

MINUTES

Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley
Synod of Living Waters
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Stated Meeting
February 23, 2018

GOD CALLS US TOGETHER

The Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley of the Synod of Living Waters of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) met in the Stated Meeting on February 23, 2018 at First Presbyterian Church in Tuscaloosa.

Throughout these minutes, Teaching Elders are indicated by an asterisk (*).

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Moderator Jane Clayton, who opened the meeting with prayer.

ORGANIZATION

On advice of the Stated Clerk, a quorum was declared by the Moderator.

Adoption of the Docket (see Appendix A-1)

The docket was adopted as amended by common consent.

Seating of Corresponding Members

Catherine Mason, Presbytery of Donegal

Recognition of First Time Commissioners and Visitors

Teaching Elders

Ministers Present (46) Excused (60) Absent (15)

Abernethy, Barrett	P	Carter, Clyde HR	E	Ephraim, James	P
Acton, Ben	P	Casey, Lydia	E	Epting, Bobbie HR	E
Adams, Nan	P	Chaney, Patsy HR	P	Feagin, Debbie	P
Alexander, Frank HR	E	Chinula, Donald	A	Frease, Matthew	E
Angelini, Betty	P	Cho, Timothy	A	Free, Zana	A
Atkerson, Rick	E	Choomack, Jim HR	E	Genau, Joe	P
Bailey, Michael	P	Clark, Molly HR	E	Goodlet James	P
Bang, Yo Chang	P	Clayton, Susan	P	Goodrich, Cat	P
John Bankson	E	Clendenin, Monty HR	E	Goodrich, Elizabeth	E
Becker, Lindsay	A	Coker, Jeff HR	E	Hanna, Richard	P
Bird, Shelaine	A	Crutchfield, Bob HR	E	Harley, Patrick	P
Booth, Ben HR	E	Dantzler, Bill HR	E	Harmon, Dawson, HR	E
Brock, John	A	Davis, Becky HR	E	Hay, Robert, HR	E
Brown, Taylor, HR	E	Davis, Lant	P	Hayes, Jeff	A
Broyles, Vernon, HR	P	Dippenaer, Vic	E	Hibbard, Norman HR	P
Bruchey, Wayne HR	E	Duke, Mickey HR	E	Hoop, Cathy	P
Burgess, Sid, HR	P	Durham, Charles HR	E	Hurley, Ed	P
Carl, Bill	P	Durham, Erica	E	Hurst, Clyce HR	E
Carleton, Rhon HR	E	Edwards, Robert	E	Inman, Robert F. HR	E

Japhet, Catherine	A	Northen, Margaret	HR E	Sims, Charles	HR	E
Jeong, Junmo	A	O'Neill, Elizabeth	E	Slane, Joe,	HR	E
Jones, Steve	P	Oh, Jyung, Ho	P	Speaker, Cary,	HR	P
Kang, JD	A	Oliver, Catherine	P	Stanford, Jim	HR	E
Kelso, Hugh,	HR	Patton, Finley	HR	Stephens, Dan		E
Kim, Sung Woong	A	Patton, Roger	HR	Stephens, Gerald	HR	E
Kim, Young	A	Pearce-Reed, Leanne	P	Thompson, Ben	HR	E
Laney, Susan,	HR	Penson, Gozie	HR	Tingle, Terry,	HR	P
Lays, Brian	P	Porter, Mary	HR	Truesdell, Jim		A
Mann, Rebecca	P	Price, Sandra	HR	Turner, Lucy		A
McCarter, Neil	HR	Pyburn, Richard,	HR	Wade, Lindsey		P
McClendon, Bruce	E	Rains, Tom	HR	Waters, Dana	HR	P
McClure, John	E	Reed, Kathy	P	Watson, Cody		P
McCormick, Mark	E	Reed, Nick	P	Webster, J. Shannon,	HR	E
McElrath, Pete	HR	Rentz-Lane, Neely	E	Wells, Jim,	HR	E
McElveen, William	HR	Scarborough, Leeann	E	Wilkins, Jay		P
McLaughlin, Wayne,	HR	Scrivner, Joe	P	Wills, Bill	HR	E
McKean, Mac	HR	Scott, Christopher	P	Winter, Rachel		P
McLeod, James	P	Seitz, Craig,	HR	Winter, Tom	HR	P
Leigh Ann Minn	P	Sellers, Lou Ann	P	Winton, Carlton,	HR	E
Moon, Hak Bae	A	Shelton, Jack	HR	Yarboro, Jonathan		P
Mylalsingh, Emerson	HR	Sherwood, Paul	P			
Newland, Terry	E	Shin, Dongouk	P			

Commission Ruling Elders with Vote

Present () Excused (0) Absent ()

Arellano, Ben	E	Kukal, Chuck	P
Bonner, Jeff	P	Sauser, Bill	E
Dodson, Beverly	P	Thomas, Roger	A
Eich, Sharon A.	A	Emerick, Robert	A
Harrison, John	A	Veasey, Lin	P

Executive Council Members/Presbytery Officers w/Vote

Present (5) Excused (3)

Baldwin, Judith	A	Reed, Rick	E
Burrowes, Linda	P	Rogers, Judy	P
Carter, Eva	P	Russell, Jean	P
Clayton, Jane	P	Toomey, Jim	E

Christian Educators, Presbyterian Women, Nominating and Trustees Moderator w/Vote

Jenny Thagard P Bill Stribling E Dotty Lessley E Patti Winter P

Elders

Number in parenthesis by church name indicates the number of commissioners authorized. "NR" indicates that the church did not have elder representation. There are seventy churches in Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley. 29 Commissioners were present.

Alexander City	First (1)	NR	
Annemanie	Arlington (1)	NR	
Anniston	Church of the Good Shepherd (1)	Janet Bain	
Anniston	First (1)	NR	
Anniston	First United (1)	NR	
Anniston	Korean(1)	NR	
Auburn	First (2)	NR	
		NR	
Bessemer	Good Hope (1)	NR	
Birmingham	Bold Springs (1)	NR	
Birmingham	Center Point (1)	NR	
Birmingham	Chapel in the Pines (1)	Bonnie Stephens	
Birmingham	Edgewood (1)	NR	
Birmingham	Fairfield Highlands (1)	NR	
Birmingham	First (1)	Mark Aldridge	
Birmingham	First United of Forestdale (1)	NR	
Birmingham	Five Mile (1)	NR	
Birmingham	Independent (5)	Beverley Krannich	
		Caryl Privett	
		NR	
		NR	
		NR	
Birmingham	Korean (1)	NR	
Birmingham	Mountain Brook (1)	Nancy Harper	
Birmingham	Oakmont (1)	Charlie Pritchett	
Birmingham	Riverchase (1)	Linda Coogan	
Birmingham	Second (1)	NR	
Birmingham	Shades Valley (1)	Dot Riley	
Birmingham	South Highland (2)	Lee Cleveland	
		Bob Hunter	
Birmingham	Southminster (1)	Bill Christians	
Birmingham	Westminster (1)	Eva Carter	
Cuba	Cuba (1)	NR	
Camden	New Trinity (1)	NR	
Carbon Hill	First (1)	NR	
Dadeville	First (1)	NR	
Dadeville	Woods (1)	NR	
Eufaula	First (1)	NR	
Gardendale	Gardendale (1)	Rodney Mewbourne	
Goodwater	First (1)	NR	
Green Pond	Green Pond (1)	Lynn Nelson	
Jacksonville	First (1)	Carolyn Padgett	
Lafayette	Lebanon (1)	NR	
Leeds	Leeds (1)	Charles Gabert	

Livingston	First (1)	Wayne Harrison
Magnolia	Rock Springs (1)	NR
Marion Junction	Marion Junction (1)	NR
Montevallo	Montevallo (1)	Judy Rogers
Montgomery	Calvary	NR
Montgomery	Immanuel (1)	NR
Montgomery	Korean (1)	NR
Montgomery	Memorial (1)	NR
Montgomery	Westminster (1)	NR
Moundville	Saint James (1)	NR
Northport	Bethel (1)	NR
Odenville	Odenville (1)	NR
Opelika	Korean	NR
Oxford	Dodson Memorial (1)	NR
Phenix City	First (1)	NR
Piedmont	First (1)	NR
Reform	First (1)	NR
Selma	Northern Heights (1)	Barbara Fears
Selma	Pisgah (1)	NR
Selma	Valley Creek (1)	NR
Springville	Springville (1)	Frankie Tatum
Sylacauga	First (1)	NR
Talladega	First (1)	NR
Troy	Williams Memorial (1)	NR
Trussville	Cahaba Springs (1)	Julie Helmers
Tuscaloosa	Brown Memorial (1)	Ben Winston
Tuscaloosa	First (3)	Kristen Hargreaves
		Mike Echols
		Amanda Fowler
Tuscaloosa	Grace (1)	Linda Grote
Tuscaloosa	Korean (1)	Duke Park
Tuskegee Institute	Westminster (1)	NR
Union Springs	Union Springs (1)	NR
Wetumpka	First (1)	Larry Mullins

Election of Moderator for the Committee on Nomination and Representation:

Patti Winter, Class of 2020 **Approved**

Election of Bill and Overtures Committee for 2018: Teaching Elders Lindsey Wade and Paul Sherwood, Ruling Elder Olympia McCrackin (Brown Memorial). **Approved**

We were warmly welcomed by The Rev. Michael Bailey.

Main Event—Jenny Thagard

After this meeting is over we will have dinner then worship. Tomorrow there will be workshops and plenary meetings. Jenny thanked Tammy Strickland for all her hard work on Main Event. The Rev. Rob Lee will be the keynote and plenary leader. Co-Moderator Denise Anderson will lead us in worship via teleconference this evening.

Executive Council Report—Lou Ann Sellers

Project to establish measurable goals: This project is not progressing as fast as we would like. A follow up note has been sent to our various committees and task teams asking the chair to add this request to their next meeting agenda so that we can move this along.

At the August Presbytery meeting, a motion was made and approved, directing the Executive Council to appoint an “Anti-Racism” task team (in conjunction with the PCUSA Anti-Racism effort). The task team has been established and have held their first meeting.

We have a “New Normal” in our culture. It is a new accountability for sexual misconduct.

Thanks to the #MeToo movement, we are more aware of the stories of so many people that are now being heard. These stories themselves are not new, but many people are finding the courage to speak for the first time.

If the experiences of people in our churches are anything like those of people everywhere else, our pews are full of #MeToo stories. They attend our worship services. They follow the news. Perhaps they are wondering why the church is not talking more about this. Clearly, everyone else is talking about it.

What does the church have to say about this #MeToo movement? The silence is loud and uncomfortable.

The Executive Council seeks your help in forming a team for the purpose of fostering conversation and a plan of action on this topic. We desire a team that will reflect and honor the great diversity of our Presbytery -- racial, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation, ministers, elders, lay people, geographic areas, etc.

We ask for your support in this effort and for your recommendation of potential members for the team. This team needs to be in place soon so please provide your recommendations to me by Thursday, March 1, 2018 at james.c.toomey@gmail.com.

Action items:

1. The Executive Council moves to elect Leanne Pearce Reed to the Living River Board, Class of 2020. **Approved**
2. The Executive Council moves to submit an overture to General Assembly to concur with the Madagascar overture previously submitted by New York Presbytery. **Approved**
Lois Palechek, convener of Madagascar Mission Network spoke to the overture.
(Appendix A-2)

Dana Waters* made the following **Motion**: “I move that the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley communicates to the Carter Center our support of this overture, requesting that they engage in such action as possible to insure that a fair and just national election be held in Madagascar in 2018 or when scheduled.” **Approved**

3. Special recognition for service to Living River (see Living River report).

Equip Nurture and Connect—(See **Appendix A-3** for full report)

Treasurer Report—Jean Russell (See **Appendix A-4** for full report)

The Stated Clerk introduced Sallie Jackson from Northern Heights Church. She is celebrating her 101st birthday. Beverly Dodson offered a prayer in honor of Mrs. Jackson and the body sang Happy Birthday.

Nomination and Representation—Patti Winter

Commission on Ministry, Class of 2020, the Nomination Committee recommends Brenda Toomey from First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham. **Approved**

The offering that was collected will be divided equally between the Presbytery Pastoral Care Fund of the Presbytery and CPM for the use of the candidates.

The body sang *I'm Gonna Live so God Can Use Me*

Commission on Ministry—Jamie McLeod

For Information:

1. The MIF for the Associate Pastor/Campus Minister at FPC-Auburn was presented and approved for circulation.
2. The COM met with Bill Christians, Clerk of Session at Southminster Presbyterian Church, and approved their request to allow Rev. Ben Acton to serve as temporary Head of Staff until their new Senior Pastor is chosen and arrives.
3. Received Temporary Supply requests from the following churches:
 - a. Church of the Good Shepherd requests permission to continue their relationship with Rev. Ed Sellers. Annual Compensation: Housing - \$20,800.00; Vacation – 1 week per quarter; Continuing Education – 1 week every six months.
 - b. Westminster Tuskegee requests permission to continue their relationship with Rev. Gregory S. Gray. Annual salary has increased by \$400.00 per Sunday with four paid vacation days.
 - c. Goodwater requests permission to continue their relationship with Rev. W.R. (Pete) McElrath on the first three Sundays of the month and Rev. Hugh Kelso on the 4th and 5th Sundays.
 - d. Mount Pleasant requests permission to continue their relationship with Rev. Ira Blanchard.
 - e. First, Dadeville requests permission to continue their relationship with CRE Ben Arellano. Compensation: \$200 per Sunday, \$50 per session meeting held on a day other than Sunday, \$50 for new Elder training, mileage at the current rate \$0.565.
 - f. First, Phenix City requests permission to continue their relationship with Rev. Taylor Brown.
 - g. Riverchase requests permission to continue their relationship with CRE Robert Emerick.
 - h. Pisgah requests permission to continue their relationship with Rev. Ira Blanchard.
 - i. Valley Creek requests permission to continue their relationship with Dr. Cecil Williamson
 - j. Calvary requests permission to continue their relationship with Rev. Lisa Winston
 - k. Bold Springs requests permission to continue their relationship with Chuck Kukal.
 - l. Gardendale requests permission to continue their relationship with Jeff Bonner
 - m. First, Piedmont requests permission to continue their relationship with Gary Black.
 - n. Green Pond requests permission to continue their relationship with Beverly Dodson.
 - o. Odenville requests permission to continue their relationship with Rev. James Elrod.
 - p. Springville requests permission to continue their relationship with Debbie Feagin and

- moderate session.
- q. Rocksprings requests permission to continue their relationship with Rev. V.L. Hackworth, Jr.
 - r. Marion Junction requests permission to continue their relationship with Dr. George Wood.
 - s. Covenant, Anniston requests permission to continue their relationship with Lin Veasey.
 - t. First, Sylacauga requests permission to continue their relationship with Rev. Charles Sims.
 - u. Union Springs requests permission to continue their relationship with William I. Sauser,
 - v. Fairfield Highlands requests permission to continue their relationship with John Harrison.
 - w. First United, Anniston requests permission to continue their relationship with Rev. John Jacobs.
4. Received the CLP/CRE Annual Report to COM for the Year 2017 from Dean of Training, Bev Dodson. **(Appendix A-5)**
 5. Leigh Ann Min has been approved to moderate a congregational meeting for Carbon Hill Presbyterian Church.
 6. Rev. Neil McCarter has been approved to supply the pulpit and moderate session meetings for Bethel Presbyterian Church.
 7. Rev. Zana Free has been approved to moderate congregational and session meeting at Chapel in the Pines.
 8. COM formed two teams to better serve the needs of the presbytery. The two teams, Congregational Care and Pastoral Care, will take the next few months to check in with every congregation and active pastor and report back any needs or concerns to the COM to be addressed as a commission.
 9. The commission examined Margaret Shoeman for transfer to Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley pending her ordination in Carlisle Presbytery. It also recommends validating her ministry as a chaplain at Birmingham Children's Hospital, again, pending ordination.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Examine and approve Chuck Kukal as a CRE at Bold Springs Presbyterian Church. Statements attached. **(Appendix A-6) Approved**
2. Examine and approve Olympia McCracken as a CRE on the supply preaching list. Statements attached. **(Appendix A-7) Approved**
Mr. Kukal and Mrs. McCrackin were commissioned as CRE's by the body **(Appendix A-8)**
3. Review and approve the Terms of Call for Rev. John Brock serving at First Presbyterian Church of Eufaula, AL. Start date: July 1, 2018 Effective Salary: \$44,000.00/year; Board of Pension 36.5% = \$16,060/year; Cell phone allowance paid by voucher = \$100/month; Meal allowance paid by voucher= \$100/month; Books & subscriptions allowance paid by voucher= \$1,000/year; Auto allowance at IRS rate paid by voucher= \$100/month; Continuing Education allowance paid by voucher= \$2,000/year; personal computer will be provided for your use; Four weeks of paid vacation per year; Two weeks of Continuing Education paid leave per year; Three months of paid Sabbatical Leave after six years of service. **Approved**
4. Dissolve with deep appreciation the Administrative Commission for Korean Presbyterian Church of Tuscaloosa, AL **Approved**
5. Recommends that the Rev. James Ephraim be honorably retired on March 31st, 2018 with a celebration of his service to the church to be held at the May presbytery meeting. **Approved**

Commission on Preparation for Ministry—Joe Genau*

For Action:

The commission recommends that Inquirer Mary Sellers Shaw of Independent Presbyterian, Birmingham, be approved by Presbytery for Candidacy (statements attached). (see **Appendix A-9, 10** for full report) **Approved** The Rev. Kathy Wolf Reed offered a prayer for her ministry.

General Presbyter Nominating Report—Jonathan Yarboro*

The General Presbyter Nominating Committee (GPNC) was commissioned during the August meeting of PSL. Barrett Abernathy*, Terri Jones, Judy Rogers, Leeann Scarbrough*, and Jonathan Yarboro*. An initial meeting of the GPNC was called by Tom Winter, Stated Clerk of PSL. Following the creation of a Ministry Information Form, the committee began receiving Pastor Information Forms and inquiries. The GPNC presented a recommendation to PSL Executive Council and now brings the following motion to the floor of Presbytery for approval.

Motion:

The General Presbyter Nominating Committee (GPNC) for the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley is pleased to present Rev. Jay Wilkins as a candidate for the position of General Presbyter of PSL. The GPNC and Rev. Jay Wilkins have discerned a common sense of call to the position under the Executive Presbyter terms of call listed in the 2018 operating budget for PSL. **Approved**

The Rev. Jay Wilkins was given a standing ovation and The Rev. Jonathan Yarboro offered a prayer for his ministry.

Motion: Dismissed the GPNC with thanks. **Approved**

Rationale:

The GPNC assembled the MIF for this position based on recently updated mission, ministry, vision, and staffing model information created and approved by PSL. The prioritized ministry competencies on that form were the main criteria the committee considered when reviewing applicants. In short, the committee was seeking someone who could lead our Presbytery into its newly discerned identity and structure. PIFs were received: 12 by CLC match and 3 by self referral.

When reviewing the ministry competencies of Rev. Jay Wilkins, it became clear to the committee that he was a strong candidate for the position. This knowledge, coupled with the fact that Rev. Wilkins helped shepherd the process of forming the new identity and structure of PSL, resulted in a sense of call on the committee's behalf. Formal interviews with Rev. Wilkins demonstrated a strong sense of call to the position on his behalf.

The committee's greatest concern in this process has been due diligence. The committee realized there were no desired ministry competencies lacking should Rev. Wilkins be called to the position. Extensive reference checks were performed within and beyond our Presbytery. The mutual sense of call following the conversations the committee had with Jay resulted in a unanimous decision to recommend him for the position.

General Presbyter Report—Jay Wilkins* (See **Appendix A-11**) for full report)
He thanked the Temporary Executive Board for their hard work and leadership.

Pneumatrix

Daniel Killilea—He served as an apprentice to Montevallo Church. Since going through the Pneumatrix process, they are looking at the prospect of a coffee shop, reimagining their worship space (while rebuilding their Sanctuary), and reimagining the usage of Forbes House.

The Rev. Catherine Mason—She served at Shades Valley Church (SVPC). They began by looking at our culture. Many people have sports and other things to compete with on Sunday. Our society has become a mission field and the church needs to be God's "Change Agents" to the world. SVPC looked at their surrounding area which is Birmingham, Mountain Brook and Homewood. They focused on SVPC and what makes them special. They do not want to lose these things going forward. They focused on four top priorities. Two internal topics of strengthening worship services and enhancing community. The other two are outreach to the community. The ideas came from the team and not a prepackaged program.

The "Change Agents" (apprentices) can serve other churches. Churches are to contact Jay Wilkins if they wish to participate in Pneumatrix.

Trustees Report—Bev Dodson

Although a closing date for Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church has not yet been mutually agreed upon, the Trustees have reviewed the church's request to close and the disposition of its property and makes the **following motions**:

1. That Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church be closed and the property be deeded to the Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Inc., LLC based on the rationale shown below and that the approximately \$4,500 in church funds be given to the cemetery association to be used for future church upkeep. Further that an Administrative Commission be appointed by the Commission on Ministry with names reported back to Presbytery to oversee the closing (April 2018) and final worship of this historical church which dates back to 1823. **Approved**

Rationale: In May, 2012, the Presbytery approved a Trustee motion stating, "that should a church choose to establish a cemetery association for perpetual care of a particular cemetery property, the Presbytery shall "quit claim" the cemetery property to that association provided the association assumes all responsibility for maintenance and liability for that property." Mount Pleasant Church did establish such an association and the property on which that cemetery sets was deeded to that association by Presbytery in May, 2012.

In their request to close, the session has requested that the church be made available to the local community residents for such gatherings as weddings, funerals, reunions an election polling stations, etc. The church property lies adjacent to the Cemetery and is the burial location of ancestors and immediate family members of the four remaining elders and church members.

This motion does **not** establish a precedent in our presbytery nor in the denomination.

2. Trustees recommend that Presbytery approve the sale of Chapel in the Pines parking lot, across the street from the church, to Pioneer Play School, for \$60,000. **Approved**

Board of Pensions—Clark Simmons

BOP takes care of those that work for the church. Participation in BOP has increased by over 2,000 people this year. Clark explained the new plan of Board of Pensions.

Good News from our Churches:

Memorial & Westminster (Mtg)—Nan Adams* shared both churches are sponsoring a hand bell symposium the third week of April.

First-Tuscaloosa--Lois Palacheck shared a mission fundraising report--Dan the Mango Man project. They want to improve the quality of life and sustainability in Madagascar. She presented a check for fruit, vegetable and environmental projects in Madagascar to Lou Ann Sellers* and Ralls Coston for \$5,000. She encouraged other churches to have fundraisers for this mission project. 100% of the money raised goes directly to the project. (**Appendix 12**)

Church of the Covenant--Lin Veasey. They have a table upstairs for a fundraiser for the church. It is a cup with the PCUSA logo. The cups come in two sizes for \$20.00.

Montevallo –Jane Clayton. A tree fell on the church. Please look at your insurance. Their new insurance company is rebuilding their Sanctuary. If they had not changed insurance companies, they wouldn't be able to rebuild the Sanctuary. Montevallo Church was built in 1912 and everything will now be up to code. Please join them for their dedication when the Sanctuary is completed.

Malinda Spencer from Presbyterian Mission Agency. They are merging with Presbyterian Publishing. A new confirmation course will be introduced this summer. Downloadable and reasonably priced curriculum for youth is available.

Living River—Leanne Pearce Reed* and Betty Angelini*
Loch Hunter, David McGiffert, Hon. Theresa Pulliam, and Debbie Laws were honored for their service to Living River. (See **Appendix A-13** for full report)

Congo Report – Belinda Dickinson
(See **Appendix A-14** for full report)

Presbyterian Home for Children—Jonathan Yarboro*
The Presbytery welcomed Mr. Doug Marshall as the new President. Mr. Marshall spoke about one 14-year-old girl who came to him with what she had gone through and how the Home has helped her. He shared about the different homes and school at the home. He talked about the newest homeless shelter they opened in Sheffield, AL.

UKirk Birmingham—Patrick Harley* (see **Appendix A-15**) for full report)
Patrick Harley Introduced the new interns Callie Nickels and Lucy Green.

Volunteer Mission Coordinator report--Ralls Coston (See **Appendix A-16**) for full report)
Presbytery SDOP's awarded \$3,500 to "Small Steps Lead to Big Rewards". It is a program in Wilcox Co. in Pine Hill and will be used for an after-school program for at-risk kids.

Cents-ability certificates were awarded to Oakmont and Green Pond.

Synod Report (See **Appendix A-17** for full report)

New Business

Barrett Abernethy* spoke about Rev. Rob Lee, the Main Event keynoter. His book "Stained Glass Millennials" by Rev. Robert Lee is for sale upstairs.

Omnibus Motion and Stated Clerk's Report—Tom Winter*

For the Omnibus Motion:

1. To approve the minutes of the November 9, 2017, meeting of presbytery.
2. To approve requests for absence for today's meeting.
3. To record the receipt of the minutes of the Commission to ordain Heather Jones Butler to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

Approved

For Information:

1. In accordance with Presbytery Standing Rules, there is no imbalance between Ministers of the Word and Sacrament and Ruling Elders.
2. To record the review of Session minutes, without exception, of South Highland, Bold Springs, and First-Auburn.
3. Training for new clerks of Session will be held on Saturday, March 17, 10:00 a.m. to Noon, at the Presbytery office.
4. Schedule for review of Session minutes:

April 4, Grace, Tuscaloosa
April 28, Southminster, Birmingham
May 26, First, Wetumpka
June 16, Covenant, Anniston
[All times, 10:00 a.m. – Noon]

Clerks of Session are asked to do the checklist of your own minutes prior to bringing them for review. Your minutes should be printed and signed. If you need a copy of the checklist, please contact the Stated Clerk.

5. Clerks of Session should also check to see if your church's statistics have been entered. If they have not, please contact Tammy Strickland at the presbytery office by February 28, 2018.

Necrology Report (See Appendix A-18 for full report)

The body sang *Hymn of Promise*.

Closing Prayer and Benediction by Rev. Tom Winter, Stated Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Tom Winter
Stated Clerk

Linda Burrowes
Recording Clerk