

**MINUTES OF SESSION  
FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
FAYETTEVILLE, AR**

**December 6, 2009**

A Stated Session meeting of First United Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville, AR was held at the home of Doug Wright and Terri Trotter on December 6, 2009.

**Elders Present:** Dennis Bailey, Lyle Gohn, Al Hanna, Katie Jackson, Roger Koeppe, Frank Millett, Irel Monroe, Bo Morton, Derrik Olsen, Michelle Price, Manuel Rossetti, Jim Schneringer, Jane Steinkraus, Nancy Waite, Ron Woodruff and Doug Wright

**Elders Excused:** Ted Belden, June Davis, Kyle Elmore, Eric Ervin, Barbara George, Sara Koenig, Melinda Nickle and Dean Thiesse

**Elders Absent:**

**Teaching Elders Present:** Rev. Barry Williams, Moderator and Rev. Lee Power

**Others Present:** Kristi Button, Director of Christian Education and Elder-elect Class of 2012 – Scott Davis, Sally Kelley, Bill Mitchell, Carol Van Scyoc and Cyril Sturm. Mary Mann was excused Laurie Reh, Clerk of Session, was excused. Elder Waite served as temporary Clerk of Session.

Also present were Committee on Ministry members Rev. Stuart Smith and Keith Burke (Bentonville Presbyterian Church) and Pastor Nominating Committee members Bill Waite, James Moore and Steve Sisco. Terri Trotter was also present.

Rev. Barry Williams, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and declared a quorum present. Joys and concerns were shared.

**Devotional**

Elder Koeppe led the devotional based on Psalms 137 and 139 and then followed with prayer.

Rev. Williams announced that the new elder class members in attendance would have voice but would not be able to vote.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

Rev. Williams asked for any additions or changes to the agenda. The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

**Special Reports/Presentations**

**Committee on Ministry (COM) Triennial Visit**

The Presbytery Triennial Visit to First United Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville was conducted by Rev. Stewart Smith, COM Representative. He was assisted by Elder Keith Burke of Bentonville Presbyterian Church. It was requested that Session members who have not completed their triennial questionnaire

return them to Melanie at the church office.

Rev. Smith expressed his gratefulness for Rev. William's leadership and stated how he had witnessed the growth of the session. Discussion followed on these questions: 1) Where is FUPC as a church – what you are proud of or excited about? Responses: adaptability of congregation and session, loving congregation, looking forward to new leadership, and retreat had congregation looking forward instead of backwards 2) Dreams/expectations for FUPC 5-10 years from now? Responses: growth in numbers (attendance and membership), adult CE program restructured to offer more diverse programs, spiritual development, increase staff – volunteers overburdened, team for youth programs; more people committed, keep kids involved and 3) What is FUPC's biggest challenge? Responses: finances, membership growth, more exposure to community to compete with mega and main line churches and diversity in offerings. Rev. Smith's closing comments noted the good work of the PNC which has been working hard and 'by the book' and also how impressed he's been with strength of FUPC Session.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

A motion was made and seconded to *approve the Stated Session minutes of November 8, 2009*. There were no changes and *the motion passed*.

### **Approval of the Consent Agenda**

#### **1. Update of Church Rolls:**

#### **Baptisms:**

**Sharla Grammer** was baptized on Sunday, November 22, 2009 at the 11:00 am worship service  
**Blake Kathryn Grammer**, daughter of Sharla Grammer, was baptized on Sunday, November 22, 2009 at the 11:00 am worship service

#### **Transfer of Membership:**

**Carolyn Ratliff** to First Presbyterian Church, Tahlequah, OK by letter of transfer.

2. **Worship and Music Action Item:** The 8:30 AM Worship Service will be canceled on January 24, when the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Luncheon will be held. The reason for the cancellation is that it would be difficult for members of the congregation to attend both an 8:30 AM service and the Annual Congregational Meeting.
3. **Christian Education Action Item:** Wonderful Wednesdays will continue January 6th, 2010 thru May 26th, 2010. We will break for summer and resume in the fall of 2010.
4. **Properties Committee Action Item:** Properties Committee requests approval to purchase an identical third columbarium through Armento for the pre-paid purchase price of \$17,816.96 from restricted account #2358. Shipping, sales tax and installation will be invoiced at a later date and paid out of the above restricted account.
5. **Properties Committee Action Item:** Properties Committee requests approval to increase the cost of each niche to \$700.00 \$500.00 would cover the cost of the niche, upkeep and landscaping of the courtyard. \$200.00 would be a tax donation to the church with the funds placed in the

restricted fund #2358. This increase will insure the purchase of a 4th columbarium in about 15 years at estimated replacement costs. {The current 20 remaining niches are available for purchase at the current price of \$500.00 until July 1, 2010 or until all are sold, whichever occurs first. After July 1, 2010 all niches will cost \$700.00 Properties Committee requests the columbarium policies are updated to reflect the above price change (upon approval).}

### **{Columbarium Proposal Past History}**

Under the leadership of Sara Burnside, a columbarium committee approached Session in May 1991 to approve the following recommendation: "That a columbarium be created for our church". Session approved the columbarium along with the recommendation to fund the purchase and its policies. Armento Incorporation in Buffalo, NY was the company selected to provide the columbarium. The first 56 niche columbarium was ordered and installed in March 1992 in a semi-private courtyard at the north end of Fellowship Hall. The cost has approximately \$11,000.00. A second 56 niche columbarium was purchased and installed in May 1995, costing about the same. Out of a total of 112 niches, 20 niches are currently available for church members. Each niche costs \$500.00 - \$300.00 for the actual cost of the niche, installation and engraving of the brass name plate and \$200.00 as a tax deduction to the church and is intended to cover maintenance and other expenses incur by the columbarium committee. The funds are held in restricted fund #2358. In Oct 2009, the fund had a balance of \$23,942.06.

The time has come to purchase the third matching columbarium for the courtyard. Last year, the brick foundation was installed. The proposed cost for a third columbarium (identical to the first two, from the same manufacturer) is as follows:

- 56 niche exterior columbarium "Vine" bronze design
- Brass name plates
- Mounting hardware
- Satin finish aluminum urns\*
- Satin finish aluminum exterior covers

Bid cost \$18,363.00 less 3% discount \$551.04 pre-paid for a total of \$17, 816.96 (tax, shipping and installation not included). Shipping and installation costs are approximately \$1000.00 and sales tax based on 9.25% is \$1782.75. \*Aluminum urns will be purchased on "as needed basis", usually 6 at a time due to limited storage space at the church. Today's cost for 56 urns is \$1456.00. Engraving each brass name plate is approximately \$22.00 done at a local jewelry store. Estimated engraving cost for 56 name plates \$1232.00. Proposed Total Cost of Columbarium is \$23,287.71. Cost of each niche is approximately \$416.00. The current columbarium committee consists of the pastors, church accountant, administrative assistant, moderator of properties committee and a Chairman. The current Chair is Barbara Verdery, who has served since the death of Sara Burnside.}

Action Item # 4 was lifted. A motion was made and seconded *to approve Action Item # and the motion passed.*

### **Clerk of Session Report**

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

### **Approval of the Minutes:**

It was moved, seconded *and passed that the minutes of the Stated Session Meeting of November 8, 2009 be approved.*

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Communion Served</u>	<u>Officiated</u>
December 1, 2009	Butterfield Trail Village	Rev. Lee Power
December 6, 2009	8:30 am & 11:00 a.m.	Rev. Barry Williams

## **Staff Reports**

Rev. Lee Power received a request from the Presbyterian Church of Monett, MO for pastoral care. Rev. Williams has been visiting with Randy, Pam and Cindy Andersen. Kristi Button, Christian Education Director, encouraged everyone to work together through changes in the coming months.

## **Standing Committee Report**

### **Belonging and Evangelism**

A written report was emailed in advance from the November meeting and received.

### **Christian Education**

A written report was emailed in advance from the November meeting and received.

### **Deacons**

A written report was emailed in advance from the November meeting and received.

### **Fellowship**

There was no written report.

### **Kitchen Hospitality**

A written report was emailed in advance from the November meeting and received.

### **Long Range Planning**

A written report was emailed in advance from the November meeting and received.

### **Memorial Gifts**

There was no report.

### **Outreach**

A written report was emailed in advance from the November meeting and received. All budgeted items for 2009 have been disseminated. A gift was sent to a school in the Congo in honor of Elsie McKee.

### **Personnel**

A written report was emailed in advance from the November meeting and received.

### **Properties**

A written report was emailed in advance from the November meeting and received. Action Item #4 was lifted from Consent Agenda: *Properties Committee requests approval to purchase an identical third columbarium through Armento for the pre-paid purchase price of \$17,816.96 from restricted account #2358. Shipping, sales tax and installation will be invoiced at a later date and paid out of the above restricted account. With no further discussion, the motion passed.*

Regarding building use by Haas Hall Academy Drama Class, Moderator Al Hanna stated that the standard building usage fee will be collected.

### **Stewardship**

A written report was provided to Session at the Special Session meeting on December 3, 2009.

### **Worship and Music**

A written report was emailed in advance from the November meeting and received.

### **Commission Report**

#### **First School**

A written report was emailed in advance from the November meeting and received.

### **Special Committee Reports**

#### **Forum Planning Committee**

There was no written report. The Committee met on Sunday, December 6, 2009.

#### **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 November meeting and received. It was reported that over 100 people attended the Holiday Tea. Collections are still being received for the Hat and Mitten Tree.

#### **Trustees and Endowment**

A written report was emailed in advance from the November meeting and received.

#### **New Business**

#### **Moderator Training**

Rev. Williams announced a moderator's training on January 10, 2010 at 5:00 pm in the Commons.

#### **Ordination and Installation**

Incoming Elders and Deacons will be ordained and installed at 11:00 am worship service on Sunday, January 10, 2010. The Session meeting will be at 6:00 pm on the same day in the Library.

**Moderator Presentations at Annual Meeting**

Rev. Williams reminded moderators about presentations that will be given at the annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Jan. 24, 2010 and that outgoing elder’s term of office will not be complete until the January 10<sup>th</sup> installation/ordination of the new class.

Rev. Williams thanked Terri Trotter and Doug Wright for opening their home for session meeting and dinner.

**Old Business**

There was no old business.

**Announcements**

- January 10, 2010** Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons @ 11:00 am worship service  
Moderator Training @ 5pm in Calvin Bldg  
Stated Session Meeting @ 6pm in the Library
- January 13, 2010** Annual Report Due to Church Office
- January 17, 2010** Committee and Moderator Meetings
- January 24, 2010** Annual meeting of the Congregation and Luncheon following the 11:00 am worship service; Moderator presentations

**Adjourn**

Rev. Williams closed the meeting with prayer. A motion was made and seconded *to adjourn at 6:58 p.m.* and *the motion passed.* The session’s annual holiday gathering followed with dinner.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Waite  
Temporary Clerk of Session