MINUTES

Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley

Synod of Living Waters

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Stated Meeting

August 15, 2019

**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 15, 2019 at Grace Presbyterian Church in Tuscaloosa, AL. Throughout these minutes, Teaching Elders are indicated by an asterisk (\*).

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

# ORGANIZATION

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

**Corresponding Members**

Thomas Herwig, Reformed Church in Germany

# Adoption of the Docket (Appendix D-1)

The docket was adopted by common consent.

**Recognition of First Time Commissioners and Visitors**

**Teaching Elders**

Ministers Present (40) Excused (61) Absent (15)

Adams, Nan P

Atkerson, Rick E

Bailey, Michael P

Bang, Yoo Chang P

Bankson, John E

Becker, Lindsay A

Bell, Jerome E

Bird, Shelaine A

Booth, Ben HR E

Brock, John P

Broyles, Vernon, HR E

Bryson, Tom P

Bruchey, Wayne HR E

Burgess, Sid, HR E

Butler, Heather Jones P

Carl, Bill A

Carleton, Rhon HR E

Carter, Clyde HR E

Casey, Lydia E

Chaney, Patsy HR P

Chinula, Donald A

Cho, Timothy A

Choomack, Jim HR E

Clark, Molly HR P

Clayton, Susan P

Clendenin, Monty HR E

Coker, Jeff HR E

Crutchfield, Bob HR E Dantzler, Bill HR` E

Davis, Becky HR E

Davis, Lant E

Dippenaar, Vic E

Durham, Charles HR E

Durham, Erica E

Edwards, Robert A

Ephraim, James, HR E Feagin, Debbie P

Free, Zana A

Genau, Joe P

Goodrich, Cat E

Goodrich, Elizabeth E

Hamilton-Poore, Sam P

Hamilton Poore, Terri P

Hanna, Richard E

Harley, Patrick P

Harmon, Dawson HR E

Hay, Robert HR E

Hayes, Jeff A

Hibbard, Norman HR E

Hoop, Cathy P

Hurley, Ed P

Hurst, Clyce HR E

Inman, Robert F HR E

Jeong, Junmo P

Jones, Steve E Kelso, Hugh HR E

Kim, Sun Jae P

Kim, Sung Woong A

Kim, Young P

Laney, Susan HR E

Lays, Brian P

Mann, Becky P

McCarter, Neil HR P

McClendon, Bruce A

McClure, John E

McCormick, Mark P

McElrath, Pete HR E

McElveen, William HR E

McLaughlin, Wayne HR E

McKean, Mac HR E

McLeod, James P

Min, Leigh Ann P

Mylasingh, Emerson HRE

Newland, Terry HR E

Northen, Margaret E

O’Neill, Elizabeth P

Oh, Jyung Ho A

Oliver, Catherine E

Patton, Finley HR P

Patton, Roger HR E

Pearce-Reed, Leanne P

Porter, Mary HR E

Price, Sandra HR E

Pyburn, Richard HR E

Rains, Tom HR E

Reed, Kathy P

Reed, Nick E

Scarbrough, Leeann P

Scrivner, Joe P

Scott, Christopher P

Scott, Kathy E

Seamon, David A

Seitz, Craig HR E

Sellers, Lou Ann P

Shelton, Jack HR E

Sherwood, Paul P

Shin, Dong Ouk A

Sims, Charles HR E

Slane, Joe HR E

Shoeman, Meg A

Stanford, Jim HR E

Stephens, Dan E

Stephens, Gerald HR E

Thompson, Ben HR E

Tingle, Terry, HR E

Turner, Lucy A

Wade, Lindsey P

Waters, Dana HR P

Watson, Cody E

Wells, Jim, HR E

Wilkins, Jay P

Wills, Bill HR E

Winter, Rachel P

Winter, Tom HR P

Winton, Carlton, HR E

Yarboro, Jonathan P

**Commission Ruling Elders with Vote**

Present (3) Excused (3) Absent (4)

Chuck Kukal P Emerick, Robert A

Arellano, Ben P Harrison, John A

Bonner, Jeff E Sauser, Bill E

Dodson, Beverly E Thomas, Roger A

Eich, Sharon A. A Veasey, Lin P

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

Present (7) Excused (1) Absent (0)

Judith Baldwin P Rick Reed E

Linda Burrowes P Judy Rogers P

Jane Clayton P Jean Russell P

Shirley Finley P Bill Stribling P

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

Jenny Thagard P Rush Watson P Dotty Lessley 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 sixty-seven churches in the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley. Twenty-seven Commissioners were present.

Alexander City First (1) NR

Annemanie Arlington (1) NR

Anniston Church of the Covenant NR

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) Floyd Curtis

Birmingham Edgewood (1) Don Hagan

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) Caryl Privett

NR

NR

NR

NR

Birmingham Korean (1) NR

Birmingham Mountain Brook (1) Erskine Carmichael

Birmingham Oakmont Chapel (1) Brenda Carter

Birmingham Riverchase (1) NR

Birmingham Second (1) Catherine Rodenhauser

Birmingham Shades Valley (1) Jennifer Riggs

Birmingham South Highland (2) Lee Cleveland

Kathy Tracey

Birmingham Southminster (1) Christian Johnson

Birmingham Westminster (1) NR

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) David Fancher

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) Allen Tartt

Magnolia Rock Springs (1) NR

Marion Junction Marion Junction (1) NR

Montevallo Montevallo (1) Tonia Mayton

Montgomery Calvary (1) NR

Montgomery Immanuel (1) Karkie Tackett

Montgomery Korean (1) NR

Montgomery Providence (1) Judith Crow

Moundville Saint James (1) NR

Northport Bethel (1) NR

Odenville Odenville (1) NR

Opelika Korean (1) NR

Oxford Dodson Memorial (1) NR

Phenix City First (1) Thomas Peavy

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) Dale Thomason

Sylacauga First (1) NR

Talladega First (1) NR

Troy Williams Memorial (1) NR

Trussville Cahaba Springs (1) Janet Prevatt

Tuscaloosa Brown Memorial (1) Charles Nash

Tuscaloosa First (3) Bill Campbell

Kristie Taylor

Wendy Tucker

Tuscaloosa Grace (1) Susan Donovan

Tuscaloosa Korean Duke Park

Tuskegee Institute Westminster (1) NR

Union Springs Union Springs (1) NR

Wetumpka First (1) Jeff Glass

We were warmly welcomed by Rev. Cathy Hoop.

The Presbytery Choir sang the Choral Invitation *Be the Change.*

Steven Hobbs led the Call to Worship on God’s love and following Him. The body sang *God, the Sculptor of the Mountains.*

Jay Wilkins called us to confess our sins. He also led the body in the Prayer of Confession and assured us of God’s pardon. We, then, passed the Peace of Christ.

Cathy Hoop prayed the Prayer of Illumination and read Scripture Luke 12:49-56; the Presbytery Choir sang the anthem *Hold Out Your Light.* Then Cathy preached the Sermon *When the South Wind Blows.*

After the sermon, the body sang *I’m Gonna Live so God Can Use Me*.

Cecilia Chang led us in the *Affirmation of Faith.* Laurice McCollumprayed the pastoral prayer.

Sun Jae Kim asked for the offering. It was collected and will be divided equally between the Discretionary Fund and CPM for the use of the candidates. After the Offering, the body sang the Doxology and the Prayer of Dedication was given.

Cathy Hoop and Olympia McCrackin invited the body to the Lord’s Table. After we shared the bread and cup, we sang *May the God of Hope Go With Us.* Olympia McCrackin led us in prayer.

**UA Crossroads Workshop -- (Appendix D-2, D3)** Lou Ann Sellers spoke about the Group and introduced the facilitators. Adrienne Royster gave directions regarding the Workshops.

**Blessing for Lunch –** A prayer, blessing our meal, was held in each workshop room.

We were welcomed back from lunch with music by Jonathan Yarboro and Jamie McLeod.

**Good News From Our Churches:**

**1. Doug Marshall-PHFC –** This past summer they have worked with the children to make special memories for them. School started yesterday. They broke ground for Union Village, which is their tiny houses, for the Alabama Deaf and Blind. They are working on getting full accreditation.

Many of you have talked to Terry Minor over the years, she was in our development office, and recently retired. Thanks to Rush Watson and the Trustees of the Presbytery for allowing us to open an office in the Presbytery Office.

**2. Jane Clayton—Montevallo --**

I have mentioned constantly over the last 2 1/2 years, you all might remember that our sanctuary was destroyed on April 1st or 2nd or 3rd, 2 1/2 years ago, by a very large tree. I am happy and delighted to say that our building is completely finished. All the landscaping is done--and it is absolutely gorgeous. We are very thankful to have such a beautiful place to worship and to praise God and to minister to the community of Montevallo. We would like to thank you for all of your prayers and best wishes. We're going to have a dedication of the sanctuary and an open house Sunday afternoon. We thought we had the day, but we're still working it; it will be either the 1st or 2nd Sunday in November. So, cancel any travel plans that you have whenever we send you the invitation. Thank you.

**2.** **Heather Butler from Immanuel** -- On August 24 Immanuel is hosting Bright Threads Ministries to help us learn what it is to be fully inclusive and welcoming to not just children, but also teenagers and adults who have differing care and educational needs.

We are celebrating the retirement of Phyllis Ward on Sunday.

**3. Tom Bryson—**Nov. 2, Southminster will hold a 5K run—50% of money will go to

PHFC.

**4 Jonathan Yarboro—**Thefoundation should be laid for the church next week. It should take a year to complete the church. Yesterday they commissioned a grand piano, which was donated to the church. They should be able to move into their house between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

**5. Rachel Winter—**Serving as the new interim college minister at 1st Tuscaloosa. Bama Days is Aug. 27th at 6:30 p.m.

**Report from the Executive Council** Jane Clayton

Executive Council met on June 12 and July 12. We reluctantly have one motion:

EC recommends that Dr. Jay Wilkins be Honorably Retired as of December 31, 2019.

**Approved**

**General Presbyter** **(See Appendix D-4 )** Jay Wilkins

**Living River Report**  Jenny Thagard and Jonathan Yarboro

Their debt has decreased. All of the BP money was used to pay down the debt. We are cutting staff. Our facilities director will remain full-time and Jenny will go part-time. Everyone else has been let go. The houses on the property have been turned into rental property. Volunteers are needed to help with retreats and the facilities.

Vice Mod—Jonathan Yarboro

The original Business Plan had an endowment, to be used yearly. We need a sustainable business plan for Living River.

**Stillman College** Mark McCormick

Stillman has had exciting things happen. Yesterday 260 students showed up for school. They have 606 registered for the fall.

**Commission on Ministry** Jamie McLeod

1. Transferred membership of the Rev. Cary Speaker to the Presbytery of South

Alabama pending their next presbytery meeting.

2. Dissolved the pastoral relationship between First Presbyterian Church of Livingston

and the Rev. Barrett Abernethy and transferred membership to the Presbytery of

Greater Atlanta.

3. Approved Olympia McCrackin to serve as Moderator of Livingston First Presbyterian

Church.

4. Dissolved the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Anna Owens and First

Presbyterian Church of Auburn.

5. Approved First Presbyterian Church of Auburn’s MIF for associate pastor.

6. Approved the Rev. John Brock to moderate session meetings at First Presbyterian

Church of Phenix City.

**Action Items**

1. Examine and receive the Rev. Sunelle Stander from the Dutch Reformed Church. Rev. Stander serves as a chaplain at UAB. **(Appendix D-5, D6)**  **Approved**
2. Examine and approve the Rev. Jungkyun Son, candidate for Associate Pastor at Korean, Auburn-Opelika. If approved, COM recommends to Presbytery (BOO G-2.0505a.1) that Jungkyun Son’s membership be transferred from the Korean Presbyterian Church Abroad to the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley.

**(Appendix D-7, D8)** **Approved**

1. Examine and approve the Rev. Daekeun Park, candidate for Associate Pastor at Korean, Auburn-Opelika; transferred from East Tennessee Presbytery. **(Appendix D-9, D-10, D-11)** **Approved**
2. Approve the Terms of Call between the Rev. Young Kim to Anniston-Korean.

**(Appendix D-12)** **Approved**

**Mission Coordinator’s Report (Appendix D-13, D-14, D-15)**

**Nominating Committee**  Patti Winter

Youth Council,Class of 2020

Emily Burt, Adult, First Presbyterian, Birmingham

George Fritsma was appointed to the PHFC board

**Approved**

**UKirk Birmingham (Appendix D-16)**

**Commission on Preparation for Ministry**

**FOR INFORMATION**:

INQUIRERS CHURCH INSTITUTION  
Emily Frandsen Independent, Birmingham Dubuque  
Beom Joseph Jung Auburn-Opelika Korean, Opelika Columbia  
Jack Key First, Livingston Columbia  
Patrick O’Connor Immanuel, Montgomery San Francisco  
Kendra Peeples Grace, Tuscaloosa Candler

CANDIDATES

Bennett Alldredge First, Tuscaloosa Princeton   
Young Cecilia Chang Shades Valley, Birmingham Graduated  
Alexandra Hutson First, Tuscaloosa Columbia

Avery Smith Grace, Tuscaloosa Louisville  
Samuel Turpen Edgewood, Birmingham Columbia

**FOR INFORMATION:**

1. The commission has received Kendra Peeples (Grace, Tuscaloosa) as an Inquirer. Kendra will be attending Candler School of Theology in the fall.
2. The commission conducted a final assessment for Candidate Sam Turpen (Edgewood, Birmingham), who graduated from Columbia in May. The commission certified Sam ready to seek a call, beginning August 16, 2019.

**Board of Pensions**  Keenan Rogers

He spoke about the changes to the Pensions plan for the current year.

**Trustees Report** Rush Watson

Trustees of Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley recommends the sale of the former Trinity Presbyterian Church property to The Vine Church of Birmingham. The sale price is $630,000.00 with cash down payment at closing of $126,000.00. The Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley will provide owner financing, **secured by a mortgage**, contingent upon credit worthiness. Terms: 20% down payment, Interest Rate 6.25%, Amortized 30 years, Balloon period of 10 years, monthly payment of $3,103.21 starts 4 months after closing. Closing to be no later than August 26, 2019. Balloon payment to be $427,661.29. **Approved**

**Stated Clerk Report and Omnibus Motion** Tom Winter

Omnibus Motion

* To approve the minutes of the May 16, 2019, Stated Meeting and the July 8, 2019, Called Meeting of presbytery.
* To approve absences for today’s meeting.

**Approved**

Information

* These Session minutes for 2018 have been reviewed and approved: First, Tuscaloosa, Livingston, Oakmont, Chapel in the Pines, Second, Riverchase, Shades Valley, Southminster, Alexander City, Eufaula, Covenant, Jacksonville, Sylacauga, Westminster, Birmingham, Carbon Hill, Westminster, Tuskegee, Memorial.
* If your Session’s minutes for 2018 (or longer) have not been reviewed, [1] you may drop them off at the presbytery office or, [2] with an invitation, the Stated Clerk will come to you, or, to bring us into the new century, (3) you may do a check list of your own minutes, print, sign, scan, and email them to *statedclerk@pslpcusa.org*
* The 2018 minutes of The Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley have been submitted to Synod for review. **They have been approved by Synod with no exceptions.**
* Per Capita - Of the $215,256 budgeted for 2019, $136,304 have been received from 52 churches. 16 churches have not responded. Many thanks to those who have supported Per Capita! Much encouragement to those who have yet to give!
* The SC has begun implementing the Background Check phase of our Child and Youth Protection Policy. As of this writing, requests for authorization to conduct these checks have been sent to Commissioned Ruling Elders and Temporary Supply Pastor. Requests for authorization will go out to Ministers of Word and Sacrament by the end of August. The CYPP calls for such background checks to be on an every three year cycle. The only exemption is for those who are no longer engaged in ministry. Please contact the SC with any questions or concerns you may have.
* Presbytery meeting dates set for 2020 are below:

February 21 May 21 August 20 November 12

We are looking for host churches, if you are interested please contact our Stated Clerk, Tom Winter at [statedclerk@pslpcusa.org](mailto:statedclerk@pslpcusa.org).

**Equip, Nurture and Connect**  **(Appendix D-17, D-18)**

1. The camping season of 2019 was successful. Living River has the capacity to serve 100 campers/week. Churches of the Presbytery are encouraged to send their youth to the summer camps.

2. The overall statistics about the summer camping season are these:

143 campers participated (128 children, 15 adults)

18 volunteers (14 spiritual formation leaders, 2 volunteer nurses, 2 health coordinators

5 lifesaver kitchen helpers

1 donated church van

550 camper days—up slightly from 2018

77% child/youth campers from presbytery (17 churches represented)

68 scholarships awarded from the Presbytery camp fund--$11,945.00 total.)

* + 1. Camp Committee of ENC is aware that criteria for assessing need for scholarships to attend camp need to be formulated.
    2. The Main Event work group is in need of additional volunteers to serve on the work group. The next Event is to occur in February, 2020.
    3. Youth Council will have a planning meeting for its work on August 24. The next Youth Retreat will occur on October 12-13, 2019, at Living River.
    4. The Children's Retreat is slated to occur January 3-4, 2020, at Living River.
    5. Budgets for the ministries of each work group for 2020 are being formulated and will be submitted to the Finance Committee in the near future.

**Congo Team Report** **(Appendix D-19 )**

**Revenues and Expenses (Appendix D-20)**

**New Business: None**

**Closing Prayer** Wendy Tucker

**Tom Winter Linda Burrowes**

**Stated Clerk Recording Clerk**