

**First Presbyterian Church, Norfolk, VA**  
*Session Meeting Minutes – June 10, 2013*

**The new members examined and welcomed into our church on April 22 were:**

Renee	Carlson*	Faiza (Sonya)	Jackson	Ann	Stevens*
Lori	Fox	Dot	Lane*	Charles	Stevens*
Shane	Fox	Cynthia	Phelps	Francie	Wood
Daniel	Howell	Connor	Robinson*	Liang	Yu

\* Reinstated

**After prayer, a quorum was noted with the following members present:**

Karen Campo, Ron Gates, Barbara Haga, Tiffany James, Jon Mann, Jeanne Perin, Mike Smack, Lloyd Taliaferro, Jim Gates, Valena Hoy, Jim Wood.

**Guests**

Ken Miller, FPC's Minister of Administration, joined the Session Meeting as a guest along with Elders-elect Jean Farrell, Laurie Talty, and Joel Weaver.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Ken Miller reported on the church's finances and presented a comparison chart between 2013 and last year's to-date Revenue and Expenses.

	May 2012 YTD (22 Sundays)	May 2013 YTD (21 Sundays)	% Change
Revenue	\$862,089.43	\$851,786.10	1.2% decr.
Expenses	\$824,446.34	\$810,168.16	1.7% decr.
Net Total	\$ 37,643.09	\$ 41,617.94	10.6% incr.

Year to date spending is basically flat with last year and we have a healthy balance of funds in our general operating account. Revenue is actually running ahead of last year considering we had one less Sunday offering in 2013 vs. 2012. As always, we are encouraging all committee chairs to be cautious in their spending, especially in their bottom line item labeled "task force approval" which serves as contingency funds. We will continue to monitor the church's revenue and give further guidance at the next session meeting.

- 2013 Stewardship Campaign Update as of June 5<sup>th</sup>:
  - Our 2013 current member pledge goal is \$1,570,550 and the new member goal is \$91,004. We are currently at \$1,563,341 in total pledges.

**Clerk Communications & Report**

Jim Wood briefly described and recommended that Session members attend the Global Leadership Summit being held at Spring Branch Community Church on Thursday and Friday, August 8 & 9, 2013. Main speakers include Colin Powell and Bill Hybels.

<http://www.willowcreek.com/events/leadership/about.asp>

**Consent Agenda**

This month's Consent Agenda was approved after additions of three baptisms and inclusion of notation for May's Stated Session Meeting minutes.

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## Pastor's Reports

### Jim Gates –

- Jim expressed his enthusiasm for working with individuals attending FPC 101 and new members. He is especially gratified to hear about those who have come to know Christ through involvement with our church.
- He then distributed a list of approximately 120 names of members who haven't attended church or contributed funds in the past year. Unless recommended otherwise, these will each be sent a letter of care and concern from the church.

### Valena –

- Valena submitted the Summer Sunday School Teachers list and asked for approval of the motion coming out of committee to approve the individuals on the list. She noted the two deviations from the policy to not have family members teach together.

***Motion: That Session approve the individuals named on the list from Hunter Johnston to teach FPC's Summer Sunday School this year.***

The motion passed unanimously.

- Her work on the Commission on Ministry for PEVA continues, and she was sad to report that a church she has been working with, Colman Place Presbyterian in Norfolk, is closing in June.
- Valena helped organize the very successful Zumba for Joy on June 2. She reported that the total donated to Joy Village in Kenya is now \$3,600.
- She is also organizing the training of the newly elected elders and deacons, which starts Monday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Ordination and installation will be held Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Jim Wood –

- To start, Jim celebrated the extent of exposure FPC has attained by streaming our services online.
- The Urban interns have moved out after a very successful year. We're looking forward to having more in the fall.
- The Urban Church, Circle of Grace, which meets in First Hall the first and third Saturdays, has grown to an attendance of 50 - 60 people.
- To complement that success, FPC will be partnering with 60 to 80 Regent students for an "Urban Plunge", a weekend of worship and mission work to be held September 2-4, 2013.
- Jim shared with the group that Antipas Harris, the pastor of Circle of Grace, will be preaching at FPC on July 7.
- He will be leaving for Kenya next Wednesday, a few days ahead of the others who are going on the trip.
- To help inform Session about the challenge of keeping the church calendar, he distributed a copy of our calendar from June through December with only the primary mission and ministry activities entered, i.e. youth events, Massanetta Mission Trip, Seniors First activities, etc. He emphasized the importance of the gatekeeper, Rev. Valena Hoy, receiving all requests from the various groups so there is even distribution and a reasonable scheduling of the numerous Church events.
- Session was reminded of the church's hospitality role hosting the growing AA, NA, and Al-Anon groups that meet on our premises throughout the week. Another form hospitality takes is for

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members who are able, to park far enough away so that there is ample parking for first time visitors and those who have difficulty walking.

- Finally, Jim polled the interest Session members have in holding a weekend retreat in August. We haven't had one in several years. There was sufficient appeal to explore the possibility.

#### **Personnel – Barbara Haga**

Barbara informed the Session of recent staff news:

- Gary Lennon, FPC's new Facility Director, had a good start on May 28th in his new position.
- Anna Mohler has been hired as a temporary Children Ministry Assistant to help Hunter Johnston.
- Performance appraisals for church staff are due 7/30/13.

#### **Closing:**

After prayer concerns were brought forward, Valena Hoy closed the meeting in prayer at 8:15pm.