

DRAFT

September 25, 2007
The Meeting Room

The Webster Presbyterian Church (WPC) Session convened a Stated Meeting on Tuesday, September 25, 2007, in the Meeting Room. The meeting was opened with a devotion and prayer by the Moderator, Reverend Mark Cooper, at 7:00 p.m.

The following members of Session were present:

- Pastor Mark L. Cooper, Moderator;
- Associate Pastor Helen P. DeLeon; and,
- Serving Elders Carl Allen, Jennifer Carr, Tye Cowan, John Dewey, Watson DuPont, Gene Fisseler (Clerk), Johnny Jones, Diane Kane, Ross Looney, Al Manson, Stacey Menard, Chuck Moede, Roy Phillips, Marjorie Seiter, Elizabeth Spivey, Michael Stearns, and Dennis Waehner.

The following members of Session were excused:

- Serving Elders Susan Anderson, Karla Bradley, and Reese Terry.

Treasurer Pat Koester and Sunday School Superintendent Linda Smith-Gregory were also present.

A quorum was declared by the Clerk and the Agenda for the meeting was approved.

The Session voted to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2007, Stated Meeting of Session.

Treasurer's Report

The Session received the Treasurer's report.

Clerk's Report

There were several items of correspondence which were all referred to the Mission Committee.

| | <u>Individuals</u> | <u>Families</u> | <u>Comments</u> |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Membership as of August 28, 2007 | 704 | 399 | |
| Gains: | | | |
| Transfer of Letter | + 0 | + 0 | |
| Reaffirmation of Faith | + 0 | + 0 | |
| Profession of Faith & Baptism | + 0 | + 0 | |
| Losses: | | | |
| Transfer of Letter | - 1 | - 0 | Judy Bozone |
| Removal from Roll | - 0 | - 0 | |
| Death | <u>- 0</u> | <u>- 0</u> | |
| Membership as of September 25, 2007 | 703 | 399 | |
| Baptized persons who've not made Professions of Faith: | <u>+ 132</u> | | |
| Total children, youth and adults: | 835 | | |

Baptisms:

- Nathan Kidwell Hearn, born March 31, 2006, son of Kristina and Tony Hearn, grandson of members James and Deborah Kidwell

- John Ranger Hindman, III (Trey), March 1, 2007, son of members Kathryn and John, Jr. Hindman, grandson of members James and Deborah Kidwell

New Business

- The **Session voted to approve letters of transfer** for Tom and Mary Leng, to First Presbyterian Church, Kingwood, Texas, and for Lynne Phillips, to First Presbyterian Church, Alameda, California
- The **Session voted approve the baptism** of Olivia Sophia Bihm, born May 11, 2007, daughter of Karen and Wayne Bihm
- The Session voted to direct the Communications Team to consider and bring forth a recommendation for a new sign along NASA Parkway.

Committee/Team Actions and Reports

Administration – The Committee reported that the renter has moved out of the house on the corner, that a new telephone is scheduled to be installed in the Sunday School Superintendent’s office the week of October 1, and that a large format computer printer has been loaned to the church office for use in printing certain jobs. Progress is being made toward the launch of the new church internet website.

Adult Christian Education – Christian education is not just happening on Sundays. The Adult Book Discussion group reconvenes Wednesday, October 10. The weekly Pastor’s Class is set for Thursday nights. And Saturday, November 3, is targeted for an Adult Leadership Training Workshop.

Buildings & Grounds – The B&G Elders continue to have their hands full with electrical work, leaking roofs, sheetrock repairs, and lawn maintenance.

Care – The CPR/AED class, scheduled for Sunday, September 30, is fully subscribed. Three additional Stephen Ministry trainees have been recruited and a fourth is considering joining the class. Annual leadership changes are underway with the Board of Deacons and the Prayer Chain.

Children’s Ministry -

- The **Session voted to approve the following list of teachers, shepherds, and nursery volunteers:** Freeman Gregory, Kristen Green, Lauren Balletto, Richard Koester, Mary Sumrall-Sydnor, Rudy Noriega, and Joe Godwin, contingent upon satisfactory background checks as appropriate.
- The **Session voted to approve the production of the children’s musical, Simon Says: The Rockin’ Trial of Simon Peter**, Jimmy Travis and Gail Getzen on Sunday, February 24, 2008.

Fellowship & Welcoming – The Wednesday night dinner has returned and attendance is up from last year. The annual luau was attended by about 125 congregants on September 16. Preparations for the Shrimp Boil are on track.

Mission – Dennis Smith, who has served as a missionary in Guatemala for 30 years, will be in our midst on October 7. WPC is his first stop on a month-long communication and fundraising trip to the U.S. He will teach a workshop at the October 6 FOCUS event and will also be featured guest at Clear Lake Presbyterian Church. See Pastor Reports below for more.

Stewardship & Finance – The 2008 Stewardship Campaign is just beginning and will continue through early November. Mark Cooper is hosting a series of Saturday morning breakfasts and leading frank discussions about church ministries and finances. Joyful Noyz is providing entertainment.

Worship –

- The **Session voted to approve a Sunday morning worship service** to be planned and presented by the Youth.
- The **Session voted to approve the Celebration of Communion** at the Sunday evening Youth worship service on Sunday, October 28.

Youth Ministry –

- The **Session moved to approve a request for the Senior High to hold a car wash** at the church on Saturday, October 13, including the pre-sale of tickets prior to the car wash, to support Senior High trip(s) in 2008.
- The **Session voted to approve Andy Posluszny** to serve as an adult leader in Senior High Connections (Wednesday night gathering), contingent upon a satisfactory background check.

Old Business:

- The **Session voted to offer the house on the corner lot for sale** to J.D. Jenkins.
- The **Session voted to adopt a new organizational structure in 2008** consisting of 18 Serving Elders, plus one Youth Elder (not assigned to a committee, and seven committees which are:
 - Administration including Personnel, Communications, Stewardship & Finance, and Long Range Planning (4 Elders) ;
 - Buildings & Grounds (2 Elders)
 - Care including Fellowship (2 Elders);
 - Christian Nurture including Children’s Ministry, Youth Ministry, and Adult Ministry (4 Elders);
 - Mission (2 Elders);
 - Outreach including Welcoming (2 Elders); and,
 - Worship (2 Elders).

Pastor Reports

- Helen DeLeon – Helen reported that PC(USA) missionary Dennis Smith of Guatemala will be in the WPC pulpit on World Communion Sunday, October 7, and will teach an all-adult Sunday School class.
- Mark Cooper – Mark has been very busy with various activities and ministries. He reported that the Music Director Search Team is moving forward with its effort and the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee is hard at work, despite suffering a recent disappointment.

Next Meeting:

- The next Stated Meeting of Session will be convened Tuesday, October 23, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room.

The business of this Stated Meeting being completed, the Session voted to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer by the Moderator at 9:50 p.m.

Gene Fisseler
Clerk of Session