

**Minutes of Stated Session Meeting
First Presbyterian Church
Charlottesville, Virginia
April 25, 2022**

Attendees:

Pastor and Moderator: David Forney (E)

Associate Pastor and Vice Moderator: Aram Bae

Ruling Elders:	Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
	Christine Dean	Judy Blair	Charlie Chadwick
	Amy Gillespie	Robert Brewbaker	John Dillery
	Rich Lutz	Victoria Kean	Linda Hitt
	Cathy Meaney	David Maloney	Jocelyn Kelley
	Monika Mentzer	Carolyn Pettit	Jolene Kidd
	Wayne Mullins	Reid Thompson (E)	Vasant Kumar(E)
	David Schmidt		Trip Walker
	Ada Trowbridge		

Clerk of Session: Judy Blair

Guests: Sally Clarry and Caitlin Thomson

[E denotes excused absence; A is for unexcused absence]

Joint meeting of Session and the Diaconate held in Agape Hall

- Vice Moderator Aram Bae called the meeting to order at 7 pm.
- For the devotional, officers formed small groups and discussed their reflections on three questions raised during the recent Officers' Retreat (Why do you choose FPC? How can we measure the church's health? What's your vision of the church in the future?).
- After regathering, each group shared one key reflection.
- Aram encouraged continued reflection and noted that we would have more discussions at future meetings.
- The opening prayer by Aram included readings from *In the Name of Jesus* by Henri Nouwen.
- After recitation of the Vision and Mission Statement, the officers went into separate meetings of Session and the Diaconate.

Session Meeting

Opening items:

- With a quorum present, the Session meeting started at 7:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.
- The meeting agenda was approved.

Consent Agenda: the items below were approved unanimously:

- Approve the minutes of the minutes of the Stated Session Meeting on March 28, 2022
- Receive the March 2021 financial reports (attached to F&A meeting minutes)

- Approve the baptism of Graham Steven Monson, son of Steve and Alex Monson, at the 8:30 am service on May 1, 2022, to be administered by Rev Aram Bae
- Approve the baptisms of Avery Rose Ball and Lily Adele Ball, daughters of Brian and Michelle Ball, at the 11 am service on May 29, 2022, to be administered by Rev David Forney

Old Business: Revision to the Articles of Endowment

- Aram reviewed the process for making changes to the Articles of Endowment, noting the requirement for a vote of approval at two consecutive Session meetings.
- At the March 28 Session meeting, Session had its first vote for approval of the following motion made by the Welcome & Worship Committee with endorsement from the Endowment Committee:
That Session approve replacing the Choral Masterworks Endowment Fund, a special endowment, with the proposed “Music Endowment Fund”
- The summary of the proposed changes had been distributed again in advance of the meeting, and there were no questions or further discussion.
- With its second vote on the motion, Session unanimously approved the changes to the Articles of Endowment as proposed.

[Approved Music Endowment Fund description attached]

Reports from Committees and Work Groups:

- Draft minutes and reports from the following were submitted in advance of the meeting along with the meeting agenda: Adult Ministry, Children & Family Ministry, Christian Outreach, Endowment, Finance & Administration, Personnel, Preschool, and Stewardship committees, Board of Deacons, and Clerk.

New Business:

- Covenant Pastor Recommendation
 - On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Victoria Kean made the following motion:
That Session approve the proposed Covenant Pastor for Families Covenant between Rachel Sutphin and the Session of First Presbyterian Church
 - The covenant as well as Rachel’s resume, faith statement, and cover letter had been included in Session’s meeting packet.
 - Victoria noted the covenant was a recommendation from the Covenant Pastor Search Committee and was fully supported by the Personnel Committee.
 - Brew Brewbaker, who chaired the search committee, provided a summary of Rachel’s background and described the search process that had led to four finalists.
 - Search committee members Sally Clarry, Caitlin Thomson, and Trip Walker along with Brew commented on Rachel’s outstanding credentials and enthusiastically endorsed her as the clear choice for our Covenant Pastor Families position.
 - Brew explained that POJ rules for full-time covenant pastors had changed during the search process: Rachel must be covered by the BOP benefits plan instead of FPC’s benefits plan for non-installed pastors, which increases the annual expense by \$9,500. Brew noted that this unanticipated expense will not impact the 2022 budget given other expense changes and that the Personnel Committee is looking at potential adjustments to future budgets to cover the added cost.
 - After discussion, Session approved the motion joyfully and unanimously by voice vote.

- On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Victoria made a motion that Session approve the use of \$4,000 from the Operating Reserve as a relocation allowance for the new Covenant Pastor for Families and the motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Thanksgivings and Commendations:

- Covenant Pastor Search Committee for its commitment and discernment
- Brew Brewbaker and George Moore for their presentation on the Honduras mission trip

Announcements

- Mission Matters, Saturday, April 30, 2022, 9 am to 12 pm
- Leader Database training via zoom: Sunday, May 1, 2022, at 4:00 pm and Thursday, May 5, 2022, at 6:30 pm
- Sunday, May 22, 2022: one worship service led by youth at 10 am; recognition of new members, confirmands, and staff; picnic following worship
- Next Stated Session Meeting: Monday, May 23, 2022, at 7 pm Devotions: Amy Gillespie
- Pentecost Sunday, June 5, 2022, with celebration of construction completion
- POJ Meeting: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 Commissioners: Charlie Chadwick, Chris Dean, Reid Thompson (tentative), and Wayne Mullins (if zoom attendance is possible) with David Maloney as a substitute
- Session meeting on July 25, instead of June 27

The moderator adjourned the meeting with a benediction at 8:05 pm.

Minutes recorded by Clerk of Session Judy Blair

Approved 5.23.22

MUSIC ENDOWMENT FUND

The purpose of the music endowment fund is to facilitate the programming of additional and large-scale music presentations at First Presbyterian Church, thereby enhancing the worship experience and inspiring the congregation and community at large to praise and glorify God. The income from this endowment is to be used in such ways as supporting guest instrumentalists and soloists, renting orchestral scores, purchasing music for major works, and covering other expenses incurred in producing special music at the church. In the past, this endowment was used exclusively for the Sanctuary Choir's presentation of significant sacred choral works. This focus will continue to be a primary role of this fund, but opportunities to support handbells, praise team and other musical offerings would be possible.

The principal of this fund is to be invested as part of the total endowments held by First Presbyterian Church and administered in keeping with the Articles of Endowment. Recommendations for specific disbursement of the income from the endowment are to be determined by a subcommittee of the Welcome and Worship Committee of the Session, whose members will include the Director of Music Ministries and at least one additional member of the Welcome and Worship Committee.

Replaces Choral Masterworks Endowment Fund as approved by Session on 4.25.22