

## MINUTES

Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley  
Synod of Living Waters  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
Stated Meeting  
August 16, 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 August 16, 2018 at Auburn-Opelika Korean Church in Opelika, Alabama

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

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. by Moderator Jane Clayton, who opened the meeting with prayer.

### **ORGANIZATION (Appendix C-1)**

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

### **Adoption of the Docket**

The docket was adopted as amended by common consent.

### **Seating of Corresponding Members**

None

### **Recognition of First Time Commissioners and Visitors**

#### **Teaching Elders**

Ministers Present (45) Excused (62) Absent (13)

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

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

#### Commission Ruling Elders with Vote

Present (5) Excused (1) Absent (4)

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

#### Executive Council Members/Presbytery Officers w/Vote

Present (6) Excused (2)

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

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

Jenny Thagard P Bill Stribling P Dotty Lessley E

## 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-one churches in the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley. Thirty-three Commissioners were present.

Alexander City	First (1)	Nancy Coley
Annemanie	Arlington (1)	NR
Anniston	Church of the Covenant	Sissy Bain
Anniston	Church of the Good Shepherd (1)	NR
Anniston	First (1)	NR
Anniston	First United (1)	Debbie Miller
Anniston	Korean(1)	NR
Auburn	First (2)	Clyde Stanley
		Denise Salo
Bessemer	Good Hope (1)	NR
Birmingham	Bold Springs (1)	NR
Birmingham	Center Point (1)	NR
Birmingham	Chapel in the Pines (1)	Brian Massengale
Birmingham	Edgewood (1)	NR
Birmingham	Fairfield Highlands (1)	NR
Birmingham	First (1)	Ann Gray Harvey
Birmingham	First United of Forestdale (1)	NR
Birmingham	Five Mile (1)	NR
Birmingham	Independent (5)	Rowena Macnab
		Lee Walthall
		Beverley Krannich
		Caryl Privett
		NR
Birmingham	Korean (1)	NR
Birmingham	Mountain Brook (1)	Alex Wellman
Birmingham	Oakmont (1)	Charles Pritchett
Birmingham	Riverchase (1)	NR
Birmingham	Second	Hazel Bowden
Birmingham	Shades Valley (1)	Dot Riley
Birmingham	South Highland (2)	Lee Cleveland
		NR
Birmingham	Southminster (1)	Curtis Eatman
Birmingham	Westminster (1)	Shirley Finley
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)	Suzann Tibbs
Gardendale	Gardendale (1)	NR
Goodwater	First (1)	NR
Green Pond	Green Pond (1)	NR
Jacksonville	First (1)	NR
Lafayette	Lebanon (1)	NR
Leeds	Leeds (1)	Charles Gabert
Livingston	First (1)	Danielle Buckalew
Magnolia	Rock Springs (1)	NR
Marion Junction	Marion Junction (1)	NR

Montevallo	Montevallo (1)	Dorothy Grimes
Montgomery	Calvary	NR
Montgomery	Immanuel (1)	Tony Hickman
Montgomery	Korean (1)	NR
Montgomery	Memorial (1)	Kathy Sweezey
Montgomery	Westminster (1)	NR
Moundville	Saint James (1)	NR
Northport	Bethel (1)	NR
Odenville	Odenville (1)	NR
Opelika	Korean	Suhyun Suh
Oxford	Dodson Memorial (1)	NR
Phenix City	First (1)	Joan Gatewood
Piedmont	First (1)	NR
Reform	First (1)	NR
Selma	Northern Heights (1)	NR
Selma	Pisgah (1)	NR
Selma	Valley Creek (1)	NR
Springville	Springville (1)	Frankie Tatum
Sylacauga	First (1)	Gabriel Melton
Talladega	First (1)	Frank Hubbard
Troy	Williams Memorial (1)	NR
Trussville	Cahaba Springs (1)	Laura Reddick Reichert
Tuscaloosa	Brown Memorial (1)	NR
Tuscaloosa	First (3)	NR
		NR
Tuscaloosa	Grace (1)	NR
Tuscaloosa	Korean	NR
Tuskegee Institute	Westminster (1)	Judith Baldwin
Union Springs	Union Springs (1)	Pam Salter
Wetumpka	First (1)	Emmett Price

We were warmly welcomed by the Elder Suhyun Suh.

Judith Baldwin led the Call to Worship on God's kingdom and power. The body sang *Holy, Holy, Holy*.

John Brock\* called us to confess our sins and then assured us of God's salvation.

Debra Thomas prayed the Prayer for Illumination and read the Scripture Acts 13:1-5.

Jun Mo Jeong\* preached a sermon on the Missional Church.

Tom Winter\* asked for the offering. It was collected and will be divided equally between the Discretionary Fund of the Presbytery and CPM for the use of the candidates. During the offering, Jonathan Yarboro\* and Jamie McLeod\* played the Offertory Music. The body sang the Doxology.

J.C. Kang\* and Yoo Chang Bang\* invited the body to the Lord's Table. The body then sang *Come to the Table of Grace*. After communion we sang *Everyone Who Longs for the for the Boundless Love of God*.

## Living River

Lee Walthall

Jenny Thagard will become the Executive Director on Sept. 1, 2018.

A sustainability taskforce has been elected to ensure the viability of Living River.

An adult lodge (24 rooms) and swimming pool are needed. The adult lodge needs to be ready by the Fall/Winter of 2019. Estimated cost of adult lodge is \$2 million.

The pool is estimated to cost \$475,000. Living River has been advised of a potential gift of \$100,000, which if made, would leave another \$375,000 needed to be raised. They are holding a "gifts for gallons" to raise the remaining funds.

## Presbyterian Home for Children

Doug Marshall

Discussed what is going on at the Home. They are celebrating their 150<sup>th</sup> year this year.

## Mission Coordinator's Report—(See Appendix C-2)

Ralls Coston

We are building a Habitat house for Brittany Chandler in Center Point.

The Executive Council approved a Dallas-Perry County Fund. Communities Empowered and Transformed (CET Ministries) is operating a prison ministry and a school ministry.

Pentecost can campaign had 24 churches participate. Certificates were awarded.

Based on membership

1. Center Point
2. Oakmont
3. Green Pond

Most giving

1. Oakmont
2. First Jacksonville
3. Immanuel

## UKirk Birmingham (See Appendix C-3)

Patrick Harley\*

## Trustee Report to Presbytery

Bill Stribling

### MOTION:

To approve Grace Presbyterian Church, Tuscaloosa purchase of property, with house, adjacent to existing parking lot on Hargrove Road for \$85,000. **Approved**

This house has been empty since the tornado. The purchase will be a cash sale and will require no encumbrance or debt on the part of Grace.

### MOTION:

In the spirit and acknowledgment of church property being a, "tool for the accomplishment of the mission of Jesus Christ in the world" (G-4.0201), and at the request of First Presbyterian Church, Anniston; approve the leasing of the downstairs Sunday school wing, youth center, Fellowship Hall, and kitchen to The Life Center Ministries, Inc. The space will be used for daycare, summer camp and regular worship.

**Approved**

The Book of Order does not require Presbytery action for this lease, but First Anniston asks for the motion in support of our denominational policy that all church property is held for the larger church.

**MOTION:**

Grant permission for First Presbyterian Church of Wetumpka to sell 524 acres of land located in the Jackson Road / Redland community of Wetumpka for \$1,750,000, if approved by the congregation.

**Approved**

The congregation will vote on Aug. 26, 2018, to sell 524 acres.

**Rationale:**

In January 2018, First Presbyterian Church was given 562 acres of undeveloped land on Jackson Road in the Redland area of Wetumpka, which is located several miles from the present church property. According to the appraisal provided by the donor, 200 acres of the property are declared usable land, with the remaining 362 acres declared unusable.

Mr. Griffith approached Session with the desire to make an offer on the large portion of the total property. Session negotiated a possible sale and the above terms. The potential purchaser understands that the sale is contingent upon approval from both the congregation and Presbytery. Since closing would take place before the next stated meeting of Presbytery, the Session requests approval of this specific sale under the terms listed above.

**For Information:**

Trinity, Birmingham – The contract is moving forward. The fact that the buyer has engaged an architect and contractor, as well as a zoning attorney, is testimony to the seriousness of the offer.

**Nominating**

Patti Winter

Lillian Troiano	Junior	South Highland	
Claire Tucker	Junior	South Highland	
Grace Ahnert.	Junior	First, Birmingham	<b>Approved</b>

**General Assembly Commissioners**

Ed Hurley\* and Leeann Scarbrough\*; Elders Deborah Thomas and Mark Hopkins and YAAD Julie Potts represented us at General Assembly.

Leeann Scarbrough\* spoke on the Hands and Feet Initiative—The Assembly worked with two groups to decide who should be released from jail. The General Assembly raised \$47,000 for bail.

Leeann Scarbrough\* served on Peacemaking, Immigration and International Issues Committee. All of their recommendations were approved by the Assembly. We as a church resolve to pray for the people of South Sudan, pray and advocate for human rights in Yemen, encourage Presbyterians to contribute to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in those areas. We resolve to promote human rights, democracy and sustainable development in Madagascar, to pray for peace in Nicaragua, and develop a comprehensive socio-economic study in Central America. We as a church created a position for a mission co-worker in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador—known as the northern triangle. We have agreed to designate September 20, 2018 as Korean mission month to pray for peace on both sides of Korea.

Deborah Thomas served on Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations. Most members of the PCUSA live in the northeast and south. There is an opportunity to expand our faith communities in other regions of the United States, in the southern hemisphere and parts of the eastern hemisphere. Based on the committee’s prayerful recommendations, the Assembly confirmed continuing ecumenical conversations with the Episcopal Church in America and the United States Conference on Catholic Bishops. Adopted the development of a relationship with GNIM, it is an Indonesian community of Reformed Protestant

Faith. Reaffirmation of the denomination's commitment to the development of interfaith relations and the denouncement of any and all language that condones violence, hate, or bias based on religious identity.

Ed Hurley\* served on the Environmental Issues Committee. They had an overture from over 40 presbyteries for divestment of all fossil fuel holdings that are within the Presbyterian funds. There were 100 people that walked from Louisville to St. Louis to demonstrate the need to divest fossil fuel. There was 55-0 request to minimize our use of Styrofoam. There was a strong vote to affirm the Paris Climate Control Agreement, which the United States is only the country that has not signed it.

Ed Hurley\* and Leeann Scarbrough\* offered a prayer.

## **General Presbyter Report (Appendix 4, 5, 6)**

### **Presbyterian Manor**

Cary Speaker

The Presbyterian Manor Apartments were sold this summer They were 40 years old with 64 units. Checks were presented to: Presbytery, \$10,000 (return seed money); Living River - \$60,000; First-Auburn, \$200,000 (used to provide low cost housing and help the poor in Lee County with house repairs). Presbyterian Home for Children, \$300,000 (They have a project to build a tiny home village for deaf and blind people. It is a safe and affordable living space.)

Cary Speaker\* offered the blessing for lunch

### **Good News From Our Churches**

**IPC**—hosting an introduction to Centering on Prayer on Sept. 15, 2018

**Patti Winter**—There were 156 people at Montreat from our Presbytery at the July Youth Conference.

**Bold Springs**—The church has 30-35 members. They celebrated 175 years of ministry last Sunday and 105 people came to celebrate.

**Gardendale**—They have been praying for someone to use the church building. Two girl scout troops are meeting there and they have asked for permission for the leaders to use the church for their monthly meetings.

### **Small Church Officer Training at Living River on Jan. 12, 2019.**

**Immanuel**--Heather Jones Butler—On Sunday our children and youth led a wonderful church service. We are celebrating our relationship with the East Montgomery Mosque. They are sharing a parking lot.

**Church of the Covenant**—Sunday, July 19 they started reading the bible. They read the bible around the clock, it took 84 hours.

### **Report from the Executive Council to the Presbytery (Appendix C-7)**

Jim Toomey

### **Child/Youth Protection Policy (Appendix C-8)**

### **Equip, Nurture and Connect (Appendix C-9, C-10)**

James Goodlet\*

This is James Goodlet's last meeting and he commented on the good work PSL does with their leadership.

### **Treasurer's Report -- corrected (Appendix C-11)**

### **Congo (Appendix C-12)**

**For information:**

1. The COM voted to relieve FPC-Anniston from paying vacancy dues for one year.
2. On June 24th, Chapel in the Pines and Oakmont Presbyterian Church voted independently to formally begin the merger process between the two congregations.
3. COM approved the MIF for FPC-Birmingham.
4. COM approved CRE Lin Veasey to serve communion at a community worship service.
5. COM met with Rev. Jerome Bell for the purpose of serving as Temporary Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church-Birmingham. COM requested the Rev. Bell take the Presbyterian Polity course offered by University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. This will come before the Presbytery at the November meeting.
6. COM met in July with Clark Simmons and Keenan Rodgers concerning the new programs being offered by the Board of Pensions for potentially increased pastor participation as well as church renewal, financial health, relief from educational debt, and first call support for new pastors.
7. COM approved Paul Romjue to moderate a congregational meeting at First United Presbyterian Forestdale.
8. COM voted, without objection, to increase COM membership from 18 to 21.

**For Action:**

1. Examine for membership by transfer from Whitewater Valley Presbytery and approve the terms of call and installation of Rev. Anna Owens-Sweeney as Associate Pastor for Campus Ministry, First, Auburn. (Statements attached) (**Appendix C-13, C-14**)  
 Anna's installation will be Sept. 30 at 4:00 p.m. Commission consists of: Patrick Harley\*, Elizabeth Goodrich\*, Charles Nash (Brown Memorial), Jane Clayton (Montevallo), and Stites Whatley (First Auburn. Sitting with the commission, Louis Gallaway, Whitewater Presbytery. **Approved**  
  
 Terms of Call: Salary: \$34,000, Housing Allowance: \$13,500, BOP (36.5%): \$17,575.00, SECA tax allowance: \$3,000, Professional Expenses: \$5,000, Four Weeks of paid vacation, annually, Two Weeks of Continuing Education, annually, Three Months of paid Sabbatical Leave after six years of service, Paid maternity leave of up to 8 weeks with the option of using vacation time to extend leave up to 12 weeks total. **Approved**
2. Examine for membership by transfer from Carlisle Presbytery, Rev. Meg Shoeman, Chaplain, Children's Hospital of Alabama (Statements attached) (**Appendix C-15, C-16**) **Approved**

**Memorials (Appendices C-17, 18, 19)**

- |                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Rev. Frank Alexander</b> | Ed Hurley*  |
| <b>Rev. Taylor Brown</b>    | Tom Winter* |
| <b>Rev. Gozie Penson</b>    | Tom Winter* |

Joe Genau prayed for Anna Owens-Sweeney\* and Meg Shoeman\*



## Commission on Preparation for Ministry

Joe Genau\*

### INQUIRERS

Young Cecilia Chang  
Emily Frandsen  
Alexandra Hutson  
Beom Joseph Jung  
Jack Key  
Patrick O'Connor  
Avery Smith  
Samuel Turpen

### CHURCH

Korean of Birmingham, Pelham  
Independent, Birmingham  
First, Tuscaloosa  
Auburn-Opelika Korean, Opelika  
First, Livingston  
Immanuel, Montgomery  
Grace, Tuscaloosa  
Edgewood, Birmingham

### INSTITUTION

Graduated  
Dubuque  
Columbia  
Columbia  
Columbia  
San Francisco  
Louisville  
Columbia

### CANDIDATES

Bennett Alldredge  
Courtney Bowen  
Rachel VanKirk Mathews  
Mary Sellers Shaw

First, Tuscaloosa  
IPC, Birmingham  
First, Tuscaloosa  
Independent, Birmingham

Princeton  
Louisville  
Columbia  
Vanderbilt

### **For Information:**

1. The commission approved an alternate testing site for Young Cecilia Chang (Korean PC of Birmingham) for the Bible Content Exam. The exam will be administered locally by the CPM Moderator so that the inquirer will not need to travel to Columbia Seminary.

### **For Action:**

1. The commission recommends that Inquirers Samuel Turpen of Edgewood Presbyterian, Birmingham, and Avery Smith of Grace Presbyterian, Tuscaloosa, be approved by Presbytery for Candidacy (statements attached). **(Appendix C-20, C-21, C-22, C-23) Approved**

Moderator Jane Clayton asked the Constitutional Questions, Cathy Hoop\* gave the charge and Joe Genau\* prayed for them.

## **Stated Clerk Report**

### Omnibus Motion

- To approve the minutes of the May 17, 2018, presbytery meeting.
- To approve absences for today's meeting.
- To record the receipt of the minutes of the commissions to install Rev. Thomas Michael Bryson as Pastor of Southminster, Birmingham; Rev. Sun Jae Kim as Pastor of Tuscaloosa Korean; Rev. Dr. James McCleod as Pastor of Cahaba Springs, Trussville; and Rev. John Brock as Pastor of First, Eufaula. **Approved**

### For Information:

- The minutes of the following Session minutes have been read and approved: South Highland, Bold Springs, Leeds, Green Pond, Center Point, Oakmont, Second, Mountain Brook, Riverchase, Southminster, Chapel in the Pines, First Birmingham, Wetumpka, Alexander City, Good Shepherd, Goodwater, Covenant, Jacksonville, Sylacauga, Westminster Birmingham, Bethel, Cahaba Springs, Livingston.
- If your Session's minutes have not been reviewed, you may drop them off at the presbytery office or, with an invitation, the Stated Clerk will come to you.

- The 2017 minutes of The Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley have been approved by Synod, without exceptions. Many thanks to Tammy Strickland and Linda Burrowes for a fine job!
- 60 of our churches have paid or are paying their per capita for 2018. Thank you for supporting the larger church!
- The following churches have not paid any of their per capita: Arlington, Covenant, Cuba, Reform, Montgomery Korean, Rock Springs, Union Springs, Westminster Montgomery, Williams Memorial.

**Presbytery dates for 2019**

February— Date to be determined

May 16<sup>th</sup>

August 15<sup>th</sup>

November 14<sup>th</sup>

**New Business None**

**Adjournment with Prayer and Benediction**

Kathy Wolf Reed

**Tom Winter  
Stated Clerk**

**Linda Burrowes  
Recording Clerk**