherly, and our several members receiving treatments for cancer.

Events of Note at FPC JC for the period December 11, 2017 through January 21, 2018:

- Dismissal:
Hales, James; to First Presbyterian Church, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina (December 12, 2017).
- Marriage:
None
- New Member:
None
- Pulpit Supply:
None
- Sacrament of Baptism:
None
- Translated to the Church Triumphant:
 - Huff, Peter Lynn (December 27, 2017).
 - Jablonski, T. Henry (December 16, 2017).

- Matherly, Jean (December 27, 2017).
- Trivett, Martha ('Pat') Simpson Stover (January 20, 2018).

Approval of the Order of Business:

The clerk put the question to members of session, 'Do you find the agenda for this meeting to be complete?'
Session by consent approved the agenda as prepared.

Review of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s) of the Session:

Session by consent approved as prepared the minutes of the stated meeting occurring December 12, 2017.

Communications from the Staff to Session:

No staff report.

Communications from the Clerk to Session: The clerk;

- Advised those present of the stated desire of several members of the congregation of FPC JC for a proper observance and celebration during 2019 of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the First Presbyterian Church of Johnson City, Tennessee. The consensus of those present was for each member of session to seek from among the members of the congregation persons with an interest and the skillset necessary to plan and execute the plan for such an event. Session members will report their findings at the February stated meeting.
- Advised those present of the desirability and the necessity of session creating written guidelines establishing the parameters of the relationship between the First Presbyterian Church and The River ministry insofar as The River's occupancy of properties owned by First Presbyterian Church is concerned. These guidelines are to establish the responsibilities of each party in the performance of various daily business activities and the maintenance of the properties occupied. Mr. Campbell moved the guidelines be created. Mr. Grindstaff made the second to Mr. Campbell's motion. Session by unanimous voice approved Mr. Campbell's motion and appointed Mr. Campbell and Ms. Jordan as a task force of two members to prepare the guidelines document and present it to session for session's consideration and action during the February stated meeting of session.

Communications from the Senior Pastor to Session: The Senior Pastor;

Placed no business on the floor requiring the consideration and action by session

Communications from the Diaconate to Session: Ms. Jerry Urse, moderator, reported;

- The Community Evangelism Committee has created, and placed in entry areas to worship spaces, 'welcome gifts' to be given to visitors who are attending our worship services. Name badges for the use of the visitor(s) are provided with the gifts. The Presbyterian Women's organization of FPC JC is providing the funds to purchase the welcome gifts.
- The Diaconate last met September 21, 2017; minutes of the meeting previously provided.

Communications from the Committees of the Session:

Glorify:

GLORIFY Committee: Dr. Jerry Cole, chair. Mr. Imsande reported;

- Dr. Cole is recovering satisfactorily following a recent medical procedure.
- The committee last met October 10, 2017; minutes of the meeting previously provided.

Grow:

GROW Committee: Ms. Emily Jordan, chair, reported;

- Ms. Martha Courtney is preparing a list with contact information of persons who chair committees of the church and persons who coordinate volunteer ministries of the church. The list will be published to members of the congregation.
- The committee has not met.
- Preschool Ministry: Ms. Mary Craig Hart, board chair. No report.
 - The board of directors last met January 17, 2018; minutes of the meeting provided.
- Children's Ministry Team: Dr. Charles Parker, leader, reported;
 - The team is currently developing the program for the 2018 Vacation Bible School ministry.
 - An update on the programming of the Children's Ministry dated May 22, 2017 previously provided.
- Student Ministry Team: Mr. John Grindstaff, leader, reported;
 - The team is currently developing plans for the student ministry mission trip to Anchorage, Alaska. The contact person in Anchorage is a colleague of Tim Jones, Director of Student Ministries of FPC JC.
 - Several participants in the student ministry program are available to be paid to work unskilled jobs to raise money to pay toward the cost of the mission trip to Alaska.

- The team is currently developing plans for the FPC JC Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance. The annual event is the primary fund-raising project for the student ministry mission trip.
- The team last met January 21, 2018; minutes of the meeting to be provided.
- Discipleship Ministry Team: Ms. Emily Jordan, leader, reported;
 - Mr. John Grindstaff will lead the Wednesday night Bible study breakout group the next six weeks.
 - The team last met February 7, 2017; minutes of the meeting previously provided.

Go:

GO Committee: Mr. Michael McCalmont, chair, reported;

- A meeting to organize a 'Go Committee' team was held January 21, 2018; minutes of the meeting provided. The meeting was well attended and the team was organized. The critical need for the committee is to improve communication with the members of the congregation and staff of FPC JC.
- Mr. Imsande was queried by Mr. McCalmont as to whether or not the Community Outreach Ministry Team is included under the auspices of the GO Committee. Mr. Imsande responded the committee structure approved by session includes the Community Outreach Ministry Team under the auspices of the GO Committee. Mr. McCalmont opined, as such, the name of the Community Outreach Ministry Team might more appropriately reflect the ministry of the team if named the Community Evangelism Ministry Team. Mr. McCalmont moved the name of the Community Outreach Ministry Team be changed to Community Evangelism Ministry Team. Ms. Jordan made the second to Mr. McCalmont's motion. Session by unanimous voice vote approved Mr. McCalmont's motion.
- Mr. McCalmont placed on the floor for session's consideration and action the committee's recommendation to add a second 'Minute for Missions' to the monthly worship service schedules to be used to support the ministries of the Local Missions Ministry Team. The consensus of the discussion on the recommendation was that the recommendation should be sent to the Worship Committee for that committee's consideration and action. Mr. Campbell moved the recommendation from the GO Committee be sent to the Worship Committee for that committee's consideration and action. Mr. Grindstaff made the second to Mr. Campbell's motion. Session by unanimous voice vote approved Mr. Campbell's motion.
- Mr. McCalmont sought clarification on the process by which the Stewardship Committee allocates (budget) funds to various ministries. Mr. Campbell stated the allocation of funds to each ministry is at the discretion of the Stewardship Committee. Mr. Campbell further stated that his research of past meetings of the session had yielded nothing that contradicts his opinion.
- Local Missions Ministry Team: Mr. Michael McCalmont, leader, reported;
 - Ms. Robin Edens, leader of the Streetside Ministry, has requested session authorize the observance of the eucharist during the monthly Streetside Ministry program. Discussion on this request focused on meeting the requirements of the *Book of Order of the Presbyterian Church (USA)* for the serving of the communion elements. The consensus of those present was further thought should be given to the request. Ms. Jordan moved postponement of decision on the matter to the February meeting of session. Mr. Spears made the second to Ms. Jordan's motion. Session by unanimous voice vote approved Ms. Jordan's motion.
 - The team last met January 21, 2018; minutes of the meeting provided.
- Global Missions Ministry Team: Mr. Michael McCalmont, leader, reported;
 - The team noted a need for up-to-date promotional videos on the ministries of supported missionaries.
 - The team last met January 16, 2018; minutes of the meeting provided.
- Community Evangelism Ministry Team: Ms. Jane O'Connor, co-leader. No report.
 - The team last met February 2016; minutes of the meeting not provided.

Administration:

- Personnel Committee: Dr. Richard McGowan, chair. Mr. Grindstaff reported;
 - The annual lunch to show appreciation to the members of the staff of FPC JC occurred during December.
 - The committee last met January 22, 2018; agenda for the meeting provided.
- Stewardship Committee: Mr. Charles Herndon IV, chair. Mr. Spears reported;
 - The audit of the church financials to be performed by Blackburn, Childers, & Steagall will commence this week.
 - The committee last met December 12, 2017; minutes of the meeting provided.
 - The financial report for the month ended 31DEC2017 was not available

- Long Range Planning Committee: Mr. Ed Campbell, chair, reported;
 - The committee last met December 13, 2017; minutes of the meeting to be provided.

Ad Hoc:

There were no ad hoc committees convened at the time of this meeting.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

None

Member Concerns:

- Members of session expressed their desire to be updated on the various ministries of the church directly by the staff member of FPC JC responsible for a particular ministry. Mr. Imsande suggested a member of staff attend the stated meeting of session on a bi-monthly basis to provide the ministry update. Mr. Campbell moved a member of staff attend the stated meeting of session on a bi-monthly basis to update session on the activities of the particular ministry for which the staff member is responsible. Mr. Grindstaff made the second to Mr. Campbell's motion. Session by majority voice vote approved Mr. Campbell's motion.
- Ms. Jordan updated session on the status of the various endowment funds held by FPC JC.

Adjournment and Closing Prayer:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.; closing prayer by Mr. Imsande.

END of MINUTES

THE REVEREND MR. LOUIS IMSANDE, MODERATOR

ED CAMPBELL, CLERK OF SESSION

THE NEXT STATED MEETING OF SESSION WILL OCCUR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2018 @ 7:00 P.M.

ELDERS WHEN UNABLE TO ATTEND A SESSION MEETING ARE TO CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AND REQUEST AN EXCUSED ABSENCE.