

**MINUTES OF SESSION  
FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
FAYETTEVILLE, AR  
August 2, 2009**

A Stated Session meeting of First United Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville, AR was held in the Library on August 2, 2009.

**Elders Present:** Dennis Bailey, Ted Belden, June Davis, Kyle Elmore, Lyle Gohn, Allen Hanna, Katie Jackson, Sara Koenig, , George "Bo" Morton", Melinda Nickle, Michelle Price, Manuel Rossetti, Dean Thiesse, Nancy Waite, Ron Woodruff and Doug Wright

**Elders Excused:** Eric Ervin, Roger Koeppe, Frank Millet, Itrel Monroe, Jim Schneringer and Jane Steinkraus

**Elders Absent:** Barbara George and Derrik Olsen

**Teaching Elders Present:** Rev. Barry Williams, Moderator

**Others Present:** Laurie Reh, Clerk of Session, Kristi Button, Director of Christian Education

Rev. Barry Williams, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm and declared a quorum present. Joys and concerns were shared.

**Devotional**

Rev. Williams led the devotional by reflecting on events that happen to us and wondering if God's hand was involved in that timing? Following a reading from a favorite worship service conducted this summer at Zepher Point, the devotional was closed in prayer.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

Rev. Williams asked for any additions or changes to the agenda. A motion was made and seconded *to add to the agenda approval of the Called Session minutes of June 21, 2009 and also recognition of Reformation Sunday and John Calvin's 500 year anniversary under old business.* With this change, *the motion passed to adopt the agenda.*

**Special Reports/Presentations**

There were no special reports or presentations.

**Approval of the Minutes**

A motion was made and seconded *to approve the Stated Session minutes of June 7, 2009 and the Called Session minutes of June 21, 2009.* There were no other changes and *the motion passed.*

1. **Update of Church Rolls:**

**New Members:**

**Sharla Grammer** of Fayetteville, AR by Reaffirmation of Faith

**Natalie Grammer** of Fayetteville, AR by Letter of Transfer from Central United

Methodist Church  
**Sandra Grammer** of Fayetteville, AR by Letter of Transfer from Central United  
Methodist Church

**Marriage:**

**Mary Belden** to Clark Carroll on Saturday, June 27, 2009 at First United Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville, AR. Rev. Barry Williams officiated.

**Name Change: Mary Belden to Mary Carroll**

**Deaths:**

**Perry Max Johnston** died on June 19, 2009. A memorial service was held at First United Presbyterian Church on June 24, 2009. The Rev.'s Barry Williams and Lee Power officiated.

2. **Outreach Committee Action Items: Room Use by Chinese School**

Background: In past years, Chinese School has used ten rooms from 1:30-4:00 pm Sunday afternoons. These rooms are Knox 101, 102, 103, 201, 202, 203; and Calvin 105, 201, 202, 203. The contact person is Li Cai, 479-856-9288, li.cai@hotmail.com.

Requests: A. Chinese School requests extended use of Knox 101, 102 and 103 from 1:30-5:30 pm Sundays for extended art classes. B. Chinese School requests use of additional rooms Calvin 104 and 106 from 1:30-4:00 pm Sundays. [Note: Calvin 104, 105 and 106 are First School rooms.] Outreach Committee supports these requests.

- **Action 1:** Authorize Chinese School for 1:30-4:00 pm Sunday use (weekly) of rooms Knox 101, 102, 103, 201, 202, 203; and Calvin 104, 105, 106, 201, 202, 203.
- **Action 2:** Authorize Chinese School for 4:00-5:30 pm Sunday use (weekly) of rooms Knox 101, 102, 103. By request of FUPC, authorization may be suspended on any particular Sunday for a special church event, with Outreach Committee as the liaison.

3. **Properties Committee ACTION ITEM:** release funds from restricted acct #02379 to pay invoice of Sarah Webb for gardening/landscape labor and materials. \$822.76
4. **Properties Committee ACTION ITEM:** grant Properties committee authority to select a tree service (from quotations received) and to schedule removal of several trees, and release necessary funds from restricted acct #02379 to pay invoice for this work. \$1,450 - 2,950
5. **Baptism Action Item:** for a baptism to be held on Sunday, August 9th for Ashleigh Hemphill, daughter of Greg and Jana Hemphill.
6. **Kitchen Hospitality Committee Action Item:** to request session approval to increase the standard meal donation for the remainder of the year (2009) as up to \$5 per person or a maximum of \$15 per family with children 3 and under gratis. If a committee or other

organization determined the meal charge not sufficient to cover food expenses, they will seek session approval for that particular food event.

Action Item #2 was lifted. A motion was made and seconded *to approve Action Item #'s 1,3,4,5 and 6 and the motion passed.*

### **Clerk of Session Report**

A written report was emailed and included in the session packet and received.

### **Minutes Approved:**

June 7, 2009 Stated Session Meeting

June 21, 2009 Called Session Meeting

### **Sacrament of the Lord's Supper:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Communion Served</u>	<u>Officiated</u>
July 7, 2009	Butterfield Trail Village	Rev. Lee Power
August 2, 2009	11:00 Worship Service	Rev. Barry Williams

### **Monthly Financial Reports**

The monthly financial report for June was distributed in session mailboxes. Elder Morton provided a brief review of income and disbursement items. The July financial report will also be placed in session mailboxes.

### **Pastors and Staff Reports**

Rev. Williams discussed his experiences in teaching interim pastors at Zepher Point. He also brought greetings from Rev. Bill Lawser, who had led the Leadership Retreat in March, 2009. Discussion followed with questions of Rev. Williams.

Kristi Button, Christian Education Director, shared her experiences and the excitement from taking church youth on a mission trip to Louisville, KY. A t-shirt was also displayed that had been designed by the UPY group. The youth were thankful for the Care Packages provided by the congregation for their trip. The need for more adults to work with youth continues and plans are in place to increase awareness throughout the congregation. It was requested that a list of needs/requests be emailed to the session to help out as leaders in the search for more adult involvement.

### **Standing Committee Report**

#### **Belonging and Evangelism**

A written report was emailed in advance from the June meeting and received. Steve Dees had distributed a color brochure to the committee stating it would be included in the September FOCUS, along with a note to the congregation to share the brochures with new members of the community and those they invite to church services or social functions. The committee plans to print 500 copies. It was also requested the Melanie Dietzel email the final brochure as an attached PDF to the congregation.

#### **Christian Education**

A written report was distributed for session from the July meeting. A draft version of the Wonderful Wednesday's program was distributed for session information. The event dates range from September 9<sup>th</sup> - December 16<sup>th</sup>; the schedule will follow the school calendar. Dinner will be served from 5:30 - 6:15 pm; the Children's Choir will meet from 5:15 - 5:45 pm; the Adult Program, the Youth Program and the Children's Program will be held from 6:15 - 7:00 pm. Adult choir will meet at 7:15 pm.

### **Deacons**

A written report was emailed in advance from the June meeting and received. Maxine Ward reported sending 127 cards since the May meeting.

### **Fellowship**

There was no written report for June or July. The committee is continuing to work on the Church Picnic scheduled for August 22<sup>nd</sup> at Bobby and Lana Odom's home. Volunteers to work the grill are still needed.

### **Kitchen Hospitality**

A written report was emailed in advance from the June meeting and received. The kitchen was cleaned in June by June Davis, Janet Baker, Dean Thiesse, Betty Ezell, and Barbara Verdery. The committee met with Christian Education moderator Michelle Price to discuss a new format for Wednesday night programming that would include choir practice, and opportunity for adult worship and/or education, children's programming, and a simple meal. The main goal is to have a child friendly menu, with minimal labor, especially prep and clean-up. Expected meal prices, sanitation requirements, and the way hospitality can help to train volunteers so meals will be served at correct, healthy temperatures was discussed along with the reservation process. This is an exciting new opportunity in our church which hospitality supports in every way possible.

### **Long Range Planning**

There was no written report from June or July.

### **Memorial Gifts**

There was no written report from June or July.

### **Outreach**

A written report was emailed in advance from the June meeting and received. Discussion followed *regarding lifted action item #2*. Questions were raised to inquire if tuition was being paid or if donations had been given toward the Chinese School's use of the church facilities. The clerk was requested to contact the Outreach Committee to request an invitation to the Chinese School leadership to attend the September session meeting. The session then *voted on lifted action item #2 and the motion passed*. The following topics were addressed at the committee meeting: Pentecost offering distribution, meal project for Seven Hills Homeless Center, Alternative Market for Fall, 2009, Chinese School and a variety of written correspondence items directed to the committee.

### **Personnel**

A written report was emailed in advance from the June and July meetings and received. It was reported that Custodian Richard Stout was leaving when he obtains HVAC certification; that Amy McCann has found fulltime employment and will be continuing as Nursery Coordinator only and that Todd Prickett

will begin work as Director of Music at FUPC on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. A Personnel-appointed search committee advertised for a part time person to work 10-12 hours per week and fulltime when Melanie is on vacation. The primary responsibilities of this position will be to maintain the membership software and official records and serve as back up receptionist. Staff has been asked to update their job descriptions and establish individual goals and objectives to be presented at their annual reviews.

### **Properties**

A written report was emailed in advance from the June and July meetings and received. Rev. Dr. Dr. Leslie Belden furnished and had placed floral items in the planters along the steps in the amphitheater. John Stitt and Shawn Guthrie were both recognized for their volunteer efforts in tending the beds on campus. Cyril Sturm and Amy McCann were also recognized for their help. At least five trees need to be removed from the campus and other large trees may need maintenance to provide safety and improve health. Two quotes were obtained and arranged for in a range of \$1450 - \$3025. Hugh Brewer has replaced the illuminated EXIT signs in the sanctuary with new technology units containing LED lighting and more serviceable battery back-up.

### **Stewardship**

There was no written report from June or July.

### **Worship and Music**

There was no written report from June or July. The committee will organize efforts for the August 22<sup>nd</sup> recognition of Dr. Todd Prickett which will be held in the courtyard.

### **Commission Report**

#### **First School**

A written report was emailed in advance from the June/July meeting and received. The new website is <http://www.firstschoolfayetteville.org/>. Orientation for the fall/spring classes will be Monday, August 24 at 5:30. The Summer session ends August 13, and the Fall session begins August 25. Income for June 2009 was \$19,766.80, with expenses of \$13,293.81. Income YTD 2009 is \$132,415.74, with YTD expenses at 128,792.71. For the year, First School is ahead \$3,623.03.

### **Special Committee Reports**

#### **Forum Planning Committee**

There was no written report.

#### **Hi-Acres Committee**

There was no written report.

#### **Nominating**

There was no written report.

#### **Organ Feasibility Committee (OFC)**

There was no written report.

## **Presbyterian Women**

A written report was emailed in advance from the June meeting and received. PW efforts for the 2008-2009 year include: reinstated Circle 2 targeting younger ladies for an evening group, created a Covenant Group to review Christian-related books, contributed to CEO from Alternative Market sales, contributed to CEO and youth mission trip from budget, sponsored annual Hat and Mitten Tree for Fayetteville Public Schools, contributed to the Peace at Home Family Shelter (items and monetary), monetary donations to Faith in Action and the Haiti Education project, quilting for the Linus Project, collected labels for the Goodland Home, hosted Cluster 1 fall meeting, published and marketed *We Gather Together Again* cookbook, revised PW bylaws, honored PW members Lorraine Brewer and Sue Ellen Ward with lifetime memberships and hosted Fall Get-Together, Christmas Tea and spring luncheon. PW members Nancy Denn and Mary Jo Harvey attended the church-wide gathering in Louisville, KY, July 11-15. The Fall Get Together will be Tuesday, August 25, at Lina Long's home.

## **Trustees and Endowment**

A written report was emailed in advance from the June/July meeting and received. Kyle Jenner of Stephens, Inc. provided a statement of the church's portfolio as of May 31, 2009 and discussed the current status of the General Motors bonds currently held in the church's investment account. It was recommended and approved that the church continue to hold the GM bonds in its portfolio and hold any GM shares received through bankruptcy for a period of time in order to potentially recoup some lost value. The current endowment balance is \$1,264,303.53. It was approved that the church set a 5% distribution of endowment assets annually, based on the previous September 30 account balance. It was also proposed and approved that all income from 2007 and 2008 that had not been spent less remaining scheduled mortgage payments for 2009 be applied immediately to pay down the existing mortgage.

## **New Business**

### **Program and Calendar Coordination for this Fall**

Committees and Moderators will meet on Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at the appointed times in order to plan ahead for fall coordination of dates and events. Moderators were encouraged to contact Melanie Dietzel with any dates, events, etc. to be placed in the Focus newsletter or bulletin.

## **Old Business**

### **Update on Congregational Meeting to Amend Church By-Laws, Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>**

The congregational meeting will be held in the Sanctuary immediately following 11:00 a.m. worship.

### **Recognition of Reformation Sunday and John Calvin's 500-year Anniversary Update**

On September 12 - 14, John Calvin Presbytery will host a celebration in Branson, Missouri to recognize this special event. The congregation will receive a special invitation with important details for attendance. Additionally, Elders Dennis Bailey and Irel Monroe are meeting with Rev. Williams to discuss a possible celebration of John Calvin's 500-year Anniversary to be held on Reformation Sunday at the end of October.

## **Announcements**

The September Stated Session meeting will be held on Sunday, September 13, 2009 at 6pm in the Library.

**Adjourn**

Rev. Williams closed the meeting with a prayer. A motion was made and seconded *to adjourn at 7:57 p.m. and the motion passed.*

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Laurie Reh  
Clerk of Session