

Southport Presbyterian Church
Stated Session Meeting
6:30 PM, April 25, 2023

In Attendance: Rev. Robert Lapp, Rev. Joanna Hipp, Elders: Bob Blaber, Bob Bird, Nora Dziuban, Erik Hedblom, Julia Hill, Bob Lambert, Laura Nettles, Carson Williams, Rita Wissinger, Guests: Sharon Byrum, Ken Griffin, Sherrill Sykes, Clerk Pro Tem Laura Cacchione

Excused: Rick Barton, Linda Becken, Holly Mayberry

Rev. Robert Lapp called the meeting to order, noting that a quorum was present, and Rev. Joanna Hipp opened the meeting with prayer, reading from Matthew 25: 31-45.

Clerk's Time

- The following guests were introduced and welcomed to the Session meeting: Sherrill Sykes (Adult Education Ministry), Sharon Byrum and Ken Griffin (Personnel Committee).
- Motion was made by Nora Dziuban and seconded by Julia Hill to approve the agenda with the addition of a Presbytery Report under New Business. **Motion passed.**
- Motion was made by Nora Dziuban and seconded by Rita Wissinger to approve the minutes of the April 16 Called Session meeting. **Motion passed.**
- Motion was made by Julia Hill and seconded by Bob Bird to approve moving the May Stated Session meeting to May 30, 2023. **Motion passed.**
- Membership update: Active 277 (Janet Porterfield -Transferred, Patricia Kelley removed by request, Angie Kaley, Ken Kaley, Joanne Kaley, Eleanor Kaley, and Samantha Sparks moved to affiliate by request) Affiliate 24 (death of Bob Brown, Pat Praet- transferred, Timothy Kelley removed by request) Total membership 301
- The Clerk Carol Hazelton and Laura Cacchione continue to work on the church rolls.

Action Items

1. The Adult Education Committee made a motion to host a Rally Day event on Sunday, September 10, following the worship service in fellowship hall. The purpose is to share opportunities in the life of the church for growth and service. Sherrill S. explained the plan in detail. (See handout) **Motion passed.** Sherrill thanked the Session and left the meeting.
2. Rev. Lapp turned the Moderator role over to Rev. Hipp. Ken Griffin presented the Personnel Report regarding the replacement of the Administrative Assistant position. Rev. Lapp spoke to the Session and shared thoughts regarding this position. After the Personnel report and discussion, Erik Hedblom made, and Carson Williams seconded the following motion: To approve the hiring of Bonnie Slocum as the Interim Office Administrator to train for the week of April 17, 2023, and beginning May 1, 2023, to work 20 hours per week at an hourly rate of \$19.00, until further direction from the Session. Bonnie will be asked to take a leave of absence from her Deacon position while

employed. **Motion passed.** Rev. Hipp returned the Moderator role to Rev. Lapp. Sharon Byrum and Ken Griffin thanked the Session and left the meeting.

3. Carson Williams made a motion to have Southport Presbyterian, along with other members churches of SOIIF, sponsor and host a workshop offered by the YWCA on inclusiveness training. Erik Hedblom seconded. (See Diversity Training Attachment) Nora Dziuban added “at no cost to presenters” to the motion. **Motion passed.**

Committee reports

- **PNC** – Carson Williams reported the interview process continues.
- **Treasurer’s report: March expenses \$39,798 March income \$37,655 (See Financial Overview Attachment)** This report was received as presented.
- **Administration and Communication** – No report.
- **Adult Christian Education** – Bob Blaber reported a concern with low attendance numbers for Adult Ed classes. For the next Session agenda, he would like to hear from the other ministries about ways to communicate and promote both classes and other activities of the church.
- **Buildings and Grounds-** Bob Byrd reported that clearing the brush from the perimeter of the property was completed. There has not been any movement on the signage on Moore St. currently.
- **Children, Youth and Family-** Laura Nettles reported on April events including: the Easter Egg Hunt, Youth work at the Food Pantry, and the fundraisers for the Montreat Conference. All were well attended. Rev. Hipp thanked the Session for their support of the fundraisers. Laura Nettles gave a reminder of the Friday, April 28th movie (Dr. Doolittle) event.
- **Finance and Stewardship**-no report
- **Mission** – Bob Lambert reported that the Mission Ministry would like the scholarships given at BCC to be named in memory/honor of Reita Cockrell and Lena Fisher. The following motion was made by Bob Lambert and seconded by Carson Williams: The BCC scholarship will be called The Southport Presbyterian Church Scholarship in memory of Reita Cockrell and in honor of Lena Fisher. **Motion passed.**
- **Matthew 25** – SPC has chosen to focus on systemic poverty as a Matthew 25 church. Session viewed the video narrated by Rev Dr Diane Moffett.

Pastors’ Report

- Rev Lapp has been approached by church members with some questions about Worship. Initially, he suggested a Task Force be formed to discuss and address the questions/concerns. Instead of a Task Session, Session has asked to make this an item on May’s agenda.
- Rev. Joanna spoke of her work with the Coastal Carolina Presbytery.

New Business

Bob Bird and Rita Wissingr reported on the Presbytery workshop they attended. They complemented SPC's former minister, Rev Dr. Ann B Jahnes, on her presentation. A model presented for church work was doing, belonging, believing. Do not count numbers, instead check vitality.

Old Business

None

Calendar Review

May 7, 2023- Communion at 11:00 am service (Elder Carson Williams will arrange Communion Servers.)

May 10, 2023 -10:00 am to 3:00 pm - Fellowship Hall Red Cross Drive

May 13, 2023- PW Mothers 'Day Tea 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

May 20, 2023- 125th Anniversary Celebration 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

May 21, 2023- 11:00 AM – Reverend Dr. Ann B Jahnes preaching

May 29, 2023 – Memorial Day - Church Office closed

Joys and Concerns

Joys:

Lucy Hedblom has been accepted to a competitive music program and will be finishing high school at the college facility (UNSA).

Congregation support for the youth.

Ellen and Rhodes Messick have returned to Southport, residing at Terra Bella

Bob Lambert's cancer is isolated and treatment options are available.

Concerns:

Prayers were raised for the following individuals for healing: Holly Mayberry, Doug Becken, Sally Barton, Judy Wetzig, Susan Spencer, Micah Boman

With no further business to conduct, Erik Hedblom made a motion to adjourn. Nora Dziuban seconded the motion. **Motion passed.**

Rev Lapp offered the closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Laura Cacchione, Clerk per Tem of Session

Robert H. Lapp, Moderator