MINUTES

Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley

Synod of Living Waters

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Stated Meeting

November 14, 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 November 14, 2019 at Oakmont Chapel Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, 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**

Greg Goodwiller, Synod of Living Waters

# Adoption of the Docket (Appendix E-1)

The docket was adopted by common consent.

**Recognition of First Time Commissioners and Visitors**

**Teaching Elders**

Ministers Present (39) Excused (58) Absent (19)

Adams, Nan E

Atkerson, Rick P

Bailey, Michael E

Bang, Yoo Chang A

Bankson, John A

Becker, Lindsay A

Bell, Jerome P

Bird, Shelaine A

Booth, Ben HR E

Brock, John A

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 E

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 P

Dippenaer, Vic P

Durham, Charles HR E

Durham, Erica E

Edwards, Robert A

Ephraim, James, HR P Feagin, Debbie P

Free, Zana A

Genau, Joe P

Goodrich, Cat P

Goodrich, Elizabeth E

Hamilton-Poore, Sam P

Hamilton Poore, Terri P

Hanna, Richard E

Harley, Patrick E

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 A

Jones, Steve P Kelso, Hugh HR E

Kim, Sun Jae E

Kim, Sung Woong A

Kim, Young P

Laney, Susan HR E

Lays, Brian P

Mann, Becky E

McCarter, Neil HR P

McClendon, Bruce P

McClure, John E

McCormick, Mark A

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

Park, DaeKeun A

Patton, Finley HR E

Patton, Roger HR E

Pearce-Reed, Leanne P

Porter, Mary HR P

Price, Sandra HR E

Pyburn, Richard HR E

Rains, Tom HR E

Reed, Kathy E

Reed, Nick P

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 E

Sims, Charles HR E

Slane, Joe HR P

Stanford, Jim HR E

Stephens, Dan A

Stephens, Gerald HR E

Thompson, Ben HR E

Tingle, Terry, HR E

Turner, Lucy E

Wade, Lindsey A

Waters, Dana HR P

Watson, Cody P

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 A Harrison, John A

Bonner, Jeff E Sauser, Bill E

Dodson, Beverly P 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. Thirty-five Commissioners were present.

Alexander City First (1) Nancy Coley

Annemanie Arlington (1) NR

Anniston Church of the Covenant NR

Anniston First (1) NR

Anniston First United (1) Debbie Miller

Anniston Korean (1) NR

Auburn First (2) Gwen Reid

David Parsons

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) Alice Williams

Birmingham Five Mile (1) NR

Birmingham Independent (5) Rowena MacNab

Steve Hunt

Martha Reeves

Mallory Reeves

Frank Sutherland

Birmingham Korean (1) NR

Birmingham Mountain Brook (1) Richard Trueb

Birmingham Oakmont Chapel (1) James Scott

Birmingham Riverchase (1) Margaret Bowman

Birmingham Second (1) Catherine Rodenhauser

Birmingham Shades Valley (1) Deb Baragona

Birmingham South Highland (2) Kathy Tracey

Birmingham Southminster (1) deNay Kirkpatrick

Birmingham Westminster (1) Darryl Love

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) NR

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) NR

Magnolia Rock Springs (1) NR

Marion Junction Marion Junction (1) NR

Montevallo Montevallo (1) NR

Montgomery Calvary (1) NR

Montgomery Immanuel (1) Tony Hickman

Montgomery Korean (1) NR

Montgomery Providence (1) NR

Moundville Saint James (1) NR

Northport Bethel (1) John Lesley

Odenville Odenville (1) NR

Opelika Korean (1) NR

Oxford Dodson Memorial (1) Nancy Whitley

Phenix City First (1) NR

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) NR

Sylacauga First (1) NR

Talladega First (1) Frank Hubbard

Troy Williams Memorial (1) NR

Trussville Cahaba Springs (1) NR

Tuscaloosa Brown Memorial (1) Ben Winston

Tuscaloosa First (3) Jeff Crissey

Lisa Underwood

Shannon Wright

Tuscaloosa Grace (1) Susan Benke

Tuscaloosa Korean Duke Park

Tuskegee Institute Westminster (1) NR

Union Springs Union Springs (1) NR

Wetumpka First (1) Rocky Twilley

**We were warmly welcomed by Rev. Paul Sherwood.**

**Welcome and Introduction from Anti-Racism**  **(Appendix E-2)** Judith Baldwin

Judith spoke about Dr. Lafayette, our guest preacher for today. Dr. Lafayette worked

with Dr. Martin Luther King.

Adrienne Royster led the Call to Worship on worshipping and listening to God.

Cecelia Chang led the Call to Reconciliation. She also led the body in the Prayer of Confession and assured us of God’s pardon. We, then, passed the Peace of Christ.

The body sang *We Praise You, O God.*

Judith Baldwin prayed the Prayer of Illumination and read Scripture Psalm 23. Amy Sherwood sang the anthem *Precious Lord, Take My Hand.* Dr. Bernard Lafayette, then preached the Sermon *The Shadow of Death.*

After the sermon, the body sang *I Want Jesus To Walk With Me.*

Jamie McLeod led us in the *Affirmation of Faith.* He also 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.

Lou Ann Sellers and Paul Sherwood invited the body to the Lord’s Table. After we shared the bread and cup, Lou Ann Sellers led us in prayer. We sang *What A Fellowship, What A Joy Divine.*

**Anti-Racism: White Privilege (Appendix E-3)**

**Motion:** Approve the Presbytery Anti-Racism Committee partner with St. Andrews Presbytery in 2020. **Approved**

**Blessing for Lunch –** Susan Clayton

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

**Commission on Ministry** Jamie McLeod

Informational

1. COM approved the Installation Commission for Rev. Dr. Sam Hamilton-Poore at Montevallo Presbyterian Church on November 10th at 4:00 PM: Ruling Elders: Jane Clayton, Kit McLeod, Bill Shoemaker, Teaching Elders: Rev. Susan Clayton, Rev. Joe Genau, Rev. Dr. Joe Scrivner.

Terms of Call: $14,000-Salary, $10,000-Housing, BoP-$13,880, Professional Expenses-$800, Continuing Education-$2,000, 50% of SECA-$1,695 4 weeks vacation, 2 weeks Continuing Education/Study Leave, Parental and Family Leave per policy, Total package: $42,375.

2. COM approved the Installation Commission for Rev. Young Kim at Anniston Korean Church on September 22, 2019. Installation Commission was: Jay Wilkins, Rev. Sung Woon Kim, Lin Veasey, David Lancaster, Randall Kennedy, and Duke Park.

Terms of Call: $26,400-Salary, $13,200-Housing, BoP: $14,500, $500-Reimbursement, Total Package: $57,500, 4 Weeks-Vacation, 2 Weeks Study and Continuing Education

3. COM approved for Olympia McCrackin to serve communion at First Livingston on November 3.

4. COM dismissed Barrett Abernethy to the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta.

5. COM approved Lant Davis’s request to be honorable retired (August 2020)

**Action**

1. Examine and approve ministerial candidate Sam Turpen for ordination as Minister of Word and Sacrament. **Approved (Appendix E-4, 5)**

2. Examine and approve Rev. Andy Spaulding for membership in the presbytery and to serve as Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Tuscaloosa. Terms of Call: Effective Salary: $50,000, Social Security Allowance: $3,825, BoP $18,500, Professional Development: $2,000, Hospitality: $500. Total package: $74,825, 4 weeks vacation, 2 weeks Study Leave/Continuing Education. **Approved (Appendix E-6,7)**

3. First Auburn Approve Caroline Barnett for membership into the Presbytery to serve as Associate Pastor at First, Auburn, pending her examination (August 19, 2020) and ordination by Heartland Presbytery. Terms of Call: Effective Salary: $45,000. BOP: $16,425 Other Church expense: $5,000. Total package: $66,425

4 weeks vacation, 2 weeks Study Leave. **Approved (Appendix E-8, 9)**

3. First reading of proposal for changing of the by-laws of the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley Standing Rule for the Commission on Ministry:

To amend Standing Rule 6.0302 b, i, m:

1) Striking paragraph i; Find in order calls issued by churches, approve and present calls, approve examination of teaching elders transferring from other presbyteries, dissolve pastoral relationships, grant permission to labor outside the bounds of presbytery, and dismiss teaching elders to other presbyteries and report actions to Presbytery. [G-3.0301 (a)(b)(c)]

2) Striking the last line of paragraph m: Approve Teaching Elders as Parish Associates with annual review and the stipulation that the relationship ends when the current installed pastor leaves.

3) Replacing paragraph b:

Old: b. Make recommendations to the presbytery regarding calls for the services of its teaching elders.

New: b. Examine teaching elders transferring from other presbyteries in order to make recommendations to the presbytery regarding approval of their calls. Find in order calls issued by churches, approve and present terms of call to presbytery, dissolve pastoral relationships, grant permission both to labor outside the bounds of presbytery and to move onto the field prior to approval of presbytery, and dismiss teaching elders to other presbyteries and report actions to Presbytery.

**Good News From Churches**

●Kristen Scrivner—Westminster-Bham is celebrating 75 years. Condoleeza Rice will be attending the celebration and will be mingling afterwards.

●Jonathan Yarboro—First-Wetumpka church is coming along. He had the chance to go the pastor’s study and see it. The church should be finished in August 2020.

●Heather Jones Butler—Immanuel Church celebrated with Muslims and Jews. They had a chili supper and Trunk or Treat, over 200 people attended.

●Paul Sherwood—OCPC celebrated their first-year anniversary last month.

**Executive Council** Jane Clayton

The Executive Council met on September 11 and on October 9 and approved the following actions:

Elected a Search Committee comprised of Jane Clayton, James Ephraim, and Bill Stribling to find a Transitional Presbyter.

Approved a Separation Ethics Policy between Jay Wilkins and PSL.

Approved the request to establish the Anti Racism Team as a Standing Committee of Presbytery and to provide funding each year in the annual budget to support their mission. The mission of the Anti Racism Team is to learn about and to address the historic, systemic, and individual racism found within our presbytery. We seek to encourage and equip our churches, presbytery staff, and individuals to take part in training, relationship building, and active engagement in church and community events to repent for and dismantle racism in central Alabama.

The Anti Racism Team recommends that the committee be comprised of at least nine members, in three rotating classes, reflecting the diversity of our presbytery. Many members of the current team are willing to serve in the initial classes of the standing committee.

Approved a recommendation from the Finance committee that the Good Shepherd Administrative Commission provide information on the status of the Good Shepherd bank accounts, and if funds are available, ask that they be made available to Presbytery to establish a maintenance accrual account to be used for Good Shepherds expenses.

Approved for the Trustees to use Trinity accrual account as a general accrual account as needed for church maintenance expenses until closing.

Approved for Trustees to set up a policy saying that as churches close, money from their bank/investment accounts can be used for maintenance until they are sold.

Approved a grant of $19,999 for a new digital sign for Cahaba Springs. Money will come from the King Trust in the Development Grant fund. Total cost for the sign is $27,000.

Approved an amount of $850 for the Westminster-Birmingham 75th Anniversary event. Money will come from 500730-Trustees miscellaneous account.

Approved job description for Transitional Presbyter and permission to proceed with hiring.

**Action:**

1. Recommend the adoption of the proposed budget for 2020. **Approved**

**(Appendix E-10)**

**2.** Approve Resolution of Recognition and Appreciation of Distinguished Service for

Jay Wilkins. Approved **(See Appendix E-11)**

**Personnel** Paul Sherwood

1. The Committee reviewed the Personnel Policies, approved at the beginning of the

year, with each employee of Presbytery.

2. The Committee made recommendations about salary or stipend actions for each

employee.

3. The Committee is in the process of completing an annual performance evaluation

with each employee

**Equip, Nurture, Connect (See Appendix E-12)**

**Treasurer’s Report (See Appendix-13)**

**Main Event—**Will be held at Shades Valley Presbyterian, Feb. 28-29, 2020. The theme will be *Practicing Hope.*

**Synod Report** Greg Goodwiller

Talked about the Synod and changes they have made.

**Mission Coordinator (See Appendix E-14)** Ralls Coston

**Trustees** Rush Watson

For Information:Trustees of Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley reports the closing of the former Trinity Presbyterian Church property to The Vine Church of Birmingham as of September 12, 2019.

The sale price was $630,000.00 with cash down payment at closing of $126,000.00.

Terms: The Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley will provide owner financing 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. Balloon payment to be $427,661.29.

**Presbyterian Women** **(See Appendix E-15)**

**Congo (See Appendix E-16)** Belinda Dickinson

**Nominating and Representation** Patti Winter

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Class of 2022

Nan Adams Providence, Montgomery \*

Terry Hamilton-Poore First, Birmingham \*

Bill Stribling South Highland

Kathy Tracey South Highland

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE Class of 2022

Paul Sherwood Oakmont Chapel \*

Donna Winn Brown Memorial

FINANCE COMMITTEE Class of 2022

Lucy Turner Independent Presbyterian Church \*

David Glass Independent Presbyterian Church

PERMANENT JUDICIAL COMMISSION Class of 2025

Brian Lays Independent Presbyterian Church \*

Janelle Ahnert First, Birmingham

TRUSTEES Class of 2022

Bill Sauser Union Springs   
Shelaine Bird Member at Large \*

Beverly Krannich Independent

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY Class of 2022

Jamie McLeod Cahaba Springs \*

Charles Nash Brown Memorial

Elizabeth O’Neill Immanuel \*

Carl Martin Cahaba Springs

Elizabeth Goodrich Member at Large\*

Junmo Jeong Auburn -Opelika Korean\*

One slot to fill (Clergy)

Class of 2021

Frankie Tatum Springville

COMMISSION ON PREPARATION

FOR MINISTRY Class of 2022

Leeann Scarborough Talladega First \*

Rick Atkerson Member at Large \*

Gillie Presley Tuscaloosa, Grace

Margaret Bowman Riverchase

Class of 2020

Gloria Dennard Westminster, Birmingham

Jim Bannon First, Auburn

MISSION AGENCIES AND PRESBYTERIAN BOARDS

GBM

Jessica Germany Birmingham, First

WESTMINSTER APARTMENT BOARD Class of 2022

Lin Veasey

Larry Dawson

Nancy Whitley Dodson Memorial

SDOP Team

Zanetta Simmons New Trinity

PRESBYTERIAN HOME FOR CHILDREN

Millie Chastain First, Talladega

Joe Scrivner Brown Memorial \*

George Fritsma Cahaba Springs

Al Hill South Highland

Dr. Jimmy Davis First, Talladega

CONGO PARTNERSHIP TEAM

Belinda Dickinson Southminster

HISPANIC MINISTRY TEAM

Eleanor Wright South Highland

GA COMMISSIONERS 2020

Clergy

Jonathan Yarboro First, Wetumpka

Kathy Wolf Reed First, Auburn

Elders

Lin Veasey

Rush Watson

YAAD GA 2020

Annabelle Beavers Tuscaloosa, First

GA COMMISSIONERS 2022

Clergy

Junmo Jeong Auburn-Opelika Korean Church

Lou Ann Sellers First, Tuscaloosa

Elders

Jim Toomey First, Birmingham

Olympia McCrackin Brown Memorial

SYNOD COMMISSIONERS 2020-2021

Rachel Winter Member at Large

2020 PRESBYTER VICE-MODERATOR

Debbie Feagin Member at Large

LIVING RIVER

Class of 2022

Steve Ashworth

Sam Hamilton-Poore

Kent Howard

Jay Patton

Nick Reed

Emily Roberts

Class of 2020

Kathryn Michaels

**Approved**

**Presbyterian Home for Children** Doug Marshall

The Home was voted on in Selma and First Home was in Tuskegee.

A Senior at Talladega College became pregnant. She couldn’t stay in the dorm. She went to PHFC to their Secure Dwellings program. The Home is full.

Don Hagan, Edgewood: Feels he has been called to help support them. He has signed up to do a bike trip from San Diego to St. Augustine, March 6 to April 27. He has asked for donations of $.01 a mile. Think of ways to work with your congregation to raise awareness.

**Living River** **(See Appendix E-17)** Nick Reed and Jenny Thagard

**Commission on Preparation for Ministry** JoeGenau

**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

Barbara Tomek-White First, Auburn Austin

**FOR INFORMATION:**

1. The commission has received Barbara Tomek-White (First, Auburn) as a Candidate, transferring from the Presbytery of South Louisiana. Barbara is a graduate of Austin Seminary and was certified as ready to seek a call by that presbytery.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry:   
Kevin Floyd (2019), Joe Genau (2020), Cat Goodrich (2021), Shelley Hancock (2020), Tina Hughes (2020),, Cathy Hoop (2021), Rick Atkerson (2019), Thecla Lindsey (2021), Gillie Presley (2019), Leanne Pearce Reed (2020), and Leeann Scarborough (2019).

**General Presbyter** **(See Appendix E-18)** Jay Wilkins

**Stated Clerk**  Tom Winter

Omnibus Motion

* Approve minutes of the August, 2019 meeting.
* Approve requests for excuse for today’s meeting.
* Approval of former Permanent Judicial Commission members eligible to serve, if needed, to make a quorum: Leeann Scarbrough, Debbie Feagin, and Patti Winter.
* Approval of the report of the Committee on Representation.**(See Appendix E-19)**

**Approved**

For Action

* On behalf of the Bills and Overtures Committee, that the following overture from the Session of Shades Valley, with concurrences from the Sessions of Grace, Southminster, Immanuel and First-Birmingham be adopted:

*That the Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley develop a policy to mandate regular participation in healthy boundaries training for Ministers of Word and Sacrament, Commissioned Ruling Elders, and Certified Christian Educators engaged in active ministry in the bounds of our Presbytery, and that this policy be presented for approval at the February 2020 meeting of the Presbytery.*

**Approved**

* Approval of the Stated Clerk’s budget for 2020. **(See Appendix E-20)** **Approved**
* Approval of dates and locations for the 2020 meetings of Presbytery:

February 28-29, Joint Meeting with the Main Event, Shades Valley

May 21, Cahaba Springs

August 20, Eufaula

November 12, Immanuel **Approved**

For Information

* Reading of the Decision by the Permanent Judicial Commission.

**Decision to be placed in minutes. (See Appendix E-21)**

* Charges have been filed against a minister member of Presbytery. According to our Standing Rules, the Moderator, with advice from the Stated Clerk, has named an Investigative Committee: Ruling Elder Judith Baldwin, Ministers of the Word and Sacrament Jamie McLeod and Lant Davis.
* Since the August meeting, the 2018 Session minutes for Mountain Brook and Springville have been reviewed and approved.
* Session minutes from the following churches have not been submitted for review this year: Annemanie, Anniston First, Anniston First United, Anniston Korean, Auburn First, Auburn/Opelika Korean, Good Hope, Bold Springs, Edgewood, Fairfield Highlands, Birmingham First, Birmingham First United, Five Mile, Independent, New Trinity, Dadeville First, Woods, Gardendale, Goodwater, Green Pond, Lebanon, Rock Springs, Marion Junction, Montevallo, Calgary, Immanuel, Montgomery Korean, Memorial/Westminster, St. James, Bethel, Odenville, Dodson Memorial, Pelham Korean, Piedmont, Phenix City, Reform, Northern Heights, Pisgah, Valley Creek, Talladega, First, Williams Memorial, Cahaba Springs, Brown Memorial, Grace, Tuscaloosa Korean, Union Springs, Wetumpka.

**Adjournment with Closing Prayer and Benediction** Carolyn Padgett

**Tom Winter Linda Burrowes**

**Stated Clerk Recording Clerk**