

## First Presbyterian Church, Norfolk, VA

Session Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2013

The Session met with new members at 6:00 pm in Room 206. Valena Hoy opened the meeting with prayer, and the following persons were examined and welcomed into membership:

Ingo	Heidbrink*	Christina	Ohlrogge	Dave	Sterling
Laurence	Jackson	Paige	Ormiston**	Brittany	Szkaradnik
Amanda	Norton	Becky	Sterling	Brett	Wilson

\*Joined as Affiliate      \*\*Reinstated

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

Carolyn Buzek, Jim Dille, Jean Farrell, Ron Gates, Barbara Haga, Jeanne Perin, Cline Reasor, Jim Slaughter, Lloyd Taliaferro, Laurie Talty, Joel Weaver, Eunice Whitehurst, Valena Hoy, Jim Wood.

### Guests

**Jeff Keeney**, a Divinity student at Regent and a member of FPC, joined the meeting as a guest. He is currently seeking the status of *Inquirer*, the first step to becoming a candidate for ordination in our Presbytery. He briefly described his background and his call to his present ministry, that of working with the Circle of Grace Church and FPC, to assist in the revitalization of Cradock Presbyterian Church in Portsmouth. The Session affirms the commission's recommendation that he become an Inquirer in the PC(USA). Jeff's next step will be to meet with the Committee on Preparation of Ministry.

**Kristine Rand** was also a guest at our meeting. She elaborated on the "Spiritual Growth Action Plan" which came out of the work of Vision Goal II, *Being Shaped in the Image of Christ*. The aim of the Action Plan is to inspire a hunger in each member for increased spiritual growth. Beginning with a brief spiritual assessment, the plan then provides an extensive offering of classes and studies to grow the congregation in becoming more Christ-like, using the a modification of the previously distributed Spiritual Growth Map. The action plan will be introduced in January.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Cline Reasor reported on the church's finances and presented the following chart

- FPC Revenue and expenses this year compared to last year

	<b>September 2012</b> (45 Sundays)	<b>September 2013</b> (44 Sundays)	<b>% Change</b>
Revenue	\$1,494,006.19	\$1,524,314.02	2% increase
Expenses	\$1,506,960.45	\$1,491,697.28	-----
Net Total	-\$12,954.26	\$32,616.74	

- Preschool update**
  - The Preschool is reporting to FPC's business office consistently.
  - Currently, the Preschool is about \$3,000 ahead of budget with 3 openings.
  - The search process for a new director is still in effect.
- 2013 Stewardship campaign update**
  - Jim expressed appreciation for the large turnout at the Informational Luncheon.
  - The third stewardship letter will go out next week.
  - October 27 is stewardship Sunday, and Session members are encouraged to submit their pledge by then.

- A big thank you to the staff who have stepped up to fill in the many hours needed to accomplish the work normally done by our Minister of Administration.

### Clerk Communications & Report

**Makemie Madness** – Saturday, October 19. 5k trail run and fun day.

See [www.makewoods.org](http://www.makewoods.org) or call 757-566-1496

**Stated PEVA meeting** Tuesday, October 22, 2013 – 1:00 pm at Royster Memorial Presbyterian Church at 6901 Newport Avenue in Norfolk. The General Presbyter candidate currently under consideration will be speaking at this meeting.

**Thank You** – Jeanne Perin related appreciation from the Empower Hampton Roads group that held their annual public meeting in First Hall on October 3.

### Consent Agenda

This month's Consent Agenda was ordered by Common Consent.

### Pastor's Reports

#### Valena Hoy

- Valena's work with worship preparation and planning as well as managing the busy calendar continues.
- She preached at Yorktown Presbyterian two weeks ago and attended the Dunamis Conference in North Carolina.
- Recently Valena's been more active in the music selection process for both traditional and contemporary services.
- Saturday, Oct 12, she organized and attended the *Grief and Loss for Caregivers* training offered by Robin Cowherd of LifeNet Health, a non-profit organization of Virginia Beach.
- She also introduced the following motion, which was seconded and passed unanimously:

***Motion: That Session approve the following baptisms:***

**Henry Campbell Ormiston**, DOB 6/26/2013, parents Paige and Wiley Ormiston – Oct 20, 2013

**Laurence Jackson (adult)** October 27, 2013

**Brittany Szkaradnik (adult)** December 15, 2013

#### Jim Wood

- **Revitalizing Cradock Presbyterian** – Jim elaborated how FPC and Circle of Grace will be working together in the Cradock neighborhood of Portsmouth. Jeff Keeney grew up in that area, and he along with Nate Griffith of Circle of Grace, with Jim's help, will be working to establish a new or renewed congregation in the existing Cradock Presbyterian Church. Their numbers are low, but they have sufficient funds to keep going during what they hope will be a transition to a congregation more in line with the existing neighborhood. It's an exciting venture. Our church will be contributing about \$10,000 for a year or two, and Jim will be assisting with pulpit supply, pastoral care, and moderating their Session meetings.
- **Consulting** – Jim is obtaining help in writing up a proposal and determining cost from a contact of Mary Vinson, who has several connections with consultants and church leaders through the ministry that she facilitates and leads in Hawaii.
- **Contemporary Worship** – The Contemporary Worship Task Force is continuing to meet. Members of the Task Force are: Darlene Tabbanor, Mark Hugel, Ken Vinson, Walter Ear, and Kathy Stine.
- **Celebrate Staff** – As mentioned in the Stewardship Campaign section above, FPC Staff members have given hours beyond their paid time to assist in the work that would normally be accomplished by the Minister of Administration.

- **Trip to South Sudan** – On Sunday, Jim will be leaving for South Sudan to lead a conference.
- **Kenya Pilgrimage** – Craig and Tricia Campbell will be making this month's pilgrimage to Kenya along with James and Nicole Lock, and a group from Wisconsin. Rudy and Kate Miller are already there and seeking new children for the Joy Home.

### **Personnel**

Highlights from Barbara Haga's report as Personnel Chair included the following:

- The search continues for a new Minister of Administration.
- Allison Bough is leading the Search Committee to hire a new Director of the Preschool. They are still in the interview process.
- The search for a full time Media Minister is being led by Lisa Litwiller.
- New workers in the nursery have reduced the cost to FPC of child care.
- Some performance appraisals have been deferred because of Ken Miller's leaving staff in September.

### **Closing:**

It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 8:30pm. After congregational concerns were brought forward, Rev. Valena Hoy offered the closing prayer.

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*Jeanette Perin, Clerk*

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*Rev. Jim Wood, Senior Pastor*