

Webster Presbyterian Church  
Stated Hybrid Session Meeting Minutes  
In the Meeting Room  
October 28, 2025

**Call to Order by Moderator:** Pastor Todd Williams at 7:00pm.

**Present:** Pastor Todd Williams, James Kinzler, Michael Cooper, John Grady, Julie Ludanyi, Judy Brown, Dave Marks, Joe Schwarz, David Owens, Jon Siewers, Dennis Waehner, Ralph Fixel, Kathy Dixon, Kevin Snowden

**Declaration of Quorum** - Yes

**Opening Prayer:** Given by Pastor Todd.

**Update regarding the Japanese Garden** – Carrie Martin stated the group working with her on the Japanese Garden includes Phyllis Koenig, Jimmy Martin, James Kinzler, Ralph Fixel and Kathy Dixon. They started the work in Spring 2024. Carrie updated Session members with information on what had already been done and what they were still working on. They have plans to put in a pergola, bistro table and chairs, landscaping, a rendering of the Japanese historical timeline to include a history of the church, bible that survived the 1900 storm, rice farmers and other events. They are considering possibly using an artist (college student) from a local college/university and have also discussed possibly using someone from our SFTA art project in our church.

**Approval of September Session minutes** – Jon Siewers made the motion to approve the September 2025 minutes; James Kinzler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Clerk's Report:** Total membership: 309. Transfer of membership of Paul Harano to First Presbyterian Church in Austin, TX. Motion to pass September minutes. \*\*Selection of 2 elders to attend the next Presbytery meeting on Saturday, Nov. 15 at Faith Presbytery in Baytown. Jon Siewers made the motion to pass the Clerk's report; Dennis Waehner seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Two elders, Jon Siewers and Pat Koester, volunteered to go to the November 15<sup>th</sup> Presbytery meeting. Michael Cooper volunteered to be the alternate.

**Treasurer's Report:** full report by Kevin Snowden on Session webpage  
Monthly analysis: Kevin reported that September experienced the largest amount of income received. Contributions and other income in September were 197% of plan, increasing the YTD income to 103% of plan. Expenses for September were 103 % of plan moving the YTD to 89% of plan.

As noted before, this significant increase in contributions is driven by annual required minimum disbursements from several congregants in September.

Although numerous committees were below planned spending in September, we did see these costs

- Board of pension payment for YTD commitment for interim pastor
- Session approved pay in lieu of vacation to the parish associate
- Repair & maintenance account to Servepro for initial remediation for the water damage (see last month's report detailing which accounts were debited for this cost)
- Church administrator (church secretary) to cover back fill during administrator's absence.

The September insurance premium payment was delayed to October as we sought understanding of the price increase and any potential relief to the increase. Note that after conversations with GuideOne, the annual premium was reduced by approximately \$10,000. The 2026 operating budget preparation continues. **All committees should provide their first pass requests as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to prepare a presentation to the congregation in November.**

**Campus Management:** James Kinzler submitted a written report to update the Session regarding the Audio-Visual Upgrades to the Sanctuary that are in progress. He reported the estimated cost is well within the Memorial amount gifted by the Ken and Wilma Wood Family. The AV project work has been developed by a WPC Team including Ross Looney, Ralph Faxel, Jimm Cooper and James Kinzler with inputs from Glenn Foster. Additional updates to follow.

**Pastor's Report:** As Interim Pastor Todd approaches one year of his role as interim, he shared a power point presentation that summarized all that he has done with the help of Session members, Kevin and devoted volunteers to further keep our facility well-tuned and a welcoming place for new members. He also spoke to some new ideas. He looks forward to the continuation of our excellent music program and plans for Advent. Pastor Todd will be taking time off November 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup> his daughter's wedding.

**Parish Associate Report:** Written report submitted.

**Personnel Committee Report:** Michael Cooper & John Grady gave an update on staff. They made requests for raises for some staff members for 2026 budget purposes. Motion below with regards to Rev. G. Todd Starnes-Williams.

### **Motions**

Motion from Personnel Committee to renew Rev. G. Todd Starnes-Williams' contract for another year. (Nov. 1, 2025 – Oct. 31, 2026) Motion came from committee; Motion approved unanimously by Session.

### **Action Items:**

- Set up timeline of tasks and costs for (1) Worship (2) CMC (3) Personnel committees
- Answers by these 3 committees to be addressed by the November session meeting on Nov. 25th.
- Reviewing session's leadership role and changes if any; does session want to shepherd
  - Mold
  - AV during worship
  - Correct challenges for newcomers (off-putting items)
  - Long term staffing problems
  - Condition of buildings
    - Using upstairs rooms

**Motion for Adjournment:** John Grady made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by Dennis Waehner. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

**Closing Prayer:** Pastor Todd closed the meeting in prayer.

