

February 2018

PRESBYTERY MEETING REFLECTION

By Sheppards & Lapsley Moderator, Jane Clayton

The **Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley** convened for its quarterly meeting on 23 February 2018 from 2:00 – 5:00 P.M. at **First Presbyterian Church, Tuscaloosa**. Moderator Jane Clayton began the meeting with prayer.

After asking for any new business to be referred to the Stated Clerk, Presbytery voted without objection to elect Patti Winter as the Moderator for the Committee on Nominations and Representation for 2018. Presbytery also voted without objection to elect the following members of the 2018 Bills and Overtures Committee: Ruling Elder Olympia McCrackin of Brown Memorial; Teaching Elder Lindsey Wade, Transitional Pastor at Montevallo; and Teaching Elder Paul Sherwood, of Oakmont.



Stated Clerk Tom Winter recognized Ms. Sally Jackson from Northern Heights in Selma as a faithful Commissioner to Presbytery on her 101st birthday. The assembly sang *Happy Birthday* to Ms. Jackson and gave her a standing ovation.

Michael Bailey, pastor of First Tuscaloosa, welcomed everyone. Jenny Thagard then discussed the plans for Main Event, which began immediately following the Presbytery meeting.



Lou Ann Sellers reported from the Executive Council. The following actions were taken: Presbytery voted to elected Leanne Pearce Reed to the Living River Board, class of 2020; Presbytery voted to submit an overture to General Assembly to concur with the Madagascar overture previously submitted by a New York Presbytery.

Jean Russell presented the Treasurer's Report, admitted to record.

Patti Winter presented a report from the Nominations and Representation Committee. Presbytery voted without objection to elect Brenda Toomey to the class of 2020.

Jamie McLeod reported from the Commission on Ministry. The following actions were taken: Presbytery examined, approved, and commissioned two Commissioned Ruling Elders: Chuck Kukal to Bold Springs for 2018 and Olympia McCrackin to the supply preaching list; Presbytery approved the terms of call for John Brock, who will be serving as installed pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Eufaula; Presbytery voted to dissolve the Administrative Commission for Korean Presbyterian Church of Tuscaloosa, AL; Presbytery voted to approve James Ephraim for honorable retirement on 31 March 2018, with a celebration of his service to First United Presbyterian Church, Forestdale, to be held at the May Presbytery meeting.



Joe Genau reported from the Commission on Preparation for Ministry. Presbytery voted for Mary Sellers Shaw of Independent to be admitted to candidacy.

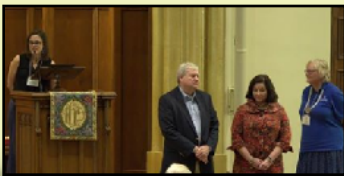


Jonathan Yarboro reported from the General Presbyter Search Committee that they recommend the Reverend Jay Wilkins for candidate as General Presbyter of PSL. Presbytery voted without objection to elect Jay Wilkins to this position.

During his report, Jay Wilkins asked two of the PneuMatrix apprentices to describe the results from their churches' experiences this past year. Daniel Killilea presented from the Montevallo group, and Catherine Mason presented from Southminster.



Bev Dodson reported from the Trustees and the following actions were taken: Presbytery voted to close Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church in April 2018 with the property being deeded to the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Inc., L.L.C. Approximately \$4500 in church funds will be given to the cemetery association to be used for future church upkeep. Presbytery Commission on Ministry will appoint a Commission to oversee the closing and final worship; Presbytery voted to approve the sale of a parking lot at Chapel in the Pines.



During the report from Living River, board members David McGiffert, Teresa Pulliam, Debbie Laws and Lock Hunter were recognized and thanked for their service.

Tom Winter read the Necrology Report and offered a closing prayer and benediction.

Jane Clayton, Moderator