



MINUTES OF A STATED MEETING OF THE SESSION

DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2018

LOCATION OF MEETING: DISCUSSION CLASS ROOM, SECOND FLOOR

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jerry Cole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Charles Parker
<input checked="" 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.
 Absent:

Minister present: The Reverend Dr. Bradley Palmer

Staff present: Mr. L. Dodd, Director, Worship and Music; Mr. T. Jones, Director, Student Ministries

Others present: Ms. Martha Courtney; Mr. M. Onks, Treasurer, FPC JC

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by moderator Bradley Palmer.

The clerk declared a quorum present.

Opening Prayer and Devotional:

The moderator opened the meeting with prayer. Dr. Palmer read from the Scriptures, Ezekiel 37, selected verses, wherein the writer, the prophet Ezekiel, tells of his encounter with the Sovereign Lord as he, Ezekiel, is instructed by God in the creation of a vast army made from the dead of the The Valley of Dry Bones. Verse 21 forward...²¹ *and say to them, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I will take the Israelites out of the nations where they have gone. I will gather them from all around and bring them back into their own land. ²² I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel. There will be one king over all of them and they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms.'* Dr. Palmer encouraged those present to remember the words God told Ezekiel to tell the people of Israel, '*... you will know that I am the Lord*'.

Pastoral Care:

The clerk encouraged those present to be in prayer for the concerns of the J.W. Shew family in the death of Ben Shew, Ben Bailey, Glenda McCray, Julie Malcolm, and Rick Beeson.

Events of Note at FPC JC for the period April 22, 2018 through May 20, 2018:

- Dismissal:
 - Ashburn, Jim; to First Presbyterian Church Norfolk, Norfolk, Virginia (April 23, 2018).
- Marriage:
 - None
- New Member:
 - None
- Pulpit Supply:
 - The Reverend Mr. Tim Meredith (April 22, 2018).
 - The Reverend Ms. Schaap Freeman (April 29, 2018).

- The Reverend Dr. Richard Fifield (May 6, 2018).
- The Reverend Ms. Schaap Freeman (May 13, 2018).
- The Reverend Ms. Schaap Freeman (May 20, 2018).
- Sacrament of Baptism:
 - Fannon, Maverick James (May 6, 2018).
- Translated to the Church Triumphant:
 - Mooneyhan, Ann Keys (April 25, 2018).

Approval of the Order of Business:

The moderator put the question to members of session, 'Do you find the agenda for this meeting to be complete?' On motion by Mr. Herndon, second Mr. McCalmont, session by unanimous voice vote approved the agenda as prepared.

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

The moderator put the question to members of session, 'Do you find the minutes for the stated meeting occurring April 23, 2018 to be complete?' On motion by Dr. Cole, second Mr. Spears, session by unanimous voice vote approved the minutes following motion to amend by Mr. Herndon to list his (Mr. Herndon's) absence from the meeting as 'Excused'.

Communications from the Staff to Session:

Mr. Tim Jones, Student Ministries Director at FPC JC updated session on the activities of the program for which he is responsible. The highlight of the summer program will be the mission trip to Anchorage, Alaska during which the FPC JC students will work a Christian athletic camp and hand out Bibles and Christian literature in the community where the camp will occur.

Communications from the Clerk to Session: The clerk;

- Placed on the floor for session's consideration and action request from Intervarsity Christian Fellowship at East Tennessee State University, dated May 18, 2018, for permission to use the facilities of FPC JC for the purposes of their ministry. The clerk called on Ms. Martha Courtney to provide background information on the request. Ms. Courtney advised the Culp University Center on the ETSU campus, which Intervarsity has been using for their program, will soon be under renovations and will be closed for many months. Intervarsity is thus required to find a new venue for its program; 20 to 25 students are involved in the ministry; a food service is provided for their once monthly Monday evening meetings. On motion by Dr. Cole, second Ms. Jordan, session by unanimous voice vote authorized Intervarsity to use the Holson Room and the kitchen at FPC JC for its once monthly meetings and approved a \$50.00 per month contribution from FPC JC to Intervarsity. Intervarsity will be responsible for set-up and cleanup of the spaces occupied. It was noted Intervarsity will be sharing the kitchen with the Narcotics Anonymous program so some coordination of activities will be required.
- Placed on the floor for session's consideration and action request from Mr. Arner, Facilities Director at FPC JC, dated May 15, 2018, for session to accept the responsibility of creating and implementing, or cause to be created and implemented, a building security policy and program. On motion by Mr. McCalmont, second Mr. Spears, session by unanimous voice vote approved the creation of an ad hoc committee for the purpose of creating and implementing a building security policy and program.
- Placed on the floor for session's consideration and action the need for session to call a special meeting of the congregation to occur Sunday, June 17, 2018, for the purpose of electing four (4) active members of the congregation of FPC JC to serve a one-year term as at-large members of the Congregational Nominating Committee 2018-2019. On motion by Ms. Jordan, second Ms. O'Connor, session by unanimous voice vote approved the issuance of a call for a meeting of the congregation when and for the purpose heretofore stated.

Communications from the Moderator to Session: The moderator;

- Stated he has been advised by The Reverend Diana Moore, chair of the Committee on Ministry of Holston Presbytery, that the Ministry Information Form of FPC JC is now active on the Church Leadership Connection destination of the PC (USA) website. This means ministers seeking interim pastorates will have access to the FPC JC search for an interim pastor.

Communications from the Diaconate to Session: Ms. Jerry Urse, moderator. No report.

- The Diaconate last met May 17, 2018; minutes of the meeting to be provided.

Committees of the Session:

Administration:

- Personnel Committee: Dr. Richard McGowan, chair. Mr. Spears reported;
 - The committee is conducting interviews via electronic means with candidates who have applied for the position of Interim Senior Pastor of FPC JC. The Committee on Ministry of Holston Presbytery has been so advised.
 - The committee last met May 15, 2018; agenda for the meeting to be provided.
- Stewardship Committee: Mr. Charles Herndon IV, chair, reported;
 - The committee last met April 23, 2018; minutes of the meeting provided.
 - Mr. Onks presented the financial report for the month ended 30APR2018.
 - The financial condition of the church has improved; 2018 compared to 2017.
- Long Range Planning Committee: Mr. Ed Campbell, chair, reported;
 - The committee last met January 31, 2018; minutes of the meeting to be provided.
 - The committee has suspended temporarily its work awaiting the accountant's establishment of the fund balance of the FaithLift account.

Glorify:

- GLORIFY Committee: Dr. Jerry Cole, chair, reported;
 - The committee is continuing its work to establish the responsibilities of an 'Alter Guild' of FPC JC. The primary purpose of the 'Alter Guild' will be to assist with the service of the Sacrament of Communion.
 - The committee last met May 8, 2018; minutes of the meeting provided.

Grow:

- GROW Committee: Ms. Emily Jordan, chair. No report.
 - The committee has not met.
- Preschool Ministry: Ms. Mary Craig Hart, board chair. Ms. Emily Jordan, liaison from session and board member, reported;
 - The board of directors last met January 17, 2018; minutes of the meeting previously provided.
- Children's Ministry Team: Dr. Charles Parker, leader, reported;
 - Planning for Vacation Bible School is complete. The ministry will be offered Monday, June 4 through Thursday, June 7, 2018, from 5:30 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. The theme for the program is 'Rolling River Rampage'.
 - The team last met May 9, 2018; minutes of the meeting provided.
- Student Ministry Team: Mr. John Grindstaff, leader, reported;
 - The team last met January 21, 2018; minutes of the meeting not provided.
- Discipleship Ministry Team: Ms. Emily Jordan, leader, reported;
 - Staff member Ms. Jennifer Jacobs is assisting the team in the creation of a small group ministry.
 - The team has not met during 2018.

Go:

- GO Committee: Mr. Michael McCalmont, chair, reported;
 - The committee is developing plans for the Missions Conference. The desired dates are Sunday, September 23 through Wednesday, September 26, 2018.
 - An 'Update' on the ministries of the committee provided.
 - The committee last met March 12, 2018; minutes of the meeting previously provided.
 - The committee will next meet July 22, 2018.
- Local Missions Ministry Team: Mr. Michael McCalmont, leader;
 - The team will be working with staff to improve and update the information on the ministries of the team resident on the FPC JC website.
 - The team last met April 15, 2018; minutes of the meeting previously provided.
- Global Missions Ministry Team: Mr. Michael McCalmont, leader;
 - The team last met May 15, 2018; minutes of the meeting provided.
- Community Evangelism Ministry Team: Ms. Jane O'Connor, co-leader, reported;
 - Ms. Fawn Holt will lead the evening program on Wednesday, May 30, 2018. Ms. Holt will be discussing evangelism in the local community.

- The team last met April 15, 2018; minutes of the meeting previously provided.

Ad Hoc:

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

Unfinished Business:

- Mr. McCalmont placed on the floor for session's consideration and action his desire for the members of the congregation to properly celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of FPC JC that will occur during 2019. On motion by Mr. Campbell, second Dr. Cole, session by unanimous voice vote approved a budget maximum of \$10,000.00 to fund the observance of the anniversary and approved Mr. McCalmont to plan and announce a meeting for members of the church who are interested in planning the celebration events.
- Dr. Cole advised he and Mr. Rick Beeson are still in communication with Mr. Phil Pindzola, Director, Public Works Department, the City of Johnson City, about the possibility of completing the proposed exchange of real estate between the City of Johnson City and FPC JC. This project has dragged on for several years.

New Business:

- Ms. Jordan placed on the floor for session's consideration and action a recommendation that the Bible study ministry occurring on Wednesday evenings be suspended during the months of June and July 2018. The suspension of the program will provide an opportunity for a thorough cleaning of the kitchen and provide needed time off for members of the staff of FPC JC. On motion by Ms. Jordan, second Dr. Cole, session by majority voice vote approved the suspension of the Wednesday evening Bible study ministry during the month of July 2018, only.
- Mr. Campbell placed on the floor for session's consideration and action a recommendation to increase the number of elders serving in a class of the session from the current number of three (3) elders to the proposed number of four (4) elders per class. It was noted a change in the number of elders serving in a class of the session will require the approval of the congregation. On motion by Mr. Campbell, second Dr. Cole, session by unanimous voice vote approved sending the recommendation to increase the number of elders serving in a class of the session from the current number of three (3) elders to the proposed number of four (4) elders per class to the congregation for its consideration and action.
- The election of a member of session to serve as chair of the Congregational Nominating Committee 2018-2019 was postponed to a future date.
- The election of the second elder to serve on the Congregational Nominating Committee 2018-2019 was postponed to a future date.

Member Concerns:

Dr. Cole expressed his desire for session to clarify its rules of governance.

Adjournment and Closing Prayer:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by unanimous voice vote of session at 8:40 P.M. on motion by Dr. Cole, second Ms. O'Connor; closing prayer by Dr. Palmer.

END of MINUTES

THE REVEREND DR. BRADLEY PALMER, MODERATOR

ED CAMPBELL, CLERK OF SESSION

THE NEXT STATED MEETING OF SESSION WILL OCCUR TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2018 @ 7:00 P.M.

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