



**Southport Presbyterian Church  
Minutes of the Stated Session Meeting  
October 25, 2022**

Moderator Rev. Robert Lapp called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

Present: Rev. Robert Lapp, Elders Rick Barton, Mike Blau, Kurt Bryan, Nora Dziuban, Suzanne Hayes, Erik Hedblom, Julia Hill, Robert Lambert, Joe Lhotsky, Jude Skowron, Carson Williams

Excused: Rev. Joanna Hipp, Elder Bob Blaber

Erik Hedblom offered the opening prayer.

**Clerk's Time**

- Motion by Julia Hill, seconded by Carson Williams to approve the minutes of the Sept. 27 Session Meeting and the minutes of the Oct. 23 Called Congregational Meeting was approved.
- Membership update: Active 285, Affiliate 25, Total 310
- Correspondence: information from Rev. Nancy Gladden about a gathering at Camp Kirkwood for small churches.

**Pastor's report**

- An Elder is needed to participate in the installation of the new pastor at Shallotte Presbyterian on Sunday, Nov. 6 at 4:00 PM.
- Elders are invited to sign a card of best wishes for Liz Jahnes on her wedding on Sept. 28.
- Southport Presbyterian will celebrate our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in May, 2023. Linda Daily, Gay Ausband, Maggie Lhotsky and Gibby Wilson have agreed to take the lead in planning the celebration. Motion to approve this committee was made by Mike Blau, seconded by Nora Dziuban and approved.
- Based on comments from the congregation, Rev. Lapp suggests that a synopsis of Session meetings be included in the weekly email to the congregation. A motion to begin this in January was made by Suzanne Hayes seconded by Julia Hill and approved.
- Rev. Lapp displayed a sample of the "clutch crosses" made by Dan Griffith. Like the prayer shawls made by the knitting group, they are available to those facing difficult times.

**Action Items**

- Finance committee moved that John Schmuhl take the position of Treasurer upon the resignation of Gary Phipps effective October 31. Approved. This will be recorded with the State of North Carolina.
- Motion by Nora Dziuban seconded by Bob Lambert to serve communion at the 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM Christmas Eve services. Approved.

- Mission Committee moved that Southport Presbyterian enter into a partnership with Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity which would mean a \$25,000 contribution plus participation by church members on the work team. Approved.
- Personnel Committee presented a job description for the Worship Technical Director to be included in the Manual of Administrative Operations. Approved.
- Carson Williams made a motion seconded by Rick Barton that Rev. Lapp's contract be renewed for 2023: effective salary \$75,000 plus mandated benefits for a total of \$114,078. Approved.

### **Information Items**

- Treasurer's Report: Sept. income \$42,865; Expenses \$46,303
- Finance and Stewardship – income has been less than expenses in recent months. Committees may need to reduce their budget requests for 2023. The Faith Budget is based on a 10% increase. The Stewardship campaign is under way; Commitment Sunday will be Nov. 13.
- Pastor Nominating Committee: Rick Barton reported that the PNC is working on the Ministry Information Form with input from the Holy Cow survey. When the MIF is completed, it must be approved by Session and the Presbytery through Rev. Hannah Vaughan. There will be a presentation on the results of the Holy Cow survey on Nov. 3 at 5:00 PM.
- The Eucharistic Ministry team served communion to Edythe Smith, Peg Johnson, and Lena Fisher. They also visited with Mim Bethards and Judy Sawyer's daughter Gail Morris.
- Mission Committee
  - September benevolence expenses were \$1,719.00.
  - Researched and recommended the Habitat for Humanity partnership
  - Bob Lambert will do the Minute for Mission on Oct. 30
  - Pizza party for Coastal Villas on Oct. 26.
  - There will be a Thanksgiving dinner prepared for residents of Coastal Villas on Nov. 17.
  - An Angel Tree to benefit our five adopted families will be set up in late November.
  - Caroling and refreshments will be at Coastal Villas on Dec. 4 at 1:00 PM
- Adult Christian Education
  - Classes are scheduled through Spring.
  - Looking into a session on climate change as seen by young people.
- Children, Youth and Family
  - Movie night is planned for November 4.
  - Children's Christmas Pageant will be on Dec. 4.
- Building and Grounds: Work days are planned for grounds clean up on Oct. 29 and Nov. 5 from 8:00 AM to noon.
- Administration and Communication – Work continues with a new project manager for the new website. Hopefully it will be completed by year's end.

## **Old Business**

- Building and Grounds found only two items on the emergency response checklist that were appropriate for them to be responsible for. Further analysis will be necessary.
- Pastor Robb reported that our insurance agent feels we adequate insurance for the new pianos and sound equipment.

## **New Business**

- Pastor Robb reported that there will be an Inquirer's Group meeting on Nov. 5. Mike Blau moved that there should be a called Session meeting on Sunday, Nov. 6 at 10:15 to receive new members. The motion was seconded by Rick Barton and was approved.
- After some discussion, there was consensus that there should be worship services on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.
- Pastor Robb reported that a couple who had originally planned a wedding at our church on Oct. 22, has not contacted the church nor Rev. Bob Lee, the officiant, despite multiple efforts to contact them. There is a question of how to return their deposit.
- Elder Kurt Bryan announced that he will have to resign from the Session for health reasons. He has not yet set a date.

## **Calendar Review**

Oct. 28 – Liz Jahnes' wedding

Oct. 30 – All Saints Day, Reformation Sunday

Nov. 5 – Inquirer's Gathering at 10:00 AM

Nov. 6 – Daylight Savings Ends, communion, called Session meeting 10:15

Nov. 13- Stewardship Campaign Commitment Sunday

Nov. 20 – Community Thanksgiving service at Southport Community Center at 5:00 PM

Nov. 27 – First Sunday of Advent

Dec. 2 – Blood drive at SPC, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Dec. 4 – Second Sunday of Advent, communion, Children's Pageant

Dec. 11 – Third Sunday of Advent, Choir cantata, luncheon after worship

Dec. 18 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve, candlelight communion services at 4:00 and 7:00 PM

Dec. 25 – Christmas Day

Jan. 1 – Communion worship service

## **Joy**

Julia Hill's neighbor, Jim Corn, has returned home and is having physical and occupational therapy

## **Concerns**

Suzanne Hayes' grandson Micah will have a CAT scan of his skull on Nov. 4

George and Jean McVeigh's daughter is at home after spinal surgery at the Mayo Clinic

Rich Ulrich continues treatment and therapy

Gary Phipps will have surgery on Nov. 9. His wife's sister has died, and the memorial service will be in Indiana

There was a unanimous agreement to adjourn. Rev. Lapp gave a benediction at 8:00 PM.

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Carol Hazelton, Clerk of Session

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Rev. Robert H. Lapp, Moderator