

First Presbyterian Church, Norfolk, VA
Session Summary Minutes – February 18, 2013

The new members examined and welcomed into our church on February 18 were:

Borya	Celentano	Connor	McMurray	Brian	Swets
Chaunda	Celentano	Kari	McMurray	Jennifer	Swets
Melissa	Kline	Sarah	Nelson	David	Wallace
Terrence	Kline	Katie	Niezgoda	Carrie	Yuill
Victoria	Long	Maria	Peek	John	Yuill
		Stephen	Peek		

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

Carolyn Buzek, Jim Dille, Mike Fremaux, Ron Gates, Barbara Haga, Tiffany James, Rudy Miller, Jeanne Perin, Cline Reasor, Mike Smack, Lloyd Taliaferro, Eunice Whitehurst, Jim Gates, Valena Hoy.

Guest

The Rev. Bill Hedrick, FPC Liaison to the Commission on Ministry, was recognized by Common Consent as an official guest for the meeting. His comments included gratitude for FPC’s historical involvement with PEVA and the contribution of our church’s leadership in assisting Presbytery by mentoring and offering guidance to struggling churches within PEVA. He also acknowledged our witness through FPC missions and financial support.

Staying Focused on the Vision

Jim Gates updated the group on the general status of the Goal Teams and offered his help if needed. He encouraged the team facilitators to report to Session regularly so we know what’s going on and to share information and ideas about related Goals.

Valena reported on the Philippians 2:1-11 church-wide Lenten study and distributed the *Servant’s Journal* Kristine Rand wrote to accompany the study.

Treasurer’s Report – Cline Reasor

Cline began by showing a comparison chart between last year’s Revenue and Expenses.

	January 2012	January 2013	% Change
Revenue	\$209,848	\$152,142	28% decrease*
Expenses	\$151,452	\$169,776	12% Increase

**There were 5 Sundays in January, 2012, but only 4 in 2013*

2013 Stewardship Campaign’s projection is \$1,570,550, and as of 2/13/13, there was approximately \$209,000 in outstanding pledges.

After a brief discussion of a minor change to the proposed budget distributed last month—moving \$2,000 from Congregational Life to the new Evangelism Committee—the following motion was passed unanimously:

Motion: That Session approve the revised FPC Budget for 2013.

Clerk Communications & Report

- ***Memorandum of Understanding***

Rudy Miller, a member of the leadership team for Tree of Lives (TOL), explained that because TOL operates under FPC's 501(c)(3) status rather than their own separate status, a formal statement is needed about that relationship in order to meet the requirements for applying for a \$24,000 grant from a large Catholic church in Colorado. The following motion resulted from the discussion and was passed unanimously:

Motion: That Session approve the distributed Memorandum of Understanding with amendments.

- ***Statistical Report, Clerk's Questionnaire, and Annual Report to Presbytery***

Copies of the three year-end reports due to General Assembly and PEVA were distributed. After corrections to the budgeted expense amount in the *Statistical Report* and Session phone numbers in the *Annual Report to Presbytery*, the reports were approved unanimously. All three will be made available to the congregation in the library after March 1, 2013.

- The PEVA Digest for the January 26th Stated Meeting was distributed, and it was reported that Eunice and Winston Whitehurst, Tiffany James, and Jeanne Perin attended.

Consent Agenda

Jim Gates noted that Kari McMurray, one of the new members above, and her daughter Sarah Alison have requested baptism on March 17, 2013. After the addition of those two names to the Consent Agenda, it was approved by Common Consent.

Pastor's Reports

Jim Wood

Jim is in Kenya for the final approval of the renovation of the Joy Home. He returns Friday, February 22.

Jim Gates

- Jim reported that the new database, Fellowship One, will go live this week.
- The Goal teams are up and running, with most having already had their first meeting.
- There will be a new Neo class starting in April.
- Jim is still working with Calvin PC, but expects to gradually back out since a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has recently been formed.
- Finally, a class entitled Survey of the New Testament is starting up.

Valena Hoy

- Valena is still part-time.
- She filled in at the Martin Luther King service.
- Over 300 devotionals were picked up for the NewThru30 study.
- She noted that Kristine is working on a devotional for Holy Week.
- Valena's work with the Commission on Ministry continues.
- There have been five deaths among church members in the past eight weeks.
- She asked Session members to pray for Isaac in Kenya and for Karen Campo, in Nevada with her mother, who had a mild heart attack last week.

New Business

Jim Gates reported on the formation of the standing Evangelism Committee, approved at January's meeting. The following motion was presented and approved unanimously:

Motion: To approve Jim Dille as chair of the new Evangelism Committee, and Diane & Jim Liedman, Jim White, Taze Taylor, Jim Thomasson, Leslie Fulcher, Roger Johnson, and Peggy Mackey as members of the Committee.

Personnel

Barbara Haga reported that the search committee has interviewed several promising candidates for Andrew's replacement.

Closing:

It was then moved and seconded to adjourn. Cline Reasor closed the meeting in prayer at 7:45 p.m.

Jeanette Perin, Clerk

Rev. Valena Hoy, Executive Associate Pastor