

Stated Session Meeting Minutes for May 15, 2023

Session convened at 6:00 p.m. and opened in prayer.

A quorum was noted with the following Session members present: Jeff Abney, Grayson Bryant, Brian Collins, Mical Crumbly, Paul Farrell, Creighton Holt, Valena Hoy, Brad Hunter, Carl Leimer, Peggy Mackey, Kristine Rand, Page Weaver, Emily Webb, Jim Wood

Examination of Potential New Members:

Sally Clark - Letter of Transfer
Justin Moses - Letter of Transfer
Christina Moses- Letter of Transfer
Rebecca Bulls - Reaffirm. of Faith
Linda Painter - Reaffirm. of Faith
Gary Painter - Reaffirm. of Faith

MOTION: To approve all candidates. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Guests:

Hunter Johnston, Preschool Director and Director of the Children and Family Ministries

Dorothy Hood, Parish Associate

Devotional: Kristen Abney shared from Matthew 5:13-16.

Deacon Report: Kristen Abney reported on deacon activities over the past year. Her report detailed the number of deacon visits, calls, emails, notes and meals delivered and hosted. She also reported on various meetings with various ministry leaders.

Clerk's Communications and Reports:

- Attendance Figures for April 23, 2023 through May 23, 2023.
- Membership Gains and Losses Figures
- Upcoming Session Meetings and Calendar Reminders
- Births and Deaths Information
- Baptisms and Weddings Conducted
- New Members and Transfers/Removals Noted

Minutes for Stated Session Meeting for April 24, 2023: Reviewed by Session and ordered by common consent.

Consent Agenda: The Consent Agenda for May 15, 2023 was approved and ordered by common consent.

New Business:

MOTION: That Session approve the loans recommended by the Student Loan Sub-Committee. (Details attached at end of docket) The motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

MOTION: That Session approve the 2023 Presbytery of Eastern Virginia pledge. (Handout). The motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

Liza Hendrick's Retirement (Transitional General Presbyter) Letter was noted. (Handout)

Staff Reports:

Preschool and Children and Family Ministries Report: Hunter reported that the preschool is transitioning to the summer staffing model. The children continue to respond well to the music program. Kindergarten graduation was a success. Children and Family Ministries continue to see excellent attendance. The 11 o'clock Sunday School is booming but there is a need for more teachers. Vacation Bible School will have an outer space theme. Planning is underway for the Massanutten retreat.

PEVA Commissioner Report: Brad Hunter gave a report on the PEVA meeting held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 10 am at Williamsburg Presbyterian Church in Williamsburg, VA.

Team Reports / Committee Minutes, URC/N.E.S.T. Report: Attached at end of docket.

Pastors' Reports:

Valena Hoy

Valena reported that the Community Hour continues to be well-attended. The summer book club is ramping up. The choir is preparing for a trip to Carnegie Hall, where they will perform. Adult vacation Bible school is in the planning stage.

Joel Phillips

Joel was out of town attending to personal family matters in New Jersey.

Jim Wood

Jim reminded Session that new member dinners are coming up. There will be a special meeting with Outreach Foundation Director Dr. Tom Boone at his house. Jim distributed a handout to review with Session. It covered three key topics: engagement, membership and stewardship. He also challenged Session to consider these topics as ways to improve their spiritual life: Scripture/Study; Focus/Mindfulness; Training/Learning; Community. Jim recommended that Session members to share answers to the question: "Where did you encounter Christ at FPC since the last meeting?" He encourage Session to create small group prayer opportunities among themselves. He asked that Session participate in quarterly fellowship gatherings. He plans to guide Session discussing various terms that appear in the Book of Order.

Adjournment: Meeting was closed in prayer and adjourned at 7:55 pm by common consent.

Mark Fulton, Clerk of Session

Rev. Jim Wood, Senior Pastor