



**Southport Presbyterian Church  
Minutes of Stated Session Meeting  
January 24, 2023**

**Present:** Rev. Robert Lapp, Rev. Joanna Hipp, Elders Robert Bird, Julia Hill, Carson Williams, Laura Nettles, Erik Hedblom, Robert Blaber, Robert Lambert, Rita Wissinger, Holly Mayberry

**Excused:** Nora Dziuban, Rick Barton

**Guests:** Rev. Hannah Vaughan, Kathy Bird, Sharon Byrum

Rev. Lapp called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM, and Julia Hill offered the opening prayer.

A motion by Carson Williams that the agenda be adopted was seconded by Bob Bird and approved.

**Report from the Pastor Nominating Committee**

Kathy Bird introduced Rev. Hannah Vaughan, the Committee on Ministry liaison to our PNC. Kathy reported that the Ministry Information Form has been completed. She presented the MIF to the Session and requested Session approval. Elder Erik Hedblom moved Session approval, and Julia Hill seconded the motion. Session approved unanimously. The MIF will be uploaded to the Church Leadership Connection website and then must be approved by our Clerk of Session and the Presbytery Committee on Ministry chairperson, Rick Martindale. Our MIF will then be accessible to candidates seeking a call who can submit their Personal Information Form to our PNC.

**Clerk's Time**

- The minutes of the Nov. 29 Stated Session Meeting and the Dec. 18 Called Session Meeting were approved per the motion by Carson Williams and the second by Bob Lambert.
- The Agenda for the Jan. 29 Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of Southport Presbyterian Church was presented.
- Membership update: Active 285; Affiliate 23; Total 308
- Correspondence
  - Rev. Nancy Gladden requested a summary of Mission outreach activities to share with other churches. A list that can be seen on the website has been sent to her.
- Our pledge to the Presbytery per the 2023 budget has been sent in.
- The annual statistical report has been submitted to Presbytery.
- Elders were requested to sign up to be Elder of the Month with duties in the Manual of Administrative Operations

- Member Care lists were distributed to Elders and Deacons
- We need to add a statement in our Manual of Administrative Operations that “vulnerable adults” are protected from harm on our premises and during church activities.

### **Pastors’ reports**

- Rev. Lapp requested Session clarification and approval concerning what role retired pastor Rev. Ann Jahnes might take in future activities. It was moved by Carson Williams and seconded by Julia Hill that Rev. Jahnes should be invited to preach at our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and that the current pastors should have the discretion to invite Rev. Jahnes to participate in future events. The session approved unanimously.
- Rev. Lapp reviewed the process that the PNC will follow as they receive Personal Information Forms from interested candidates.
- Greeting cards were circulated for Gary Phipps, Ellen and Rhodes Messick, and Edythe Smith were circulated for Elders to sign.
- Elders are requested to submit very brief highlights of their committee activities to the Clerk of Session for inclusion in the agenda.
- Rev. Lapp will be out of town on the first Thursday of the month in order to participate in the Committee on Ministry.
- The Road to Re-Opening Task Force recommends wearing masks in our facilities since Covid rates have increased again.
- Linda Daly, Maggie Lhotsky, Gibby Wilson, Gay Ausband, Kate de Barros, and Ginny Prunty are making plans for the celebration of SPC’s 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in May.
- Our new Southport-Oak Island Inter-Church Fellowship representatives are Jane Henderson and Rick Mayberry. Approval was moved by Carson Williams, seconded by Bob Blaber and passed.
- Rev. Lapp will preach at the Feb. 24 SOIICF noon worship service on Feb. 24.
- Session will need to appoint Elders to chair the Congregational Nominating Committee and the Personnel Committee.

### **Action Items**

- Finance Committee requests confirmation of the electronic vote which approved moving \$2,600 from the Associate Pastor Fund and \$2,902.07 from the Endowment Fund to balance the budget for 2022. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Finance moved a correction to the 2023 budget adding \$184.00 to Personnel to correct an oversight. The motion was approved.
- The Girl Scout Team that meets in Fellowship Hall has requested permission to sell cookies outside after a worship service. The motion to approve was made by Erik Hedblom, seconded by Julia Hill and approved.
- Rev. Lapp requested approval for a Called Session Meeting in the Pastor’s office at 9:45 on Feb. 19 to receive new members. The motion was made by Holly Mayberry, seconded by Carson Williams and approved.

## Information Items

- **Treasurer's report:** December income \$60,322, Expenses \$51,813
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- **Administration & Communication:**
  - A training session for the new website was held on January 19 and the website should go live on January 24.
  - Birthday greetings to members will be sent via E-cards in order to save cost of cards and postage.
  - The Opportunities for Involvement information will be shared with all committees.
  - Office volunteers will be recognized and thanked in February.
  - A tablet with photos showing SPC mission activities will be available on the table in the narthex by the offering box.
- **Finance & Stewardship** – see attached budget
- **Children Youth & Family**
  - Classes for Elementary, Youth and Confirmation are meeting.
  - The Children's Christmas Pageant was extremely well received.
  - Children will help collect donations for Souper Bowl Sunday
  - Easter Egg Hunt is planned for April 1
  - Family Game Night will be Jan. 27, Feb. 25, and March 25
  - CYF committee will plan games for the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary weekend
  - VBS plans are being discussed for early June
  - There will be a children's craft booth at the July 4<sup>th</sup> festival.
  - Youth will go to Montreat July 15-22. A fundraiser will be held in March
- **Adult Christian Education** – There is a tentative schedule of Adult Forum classes through 2023. Candace Bland's first class on Jan. 8 was well attended. On Feb. 10 the movie Shadow Lands will be shown.
- **Mission** – There will be a wall blessing at the Habitat for Humanity House on Feb. 3 at 2:30 PM.
- **Building & Grounds** – Bob Bird reported that the fire sprinkler system need work. The north side of the building has been power washed. Some electrical repairs are needed.

## New Business

- Laura Nettles reported that Children, Youth & Family request a change in policy eliminating the requirement that nursery volunteers must be members for six months. They would still have to have Safe .... Training.  
Laura moved the change in policy which was approved.
- Pastor Joanna reported that members of the youth group will go to the Montreat summer youth conference. CYF requests authorization for up to three fundraisers to support the youth attendance at the conference. The first fundraiser will be a Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 21. The motion was approved.

### **Calendar Review**

Jan 27 Games night 6:30 to 8:30 PM  
Jan 29 Worship 11:00 followed by the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and the Corporation of Southport Presbyterian Church  
Feb. 5 Worship & Communion  
Feb. 11 Inquirers' Gathering  
Feb. 12 Worship & fellowship, Souper Bowl Sunday  
Feb 13 Dr. McCaffray presents "Update on the War in Ukraine", 6:00 PM  
Feb. 19 Called Session meeting, 9:45 to accept new members  
Feb. 26 Worship & fellowship; Pastor Joanna will participate in the installation service of Rev. Katie Harrington at St Andrew's Covenant Presbyterian Church, Wilmington  
Feb. 28 Session meeting 6:30 PM  
March 5 Worship and communion  
March 8 Blood drive 10:00 – 3:00

### **Joys and Concerns**

Allen Eyre recovering from knee surgery; Ken Boyd, suffering from dementia, moved to the Landing, Oak Island; Vicky Gaskill having complications following cataract surgery; Dan Zappa will have brain surgery at Duke; Edythe Smith celebrating her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday.

A motion to adjourn was made by Julia Hill, seconded by Erik Hedblom and approved.  
Rev. Lapp offered the closing prayer at 8:25 PM

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Carol Hazelton, Clerk of Session

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Robert H. Lapp, Moderator