

SESSION AGENDA

First Presbyterian Church, Texarkana, Arkansas Thursday – March 1, 2016 – 5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER	Rev. Dr. Susan M. Arnold
OPENING PRAYER	
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	
EXAMINATION OF NEW MEMBERS	Bunn & Elizabeth Fawcett
DIACONATE REPORT	Valerie Buster
TREASURER'S REPORT	Betty Anthony/Maggie Uzzell
CLERK'S REPORT	Sheila Moore
PASTOR'S REPORT	Susan M. Arnold

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Stewardship Committee - Charles Morgan, Moderator

Worship Committee – Remica Gray, Moderator

Nominating Committee – Randy Lacy, Moderator

Evangelism Committee – Susan Morehead, Moderator

Christian Education Committee – Erin McCasland, Moderator

Property Committee - Reg Jackson, Moderator

Personnel Committee – Cordell Klein, Moderator

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Audit – Date to be determined.
- 2) Revisit *Fellowship of Presbyterians* for new officers
- 3) We are invited to FPC-Magnolia on May 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for Rev. Dr. Thomas Daniel's presentation on the *Fellowship Of Presbyterians*

Community in the PCUSA. There will be a free lunch and plenty of time for questions. (Dr. Daniel is the pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Austin, TX.)

- a. Dr. Daniel will also be preaching at FPC, Magnolia on Sunday, March 8th followed by an abbreviated presentation and more questions at a potluck luncheon to follow.
- b. Here is the link to Thomas Daniel's presentation on "Digging Wells" from the Fellowship's annual National Gathering in San Diego last August. <https://vimeo.com/145312112>

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) Elect a Commissioner to Presbytery Meeting – Saturday, April 16, 2016, at Trinity Presbyterian Church of Jonesville, LA. (east of Alexandria).
 - a. Potential air transportation to Jonesville from Magnolia, AR

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND BENEDICTION

**SESSION MINUTES
STATED MEETING FEBRUARY 18, 2016**

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Texarkana, Arkansas, met in a Stated Meeting on Thursday, February 18, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. in the Library.

Elders present were Karen Flowers, Cordell Klein, Charles Morgan, Susan Morehead, Marshall Moore, Erin McCasland, Brian Jackson, Mona Fomby, Reg Jackson, Marilyn McCullough, Remica Gray, and Moderator Reverend Susan Arnold. Also present were Diaconate Moderator Val Buster, Acting Treasurer Betty Anthony, Co-Treasurer Maggie Uzzell, Josh Davitt, Tony Uzzell, Martha Nell Richards, Gene Cogbill, and Clerk Sheila Moore.

Reverend Susan Arnold called the meeting to order, welcomed guests, declared a quorum present, and gave the opening prayer and devotional.

MOTION - was made by Remica Gray and seconded by Charles Morgan to give the visitors voice. The motion passed.

Gene Cogbill arrived for the meeting.

MOTION - was made by Charles Morgan and seconded by Remica Gray to give Mr. Cogbill voice. The motion passed.

MINUTES

The Session reviewed minutes from the Stated Meeting of January 21, 2016, and the Special Called Meeting on February 14, 2016.

MOTION - was made by Charles Morgan and seconded by Remica Gray to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

The Minutes of the Congregational Meeting held January 31, 2016, will be submitted for approval at the March meeting

DIACONATE REPORT - Val Buster

Ms. Buster reported that Maggie Uzzell is working on preparations for a Pictorial Directory. Mrs. Uzzell presented her recommendations.

MOTION - was made by Diaconate to pursue the Pictorial Directory. The motion passed.

MOTION - was made by Reg Jackson and seconded by Charles Morgan to ask members to pay \$8 per directory which will cover the cost of a directory for each household with some directories reserved for new members. The motion passed.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be held March 26.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Acting Treasurer Betty Anthony and Co-Treasurer Maggie Uzzell

Betty Anthony reviewed the financial reports for the month ending January 31, 2016. Balances were shown as follows:

Operating Account	\$122,923	Total of all Accounts	\$177,502
Money Market Account	\$54,580	Profit and Loss Statement	\$8,944

The financial reports were received as information.

Mrs. Anthony further reported that due to an accounting error, there was actually a \$9,400 deficit at the close of 2015 instead of the reported \$69,000 deficit.

Mrs. Anthony requested that the charges for the water meter (\$1,400) and the sprinkler system (\$1,275) for the Memorial Orchard be moved from the "Labyrinth" line item to "Capital Improvement." Both of these line items are in the "Due To" Funds.

MOTION - was made by Marshall Moore and seconded by Susan Morehead to approve the above request. The motion passed.

CLERK'S REPORT - Clerk Sheila Moore

1. The Clerk reported that the Lord's Supper was served on February 7, 2016. Four home communions were served.
2. The Clerk presented a Wedding Application for the wedding of Anna Blair Solomon on November 19, 2016.

MOTION - was made by Marshall Moore and seconded by Cordell Klein to approve request of use of facilities for the wedding of Anna Blair Solomon on November 19, 2016, pending submission of the completed Wedding Application. The motion passed.

3. The Clerk reported that Session had approved by email vote that the Boundaries Covenant regarding the future relationship between Rev. John Arnold and First Presbyterian Church, Texarkana, Arkansas, be signed and approved.
4. The Clerk presented a request from Kathy Boyles for Use of Facilities of the Fellowship Hall for the Master Gardeners all day on Tuesday, November 1, 2016, with set up on October 31, 2016. The calendar is clear for this date.

MOTION - was made by Reg Jackson and seconded by Marilyn McCullough to approve the above request. The motion passed.

PASTORS' REPORT - Reverend Dr. Susan Arnold

Reverend Susan Arnold gave the Session a report of her activities during the months of January-February. These included member visitations at the hospitals and in homes, regular church activities and duties, and various community activities.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Cordell Klein

Cordell Klein presented a request from Sarang Kang for four days of Service to the Greater Church leave for June 17-22, 2016, to attend a portion of the 222nd General Assembly in Portland, Oregon, to be at the Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries exhibit area to share with the greater church about the Presbyterian Intercultural Young Adult Network and represent at the Intercultural Luncheon. All costs will be covered by the office of Intercultural Ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

MOTION - was made by Cordell Klein and seconded by Charles Morgan to approve the above request for four days' leave of Service to the Greater Church with the proviso that Ms. Kang provide the congregation with a full and in depth report of the activities at General Assembly. The motion passed.

The Stewardship and Personnel Committees met jointly on February 3, 2016. The committee recommends that Sarang Kang's contract be revised. Upon discussion this matter was tabled.

The Personnel Committee proposed changes in the Terms of Minister's Call. Upon discussion, this matter was tabled. A meeting was called for February 25, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. for further consideration of this matter.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE - Erin McCasland, Moderator

Mrs. McCasland reported the following:

1. Girls' Night In was held and was a success.
2. The Youth will participate with the 5 downtown churches youth groups (FPC, First United Methodist-Arkansas, St. Edwards Catholic Church, St. James Episcopal & Central Christian Church), for *Mission Texarkana - the Homeless Games* on February 27. Homelessness will be the focus.
3. Stewpot will be held in April. Classes are still being planned.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE - Susan Morehead, Moderator

Ms. Morehead reported that Parent's Night Out is scheduled for March 4.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - Randy Lacy, Moderator

No report.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE - Reg Jackson, Moderator

The work on the plaster in the sanctuary is completed and plumbing repairs have been done.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE - Charles Morgan, Moderator

Mr. Morgan reported that the Personnel Committees and Stewardship Committees had met on February 3, 2016. The committees recommend that a general policy regarding the handling of money, deposits, pledges, memorial, restricted and unrestricted funds be adopted. This matter was tabled until a later date.

The committees suggest that Session and chairs of all committees who have line item amounts in the current budget adopt a policy that they will be more frugal with their expenses, and that they will talk with the Treasurer or the Pastor prior to making any purchases or expenses in excess of \$100. It being understood that even though the item is in the budget, it still needs the Pastor's approval if it exceeds \$100.

The revised 2016 Budget was presented. The revised budget was tabled until a later date.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE - Remica Gray, Moderator

Mrs. Gray reported that preparations are underway for Taize services, and that Reverend Susan Arnold will serve as Liturgist until determination is made as to how this will be handled, either with a staff person serving as Liturgist, rotating members, etc. The committee is open to suggestions.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Maggie Uzzell presented a Membership/Financial Software Proposal changing from CDM to ChurchTrac at an expense of \$50 additional per year. ChurchTrac is an internet based program that is much more efficient than the program that is currently being used.

MOTION - was made by Cordell Klein and seconded by Erin McCasland to approve the above request to change from CDM software to ChurchTrac. The motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Audit – date to be determined

NEW BUSINESS

1. Tony Uzzell and Josh Davitt addressed Session regarding the 30's-40's group and their willingness to be active in the life of the church. There are approximately eight to ten individuals who are willing to serve the church in various capacities.

2. On behalf of the Presbyterian Women, Susan Morehead reported that the Joint Salad Luncheon will be held March 15, 2016.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND BENEDICTION.

Reverend Susan Arnold closed the meeting with prayer.

Reverend Susan Arnold, Moderator

Sheila Moore, Clerk

**SESSION MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING FEBRUARY 25, 2016**

With proper notice being given, the Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Texarkana, Arkansas, met in a Special Meeting on Monday, February 25, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. in the Library.

Elders present were Karen Flowers, Charles Morgan, Susan Morehead, Marshall Moore, Erin McCasland, Brian Jackson, Mona Fomby, Reg Jackson, Remica Gray, and Moderator Reverend Dr. Susan Arnold. Also present were Acting Treasurer Betty Anthony, Co-Treasurer Maggie Uzzell, Martha Nell Richards, and Clerk Sheila Moore.

CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Reverend Susan Arnold called the meeting to order, declared a quorum present, and gave the opening prayer. Reverend Susan Arnold stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss a change in the Minister's Terms of Call, revisions in the Pastor's and Christian Education Director's Position Descriptions, Contract revisions for Sarang Kang, revisions to the 2016 Budget, and one miscellaneous item.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

1. Reverend Susan Arnold presented, in the absence of Dr. Cordell Klein, Moderator of Personnel Committee, revisions in the Position Description for the Pastor.

MOTION - from Personnel Committee to change th word "Co-Pastor(s)" to "Pastor" in the Position Description of the Pastor. The motion passed.

2. Reverend Susan Arnold presented, in the absence of Dr. Cordell Klein, Moderator of Personnel Committee, revisions in the Position Description for the Christian Education Director. Upon Discussion, the following change in the proposed Position Description revisions was suggested: Add the following:

"IV. F. Assist with worship as requested by Pastor."

MOTION - made by Charles Morgan and seconded by Reg Jackson, to add the above referenced IV. F. to the Position Description of the Christian Education Director. The motion passed.

Reverend Susan Arnold presented revisions the Position Description of the Christian Education Director to add the following:

"IV. D. Provide technological support and promotion of church activities.

"IV. F. Assist with worship as requested by Pastor."

Further, the word “Co-Pastor(s)” will be changed to “Pastor”.

MOTION - from Personnel Committee to make the foregoing changes as revised in the Position Description of the Christian Education Director. The motion passed.

3. Reverend Arnold presented a revised employment Contract with Sarang Kang.

MOTION - made by Susan Morehead and seconded by Mona Fomby to amend the Personnel Committee’s suggested Contract with Christian Education Director Sarang Kant to reflect a five percent (5%) pay increase. The motion passed.

MOTION - from Personnel Committee to enter into the proposed Employment Contract with Christian Education director as amended. The motion passed.

CHANGES IN MINISTER’S TERMS OF CALL

Reverend Arnold excused herself from the meeting. On behalf of the Personnel Committee Maggie Uzzell presented changes in the Minister’s Call to reflect salary paid on a full-time basis as opposed to three-quarter time.

MOTION - from Personnel Committee to recommend that a Congregational Meeting be called to vote on changes in the Minister’s Call to reflect Reverend Dr. Susan Arnold as a full-time minister as opposed to a three-quarter time minister. The motion passed.

MOTION - made by Reg Jackson and seconded by Charles Morgan to call a Congregational Meeting for March 6, 2016, at the close of worship for the purpose of presenting changes in the Terms of Call of the Minister. The motion passed.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

There was discussion on changes in the 2016 Budget.

MOTION - made by Charles Morgan and seconded by Brian Jackson to defer payment of Presbytery Dues until further notice. The motion passed.

Extensive review and discussion of proposed changes in the 2016 Budget.

MOTION - made by Marshall Moore and seconded by Charles Morgan to move \$400 from the Poinsettia/Lily Due To Line Item to the Memorial

Orchard Due To Line Item, and \$400 from the Poinsettia/Lily Due To Line Item to the Angel Tree Due To Line Item. The motion passed.

After extensive discussion and review:

MOTION - made by Marshall Moore and seconded by Brian Jackson to approve the 2016 Budget as Amended. The motion passed.

USE OF FACILITIES

Clerk Sheila Moore reported that the Session had approved the Use of Facilities by the Master Gardeners on November 1, 2016, at the February 18, 2016, Session meeting. Kathy Boyles has requested that this date be changed to October 26, 2016, with setup on October 25, 2016.

MOTION - made by Marshall Moore and seconded by Erin McCasland to approve the above request. The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Sheila Moore closed the meeting with prayer.

Reverend Susan Arnold, Moderator

Sheila Moore, Clerk of Session

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 6, 2016**

After proper notice was given, a Congregational Meeting of the First Presbyterian Church, Texarkana, Arkansas, was held on Sunday, March 6, 2016, following the morning worship service.

Moderator Reverend Susan Arnold opened the meeting with prayer and declared a quorum present. Reverend Arnold stated the purpose of the meeting was to review a change in the Terms of Call of the Pastor for 2016.

Reverend Arnold called upon Betty Anthony to be designated to serve as moderator to review the changes to the Terms of Call of the Pastor for 2016.

Reverend Susan Arnold excused herself from the meeting. Mrs. Anthony stated that the Session, with the approval of the Stewardship and Personnel Committees, recommend changes in the Minister's Call to reflect salary paid on a full-time basis as opposed to three-quarter time. No questions were raised.

MOTION - from Session and the Stewardship Committee to pay Reverend Dr. Susan Arnold as a full-time employee as opposed to three-quarter time. The motion passed.

There being no other business to conduct, Reverend Susan Arnold adjourned the meeting with prayer.

Reverend Susan Arnold, Moderator

Susan Morehead, Acting Clerk of Session