

**First Presbyterian Church
Edenton NC**

Stated Session Meeting Minutes April 15, 2010 **4.15.01**

Present: Elders Liz Woodbury, Jean & Sid Stickles, Kathy Hynes, E.C. Toppin, Michael Pierce (via conference call), Moderator Rev. G. Douglas Eddy, Clerk of Session Dennis Robison. Elder Woodbury opened the meeting with a devotional and prayer at 1:36pm. A quorum was present.

Minutes: Upon proper motion the Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting of March 2, 2010 were approved.

Reports:

Administration and Stewardship. Elder Pierce reported that the Church financial reports for March were positive due to a \$5,000 bequest from the estate of Thelma Weeks. He noted that due to recently deceased members, the envelope offerings would decrease by an estimated \$3,000. He is going to encourage the development of estate planning using Thelma Week's bequest as an example.

- Upon proper motion, \$1,000 from the bequest was approved to serve as a reserve for the Outreach Committee's College of Albemarle/General Education Degree (COA/GED) program and referred the use of the remaining \$4,000 back to the Administration and Stewardship Committee for a recommendation. Elder Pierce also said an audit was performed on the 2009 accounts by Marc Woodbury. A record will be made available to the Clerk of Session. The recommendation from the audit committee is that there be a more conscientious effort be made to tie expenses to receipts.
- Upon proper motion the March Financial Reports were received.

Congregational Life: Elder Jean Stickles reported that the Lenten Lunches went well. Approximately 120 were served.

Building and Grounds: Elder Sid Stickles distributed his report, noting that water in the basement continues to be an issue. He will get an estimate on the cost to fix the problem.

- Upon proper motion, Elder Stickles was approved to go forward with the Manse repairs. Elder Stickles commended all who participated in the workday the previous Saturday noting that the area behind the pulpit had been cleaned up.
- Upon proper motion, Session approved the purchase of shelving for the area in order to make the storage of materials more orderly.

Worship Committee: Elder Woodbury reviewed the Seder Meal program. Consensus is that it was very successful and meaningful. It was recommended that it not become an annual event lest it become routine and lose the meaning of the event. Concern was expressed regarding the organization of Worship Materials. Consideration had been given to moving the grey metal

Stated Session Meeting Minutes April 15, 2010 **4.15.02**

cabinet which houses the paraments and other related worship materials to the area behind choir. Elder Woodbury reported that some members of the Choir were not keen that this should happen. No further action was taken. Elder Woodbury also asked for guidance regarding Worship Committee membership - could the Committee's size be expanded? Would it be appropriate to

**First Presbyterian Church
Edenton NC**

ask individuals from other committee's to assist Worship from time to time? Session's counsel was that it was appropriate to move beyond the Worship Committee for help. Moderator Eddy also asked that there be coordination among Session leaders about asking new members to be appointed to committees. Worship at the Millpond will be on Sunday, May 16. Elder Woodbury will contact Robert Harrell to reserve the Millpond and will work with Elder Jean Stickles to arrange for the lunch to follow the event. Elder Woodbury reported that Susan Birckhead has offered to take care of the flower arrangements for the Sanctuary.

- Upon proper motion, Session accepted this offer which will replace the standing order with Edenton Florist. Ms. Birckhead will be reimbursed for her expenses. Elder Woodbury will also poll the members of the Worship Committee regarding meeting times.

Outreach: Elder Toppin reported that the COA/GED program approved by Session at its March meeting was moving forward. Cary Pittman will be having a minute for mission regarding this project during worship on Sunday, April 18.

Clerk: The calendar for May was reviewed and accepted with changes. Clerk Robison distributed the Outstanding Older Adult Award (deadline June 18, 2010) application. He also noted that our Church need to provide two elders for the Presbytery meetings on July 20 (Rocky Mount) and October 16 (Raleigh). Elders Stickles will attend the October 16 meeting.

Delegates for the July 20th meeting to be determined.

Pastor's Report: Moderator Eddy asked that the following actions be taken:

- Upon proper motion Session approved that the name of Elder Ella Ray Bates and Joseph Tosh be moved and from the Role of Active Members to the Role of Deceased Members, and that the Presbytery of New Hope be informed of Elder Bates' death.
- That the record show Holy Communion was served during the regular 11:00 AM service of worship on April 11, 2010, with Janet Batton, Barbara Burroughs, Dennis Robison and Jerry Thompson serving as elders; and, that Holy Communion was served during the Maundy Thursday Service and Program on Thursday, April 1, 2010, with Allen and Allene Renz and Sid and Jean Stickles serving as elders. Rev. Eddy officiated at both services.

Rev. Eddy reported that the Lenten classes were well received. However, consideration will be given to holding similar events during the day as many in the Congregation are reluctant to drive at night. He is still working on the End of Life program and is seeking an attorney. Several recommended Will Crow as a possible choice. He is planning on offering a class on "Forgiveness."

- Upon proper motion, Session approved the use of the Church Library for client consultation for a fee of \$10/month by Joanne Eddy.

Stated Session Meeting Minutes April 15, 2010

4.15.03

- Upon proper motion, the Session approved a memorandum of understanding regarding the use of the Church parking lot by Mr. & Mr. Lonnie Sieck of 117 Blount St, Edenton NC for over flow parking of a wedding planned for April 24, 2010 (attached).

Old Business:

**First Presbyterian Church
Edenton NC**

- Request from www.gaychurch.org: After some discussion, upon proper motion Session approved a discussion be held, open to the congregation, on this issue following worship on Sunday, May 3.

New Business:

- Expanded narrative of Session Minutes: After discussion, the Session concluded that the manner in which the Session Minutes are currently being recorded met criteria of the Book of Order and that there were inadequate resources for the expansion of the narrative.
- Funeral Policy - Moderator Eddy distributed a modified Funeral Policy for Session Consideration. Upon proper motion the Session approved the changes.
- Facilities Use Policy - The Clerk was instructed to docket this for the May Session meeting.
- Clerk of Session- Dennis Robison informed Session that he wishes to be replaced effective January 1, 2011. He has been Clerk for a decade and has accepted some additional obligations on the Board of Trustees of the Pettigrew Regional Library.

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 3:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

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Rev. Dr. G. Douglas Eddy, Moderator

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Dennis E. Robison, Clerk of Session