

**Minutes of Stated Session Meeting  
First Presbyterian Church  
Charlottesville, Virginia  
October 25, 2021**

**Attendees:**

**Pastor and Moderator:** David Forney

**Associate Pastor and Vice Moderator:** Aram Bae

<b>Ruling Elders:</b>	<b>Class of 2021</b>	<b>Class of 2022</b>	<b>Class of 2023</b>
	Robert Brewbaker	Christine Dean	Judy Blair
	Lori Chapman (E)	Amy Gillespie	Victoria Kean
	Terry Forbes (E)	Rich Lutz	David Maloney
	Susan Howard-Smith	Cathy Meaney	Carolyn Pettit
	Jennifer Jones (E)	Monika Mentzer	Reid Thompson
	Gary Selmeczi	Wayne Mullins	
	Tom Towberman	David Schmidt	
	Ada Trowbridge		

**Clerk of Session:** Judy Blair

**Guests:** Anne Anderson, Bob and Dixie Childress, Diana Freeman, Jean Hughes

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

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**Opening items:**

- With a quorum present, Moderator David Forney called the zoom meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- Aram Bae led the group in devotion and prayer.
- The moderator led the reading of the Vision and Mission Statement.

**Reception of New Members:**

- Anne Anderson, Bob and Dixie Childress, Diana Freeman, and Jean Hughes were introduced, and they shared their faith journeys and desire to join First Pres.
- After answering the questions for membership, they were unanimously received into active membership.
  - Anne Anderson by letter of transfer from Conyers Presbyterian Church, Conyers, GA
  - Bob and Dixie Childress by reaffirmation of faith
  - Diana Freeman by reaffirmation of faith
  - Jean Hughes by reaffirmation of faith

**Consent Agenda:** with a correction to commissioner names and meeting date noted in the September Session meeting minutes, the following items were approved unanimously:

- Approve minutes for the Stated Session Meeting on September 27, 2021
- Receive the September 2021 financial reports (attached to F&A meeting minutes)

- Approve the use of \$30,000 from the accumulated income fund of the Mission & Benevolence Endowment to support Massanetta's refugee relief project (COC with the Endowment Committee's assessment that the expenditure is consistent with the Articles of Endowment – project details attached)
- Approve the baptism of Charlotte Grace Ravitsky, daughter of Greg and Ashley Ravitsky, to be administered by Rev. David Forney (date to be determined)
- Approve removing Hans Carlson, Kate Carlson, Mallory Densmore, Sherrie Gehrig, Tom Gehrig, Melissa Rodgers, and Spencer Rodgers from the church membership rolls due to no valid address and no participation in worship or work of the congregation for more than 2 years prior to the pandemic
- Approve the transfer of Carol Tanner's membership to First Presbyterian Church, Ashland, Kentucky

**Confirmation of Electronic Vote:** To close on our construction loan, Session approved via electronic vote on October 6, 2021, the following motion regarding a property deed transfer from the church to the corporation:

The Session authorizes trustees Judy Blair, Monika Mentzer, and Terry Forbes to execute the transfer of deed, in accordance with the Board of Trustees meeting, June 21, 2010.

**Old Business:**

- Update on FGH loan: the loan is scheduled to close before the end of week.

**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: Children & Family Ministry, Christian Outreach, Finance & Administration, Personnel, Preschool, Property Management, and Welcome & Worship committees, Board of Deacons, and Clerk.
- Building Design Committee
  - After reviewing the scope of the Building Design Committee's responsibilities, the moderator entertained a motion to dissolve the committee.
  - The following motion was made, seconded, and approved unanimously:  
That Session dissolve with deep gratitude the Building Design Committee, which has concluded its work with the completion of the renovation and plans in place for the addition.
  - Committee members Terry Forbes, John Meaney, Judy Blair, Nancy Roche, and Jocelyn Kelley and staff members David Forney and Michael Joyce were thanked for their dedication to the project and will be recognized at the beam signing on October 31.
- Staffing
  - With occupancy approval for our renovated spaces, the church office re-opened today, and staff members are moving into their new offices this week.
  - David Forney announced that Susan Lawson will not return to in-person work due to health issues. He asked that Session hold Susan in prayer and noted that ways to express our gratitude for Susan's 23 years at FPC will be forthcoming.
  - Ellen Roberson will fill office administrator/ receptionist duties on an interim basis as staffing requirements are assessed.

### **New Business:**

- Oct 16 POJ meeting
  - Commissioners Gary Selmeczi and Carolyn Pettit reported on the recent POJ meeting.
  - They highlighted the meaningful sermons by candidates for ministry and the discussion about continuing education requirements for clergy.
- Committee assignments for 2022
  - The packet of meeting materials included documentation of committee assignments for the next year.
  - One correction was noted: only Monika Mentzer is assigned by Session to the Endowment Committee; David Maloney serves on the committee as an advisory member.
- 2022 Operating Budget
  - David Schmidt explained that additional work with representatives of several committees is needed on the budget for next year.
  - The 2022 budget should be ready for review and approval at the November meeting along with a recommendation from the Personnel Commission on use of PPP loan monies.

### **Thanksgivings and Commendations:**

- Mac Walker, David Forney, Judy Blair, and Claire Linden for their extensive behind the scenes work on the construction loan
- Those who have volunteered as Sunday Morning class teachers for our children

### **Announcements**

- An opportunity to support Mission Partner PACEM thru its fundraising calendar sale
- Children & Family Ministry still has teacher openings, particularly for our young children's classes
- New Member receptions and Bean Signing: October 31, 2021
- Mission Partners Sunday: November 7, 2021; the activities between services will be held outside
- Dedication Sunday: November 14, 2021
- Celebration of David and Liz Forney's 10th anniversary at FPC: November 21, 2021
- Kitchen Re-opening: November 21, 2021, if possible
- Hanging of the Greens: November 21, 2021, at 5 pm with light supper
- Next Stated Session Meeting: November 22, 2021, at 7pm. Devotions: Monika Mentzer
- Advent begins November 28, 2021

The meeting was adjourned with a benediction by David Forney at 8:25 pm.

Minutes recorded by Clerk of Session Judy Blair

Approved Nov 22, 2021