

**First Presbyterian Church  
Session Meeting  
Monday, January 23, 2023**

A session meeting of First Presbyterian Church (Greensboro) convened on Monday, January 23, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. in the Mullin Life Center. Rev. Dr. Jill Duffield, Senior Pastor, served as moderator. There were 45 elders in attendance and 5 excused absences. In addition to Rev. Duffield, Rev. Newton Cowan, and Rev. Deborah Conner, attendees included Director of Property and Operations Tim Millisor, Director of Finance Christine Ciaccio, Erwin Fuller, David Thompson, Jeff Sapp, Dr. Cathy Akens, Susan Giraldo and Ed Giraldo.

**Welcome**

Rev. Dr. Jill Duffield opened the meeting with Psalm 63 and a prayer.

**Consent Agenda**

The Annual Presbytery Statistical Report 2022 was removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion under New Business. A motion was made, seconded and approved with no objections to accept the Consent Agenda:

From the Clerk: Minutes of the December 12, 2022 stated meeting [attached]

From the Discipleship Office December 2022 membership reports [attached]

Committee Report for Adult Formation and Children's Formation [attached]

Memorial Tributes for Dawn Peterson Law and George Daniel Robison [attached]

**Time to Connect**

Rev. Dr. Duffield asked Elders seated around tables to share "one word to describe how you are feeling and why."

**Receive New Members**

Susan and Ed Giraldo were introduced as new members from Dallas, TX.

A motion was made and seconded to receive them into membership and approved by acclamation.

Rev. Dr. Duffield reported that Kenneth Brooks has asked to be reinstated as an active member, which was moved and approved by acclamation.

**Outreach**

Rev. Deborah Conner introduced FPC member Jeff Sapp, Executive Director of Development at UNCG School of Arts and Sciences. Mr. Sapp introduced Dr. Cathy Akens, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs who presented a report on the UNCG Student Assistance Fund for Emergencies (SAFE) program. She provided information about student food insecurity and other student financial challenges and the impact of FPC's \$40,000 gift to support for this fund.

## **Finance**

Finance Committee Chair Chuck Norman presented the December 12, 2022 motion from the Property Committee and Finance Committee that the Session approve a portion of the balance of the proceeds to pay off the loan and the associated expenses [totaling over \$39,000] related to the sale [of the Greene Street properties] including reimbursing the Memorial Fund for the relocation expenses paid to Faith Action and relocation of the playground equipment, and the payment committed to Step Up for their relocation expenses.

The motion was approved with no objections.

### **Report on 2022**

Mr. Norman reviewed the December 31, 2022, Summary Financial report and the Statement of Operating Activities [attached]. He highlighted details of revenue and expenses and reported that the 2022 approved deficit budget of \$55,609 ended with a surplus of \$126,401 (with capital campaign revenue omitted).

Our Cash position remains strong at \$602,814.

The required year-end payment of \$108,000 on the Capital Loan reduced the balance to \$300,000 which will be further reduced by the \$7033 gift received at the end of 2022.

### **2023 Budget**

Mr. Norman reported that the Budget Committee presented the 2023 budget to the Finance Committee for approval and, without changes, it is now being presented to Session.

The budget for 2023 is based accurately on actuals from 2022 with some sensitivity to previous year aberrations due to the impact of Covid.

The 2023 budget includes revenue of \$4,187,354 and expenses of \$4,255,443 which is a deficit budget of \$68,088.

The deficit budget is a product of flat giving units, increasing expenses for the maintenance of property, increasing role of technology (IT) in our worship and operations, and the challenge of hiring and keeping staff that help us carry out our mission.

There is an added line item for Restricted Proceed Funds Support as a holding place for potential proceeds from the sale of the Greene Street Properties to meet some property associated expenses.

The Motion to accept the 2023 Budget as presented was approved with no objections.

### **Stewardship**

Stewardship Committee Chair Ralph Davison reported that 445 giving units have pledged \$2,470,970; an additional \$129,030 is needed to fully fund our ministries. Eighty giving units

that gave in 2022 have not yet committed for 2023; the committee is following up with them. Another approximately 500 giving units in the congregation have never made a pledge; if they each pledged \$12.50 per month, we would plug the \$68,000 budget gap. Mr. Davison thanked the Session members for their pledges.

### **Scripture Reading**

Scott Faircloth read 2 Corinthians 4:5-12.

### **Faith Sharing**

Lori Richardson shared her Faith Journey.

### **Prayers of the People**

Rev. Newton Cowan offered Prayers of the People.

### **Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC)**

Search Committee Chair Charlie Younce presented the Ministry Information Form (MIF) for the Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, as recommended by the committee that includes Younce, Jean Goodman, Diane Aycock, Randy Jackson, Ty Buckner, Frank Johns, and LaVonne Fisher.

The motion to approve the MIF was seconded and approved with no objections.

### **Nominating**

Chair Katherine Farless reported that the committee met weekly beginning in September and will present a dynamic slate of 20 Elders for Class of 2026 to be announced soon. The Nominating Committee has discussed the size of Session and recommends that a task force of five members (to be presented at the next Session meeting) be appointed to study and bring to Session a recommendation about optimal size of the Session.

### **Appointments Committee**

Chair Martha Turner reminded Elders to complete and return the Committee Preference Form before Friday, Jan. 27, 2023.

### **Call for Congregational Meeting**

Rev. Dr. Duffield requested the Call of a Congregational Meeting to elect Elders and consider any Change of Call for pastors on March 5 at the beginning of 11:00 a.m. service. There were no objections, and the meeting is so ordered.

### **New Business**

Rev. Cowan presented a motion from the Congregational Care Committee:

Per the declaration of the Sadye Bowles Ministry Fund, the Congregational Care Committee presented a motion that Randy Jackson be named a member of the Sadye Bowles Ministry Team beginning on the approval of this motion. The motion was approved by acclamation.

With recent changes in personnel and job descriptions, Discipleship duties are currently being handled completely by Rev. Cowan.

Representatives to the Presbytery meeting in February will be briefed in advance on the proposed Constitutional Amendments to the Book of Order that will be considered for approval.

There was a question about the "0" number of youths listed on the Annual Presbytery Statistical Report 2022 which will be checked by staff. [Feb. 7 email from Debby Foster: Confirmed Youth 17-and-under are shown under "Age Distribution of Active Members." "Youth in Congregation" is number of youth 4-and-under, grades Elementary K-5, Middle School 6-8, and HS 9-12, however, this number has not been included for the past number of years as our data is incomplete. Report submitted by Feb. 19 deadline]

### **Closing Prayer**

There being no further business, Rev. Dr. Duffield offered a closing prayer and adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne J Hurd  
Clerk of Session 2022-2023