

**SESSION MINUTES  
STATED MEETING SEPTEMBER 17, 2009**

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Texarkana, Arkansas, met in a Stated Meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2009, at 5:00 p.m. in the Library/Session Room.

Elders present were Anne Douglas, Kevin Thompson, LaWanda West, Charles Jackson, Bob Veon, Bob Ransdell, Larry Davis, Pat Davitt, Martha Nell Richards, Charles Morgan, and Moderator Reverend John Arnold. Also present were Co-Pastor Reverend Susan Arnold, Youth/Education Director Jane Portis, Administrative Assistant Patricia Thomas, Organist/Music Director Jim Spirup, Treasurer Lary Walker, Diaconate Moderator Doke Douglas, and Clerk Sheila Moore.

Reverend John Arnold called the meeting to order, declared a quorum present, and gave the opening prayer and devotional by reading the Great Ends of the Church.

**MINUTES**

The Session reviewed minutes from the Stated Meeting of August 20, 2009.

**MOTION** - was made by Pat Davitt and seconded by Charles Morgan to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

**DIACONATE REPORT** - Doke Douglas

Doke Douglas reported the following activities:

1. The church picnic is scheduled for October 18, 2009, at 4:00 p.m.
2. The Diaconate requested permission to promote a fund raiser on behalf of Watersprings Ranch - "Change for Children." The fund raiser would run from September 27 to December 13, 2009, and would use cans for extra pocket change.

**MOTION** - was made by Charles Morgan and seconded by LaWanda West to approve the Watersprings Ranch fund raiser. The motion passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** - Lary Walker

Mr. Walker reviewed the financial reports for the month ending August 31, 2009. Balances were shown as follows:

Operating Account	\$ 17,604.00	Money Market Account	\$162,681.00
Music Account	\$ 7,792.00	Total of all Accounts	\$188,077.00
		Profit and Loss Statement	\$ -48,335.19

**MOTION** - was made by Charles Morgan and seconded by Kevin Thompson to receive the financial reports as information. The motion passed.

**CLERK'S REPORT** - Sheila Moore

1. A request was received from Gina and Todd Nelson to terminate their family's membership in the church.

**MOTION** - was made by Charles Jackson and seconded by Larry Davis to remove Gina and Todd Nelson from the Active Roll. The motion passed.

2. A request was received from Remica Gray for the use of the Choir Room, Sanctuary, and the Adult Sunday School Room for rehearsal of The Texarkana Women's Chorus each Tuesday from September 29, 2009, through December 15, 2009, from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

**MOTION** - was made by Martha Nell Richards and seconded by Charles Morgan to allow the use of the Choir Room, Sanctuary, and the Adult Sunday School Room for rehearsal of The Texarkana Women's Chorus each Tuesday from September 29, 2009, through December 15, 2009, from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The motion passed.

3. A request was received for the baptism of Alexis Len Douglas, daughter of Joe and Andrea Douglas, and granddaughter of Anne and Doke Douglas, for October 18, 2009.

**MOTION** - was made by Larry Davis and seconded by Pat Davitt for the baptism of Alexis Len Douglas on October 18, 2009. The motion passed.

4. As instructed by the Session last month, the following individuals whose names were moved to the Inactive Roll have been sent a letter informing them of this action:

Pat Cauley	1365
Gay Cauley	1364
Rodney Chandler	1187
Harry Cogell	1238
Kim Davis Murphy	1241
Roger Jackson	1323
Anita Jackson	1324
Ryan Jackson	1326
Jeffrey Smith	1325
Josh Johnson	1112
Amanda Jordan	1360
Frances Elizabeth Kehler	1049

Chris Knowles	1228
Adam Knowles	1248
Molly LeBoeuf	1371
James McFerran	221
Robert Warmack	1353
Mary Pat Carlson	1301
Tom Wright	1300

An address has not yet been obtained for Carlyn Brown.

5. The Clerk distributed a list of individuals who will be sent a letter informing them that they will be moved to the Inactive Roll. The letter will give the individual an opportunity to respond if they have any objection. It was noted that addresses may not be available for many of these individuals. The individuals are as follows:

Lane Allen	972
Stuart Beck	478
Jeffrey Royston Brown	778
Richard Burton	1148
Bob Butler	1201
Wendy Carnine	1076
Thad Carnine	1077
Dana Reed Cauley	1356
Robert Parish Coalter	813
Emily Davis	1240
Justin Davis	1242
Philip Mark Fagan	633
Emma Kaye Flowers Hawkey	1147
Matilda Foiw	1157
Duane Forrest	971
Grace Foster	1316
Ronnie Foster	1317
Gary Lynn Hendrickson	1102
Donna Beth Hobbs	974
Christine Dee Ann Hobbs	975
Elaine Hubbard	902
Priscilla Mance Hughes	908
Van Kim Huynh	988
Sang Thi Huynh	1089
Louis Imbimbo	1125
Rachelle Imbimbo	1126
Chris Koym	1049
Shelly Koym	1170
Bui Van Lam	961
Julie Rodgers Lancaster	891

Billy Lavender	1331
Toni Lockhart	1123
Freeman Lockhart	1124
Bruce Lorenzen	1122
Brenda Gayle McCarley	817
Leslie Kay McGinn	833
Shirley McIntee	973
Tonya Miller	1368
John Mitchell	1078
Monty Morris	1283
Bess Moss	774
Long Van Nguyen	978
Huyna Van Nguyen	1118
Dung Lai Quoc Nguyen	1222
Hoang Van Nguyen	1223
Rendi Norwood	1255
Herb Parker, Jr.	737
Ed Walker Parker	953
Mary Ann Parnell Fricks	818
Johnie Parnell	1072
Pauline Dickey Patterson	435
Mary Perkins	1321
Virginia Perkins	1322
Steven Ransdell	1050
Judith Ann Reaves	654
Helen Rhodes	985
Eric Roachell	1272
John David Sewell	888
Maurice Smith	1341
Bonnie Smith	1342
Harold Andrew Terry	831
Nguyet Tai Tran	1087
Nguyet Anh Tran	1088
Loi Tri Tran	1082
Khanh Vu	1042
Vi Vu	1043
Allen Ray Waters	1085
Robin Leigh West Casler	982
Tima Yates	1210

**MOTION** - was made by Charles Jackson and seconded by LaWanda West to send a letter, assuming addresses can be found, informing the above listed individuals that they will be placed on the Inactive Roll. The motion passed.

6. A request was received from Stephanie Jackson for use of the Fellowship Hall on January

17, 2010, from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. for a baby shower. The calendar is clear.

**MOTION** - was made by LaWanda West and seconded by Charles Morgan to approve the use of the Fellowship Hall on January 17, 2010, by Stephanie Jackson. The motion passed.

**PASTORS' REPORT** - Co-Pastors Susan and John Arnold

Reverend John Arnold gave the Session a written report of his activities during the month of August-September. These included member visitations at the hospitals and in homes, regular church activities and duties, various community activities, and a report on his continuing education.

Reverend Susan Arnold reminded Session that she will participate in Cursillo October 7 to 11, 2009. She has been asked to act as the Stewardship Guest Leader for the First Presbyterian Church in Plano, Texas. This will involve three meetings, consisting of two week nights and Sunday, November 8, 2009. This participation was approved by common consent.

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE** - Larry Davis

Larry Davis reported that the committee met on September 2, 2009. There were personnel matters to be discussed and asked that the group be considered in executive session. The Session concurred and the personnel items and a designated gift were discussed.

Dr. Davis and Lary Walker presented the proposed 2010 budget in the total amount of \$572,000.00 which is a \$42.00 decrease from the 2009 budget of \$572,042.00. After discussion, the proposed budget was approved as presented by common consent.

November 8, 2009, will be commitment Sunday.

**WORSHIP COMMITTEE** - Charles Jackson

Charles Jackson reported that the service of Lessons and Carols will be December 13, 2009. He further reported that Jim Spirup is an asset to their committee, has the Advent concert series planned, has approximately 12 in youth handbells and 12 in adult handbells.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** - Kevin Thompson

Mr. Thompson announced the proposed slate of church officers for the class of 2012. The nominees are:

**TRUSTEE:** Ruth Davis

**ELDERS:** Cynthia Walker, Dan Boyles, Sue Ellen Hall, Hayes McClerkin

**DEACONS:** Nancy Emerson, Chris Walraven, Becky Thompson, Brett Jackson

**MOTION** - was made by Charles Morgan and seconded by Anne Douglas to call a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, October 11, 2009, for the purpose of electing church officers for the class of 2012. The motion passed.

**EVANGELISM COMMITTEE** - Martha Nell Richards

Martha Nell Richards reported that the committee continues its work. The committee is seeking a volunteer for the Bread of Life program. Friendship Day will be held in conjunction with the church picnic.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE** - Anne Douglas

Mrs. Douglas reported the following:

1. The Youth will participate in a service project on October 24 with the First Presbyterian Church of Shreveport which will assist a smaller church in our Presbytery.
2. Stewpot will be held during the month of October and all classes are planned.
3. The nursery requested that hand sanitizers be placed at each nursery room door. The property committee will look into this.
4. Georgette Peckham has agreed to review the Baby Steps Program books. A new director has been hired for the program.
5. The committee requested that the church support the Footsteps of Faith program for youth in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. The participating youth will study the journeys of Paul for a year, will attend eight weekend meetings, and write six papers. At the end of the year of study the youth and sponsors will travel abroad following Paul's journeys. The church will be responsible for one-half of the cost of each participating youth's trip and the youth will be responsible for the remaining one-half.

**MOTION** - was made by the Christian Education Committee to participate in the Footsteps of Faith program as outlined above. The motion passed.

**PROPERTY COMMITTEE** - Robert Ransdell

Mr. Ransdell reported that there is a leak in the annex that is being repaired.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE** - Charles Morgan

Mr. Morgan had no report.

## **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A Commissioner is needed to attend the Presbytery Meeting on October 17, 2009, at the First Presbyterian Church in Plain Dealing, Louisiana.

**MOTION** - was made by Charles Jackson and seconded by Martha Nell Richards that Charles Morgan be elected as commissioner to the Presbytery Meeting on October 17, 2009, at the First Presbyterian Church in Plain Dealing, Louisiana. The motion passed.

Reverend John Arnold reported as information that Reverend Mike Morgan will be installed as pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Magnolia, Arkansas, on October 25, 2009.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Reverend Susan Arnold closed the meeting with prayer.

Reverend John Arnold, Moderator

Sheila Moore, Clerk of Session