

First Presbyterian Church, Norfolk, VA

Session Summary Minutes – January 13, 2014

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:

Colin L. Findlay	Lush Heely
Bob Heely	Jonathan Nye

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

Carolyn Buzek, Jean Farrell, Jim Dille, Ron Gates, Jon Mann, Rudy Miller, Jeanne Perin, Cline Reasor, Dick Roberts, Jim Slaughter, Lloyd Taliaferro, Laurie Talty, Joel Weaver, Eunice Whitehurst, Jim Gates, Valena Hoy, Jim Wood.

Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Cline Reasor reported on the year-end finances for the church:

- FPC Operating Revenue and Expenses this year compared to last year

	2012 Year-End	2013 Year-End	% Change
Revenue	\$2,116,576	\$2,078,079	2% decrease
Expenses	\$2,018,168	\$2,000,304	1% decrease
Net Total	\$98,408	\$77,774	

- FPC Preschool Operating Revenue and Expenses this year compared to budget

	Budgeted	December 2013	% Difference
Revenue	\$553,314	\$496,075.68	-10% difference
Expenses	\$585,400	\$505,282.70	-14% difference
Net Total	-\$32,086	-\$9,207 (-\$16,007*)	

*Tuition prepayments (~\$6,800)

- 2014 Stewardship Campaign Update

27 decreased their pledge by \$29,669

41 had no previous pledge and pledged \$92,380 (30 of the 36 are previous contributors though)

102 increased their pledge by \$102,660

86 stayed the same

127 households pledged last year, but have not done so this year

272 households are contributors that haven’t pledged

The average household is pledging \$5,366 vs. \$4,960 at this point in the 2013 Stewardship Campaign

2014 Stewardship Campaign

10/30/13	11/6/13	11/13/13	11/20/13	12/4/13	12/11/13	12/18/13	2014 YE
166	197	208	222	229	234	237	258
\$1,023,334	\$1,142,200	\$1,194,980	\$1,250,790	\$1,279,990	\$1,290,312	\$1,310,762	\$1,384,632

2013 Stewardship Campaign

11/11/12	11/18/12	11/25/12	12/3/12	12/10/12	12/17/12	12/27/12	2013 YE
209	220	228	247	267	279	283	287
\$1,131,579	\$1,207,414	\$1,231,944	\$1,315,544	\$1,372,304	\$1,395,504	\$1,404,984	\$1,423,784

After brief discussion about holding steady financially until after Jeff Schulte, the consultant who met with FPC staff in December, meets with us, Lloyd suggested the following motion which was passed by Common Consent:

Motion: That Session approves an interim budget for expenditures equal to that of 2013 until our next Stated meeting in February.

Clerk Communications & Report

Jeanne reminded the group about the upcoming PEVA meeting on the 25th.

Consent Agenda

The motion concerning FPC's giving pledge to PEVA was pulled for discussion and Tom and Alice Mountjoy, members who have moved to Naples, were added under *Removals*.

Pastor's Reports

Valena Hoy

- Valena is working with Cradock Presbyterian and preaching the first Sunday of the month, coordinating their worship and covering pastoral care needs.
- Her work with the PEVA Commission on Ministry continues, as does FPC's worship planning and managing the calendar.
- She is leading two small groups.
- At the end of her remarks, she requested approval for the Communion calendar for this year. The motion was ordered by Common Consent:

***Motion: That Session approves the following dates for holding Communion:
The first Sunday of every month in 2014, Feb 23 (Women's Retreat), Ash Wednesday,
Maundy Thursday, and Christmas Eve.***

Jim Gates

- Until the Church Administrator and Communications Coordinator is hired, Jim has oversight of the database, the church facility, and preparing the weekly bulletin, in addition to his usual responsibilities.
- His work with Calvin Presbyterian continues. That church will have a new pastor beginning January 26, so Jim's role there will ease.
- Joel Rainey is the new Facility Director and working out very well.

Jim Wood

- Jim filled in more detail about the February 1st Park Place "blitz", a Saturday of painting, landscaping, cleaning, etc. to help upgrade the Church where the Park Place School and Child Life Center is located. The hope is to make this a "Massanetta Experience" in the heart of Norfolk.
- The pulled motion concerning the PEVA pledge was brought forward to discuss and clarify details. No changes were suggested, and the motion passed unanimously:

Motion: That Session approves FPC's Annual Giving Pledge to PEVA be a total of \$65,000, paid in 12 monthly installments of \$5,416.66 and to be used for PEVA salaries.

Committee Report

A motion was brought forward from the *Bless the Children* Committee to approve new youth volunteers:

Motion: That Session approves new volunteers Travis Davidson, Tiffany Davidson, and Andrea Alvord to work with FPC youth .

Personnel

Jim Wood presented the Personnel Report in Chair Barbara Haga's absence:

- Hiring is on hold until we have a finalized report from Jeff Schulte.
- Treasurer Cline Reasor, Pastor Jim Gates, and Linda Davenport in the Business Office are filling in for the vacant Church Administrator position.
- Publications is being handled by Jim Gates and Jim Wood's Assistant, Becky Pinkard.
- The policy of keeping the main building closed Tuesday and Thursday evenings has been re-instituted.

Consultant's Report

In his report from his December meetings, Jeff wrote in detail about three major areas of opportunity that he sees as needing to be addressed in going forward: Relationships, Organization, and Ministry Processes. He spelled out different ways he could be involved depending on how much help we decide he can give us. The feedback from staff has been very positive so far, and he will be returning to Norfolk January 28th to meet with the Session.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 9:00 pm. After congregational concerns were brought forward, Jon Mann offered the closing prayer.