

THE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
STATED SESSION MEETING

September 19, 2006

Initial Draft – Subject to Approval by Session

The Session of The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church met for a stated meeting on September 19, 2006. The following members were present, constituting a quorum: Moderator, Rev. David Jones and Rev. Gene Price, and Elders Steve Schlacks, Dan Summers-Minette, Laura Stanton, Pam Broussard, John Thompson, Bob Craig, Carl Wickizer, Russ Simpkins, David Castro, Doug Cordier, Ginger Sloop Melanie Harrison, Debbie Atwood and Skip Cain. Dave Wilkins, Bob Huck and Cindy Oliver were excused. Scott Campbell attended on behalf of the Board of Deacons.

The Moderator, Rev. Jones, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with an opening prayer.

**A SEASON OF PRAYER**

This was a time of lifting up before God praises and petitions. Included in this process were three visitors from Zambia: Sven, Flavia and Augustin. The Elders and their visitors shared concerns and blessings, both silently and verbally, lifting up before God their prayers. The Moderator closed the time with prayer.

The Docket was approved.

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT DOCKET**

The following motions were presented in full to the Session and approved by omnibus consent motion:

Approval of the Minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Session for 8/22/06

Approval for the change of the September date for Communion to Oct 1, World Communion Sunday.

Approval to remove Tony and Pepper Hume from the roles at their request.

**DEACON REPORT**

Deacon Scott Simpson and Rev. Gene Price reported on the progress of the reorganization of the Board of Deacons and advised that Board is feeling very good about how this is proceeding that the benefits that it will bring to each member of the congregation. They also, reported, however, that the transition is a change that is creating the normal concerns that change brings and they asked that all the Deacons be kept in the prayers of the Session as they redefine their roles and responsibilities.

## **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk had no report.

## **PASTOR'S REPORT**

The Pastor reminded the Session members that the parking lot will be in use in the coming Sunday and it would be good for those who felt they could to park as far from the church as they can.

He also alerted the Session to an opportunity that is being considered for a trip to Greece being set up by former Pastor Charles Hendricks. It would occur in 2007 or 2008.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Ginger Sloop discussed the financial report advising that Treasurer Louise Crider continues her hard work to finalize the full implementation of the new financial system. She noted that reports from the new system were produced for the meeting, but apologized that they were not available at the meeting. She indicated that the deficit appears to be narrowing to a number less than had been anticipated... She advised that budgets need to be to her committee by October 9.

**MOTION:** After a detailed discussion, the Session approved the following motion:

That the WCPC Fundraiser Policy is adopted as follows:

1. Raising funds outside the regular stewardship campaign should be carefully planned to provide opportunities for faithful giving without undermining the budget planning of the session.
2. Fundraising projects should be targeted for the benefit of those outside the membership of our congregation. The fundraiser itself should enhance our fellowship and life together and be generated via:
  - Service projects which aid others while obtaining funds,
  - Projects that require service or labor by those individuals raising the funds, or
  - Projects that raise money through the thoughtful giving of individuals for the stated goal.
3. Fundraising projects should be reflected in the minutes of the committee at least six (6) weeks prior to the start of the fundraiser, with answers to the following questions:
  - Who is sponsoring this fundraising project?
  - When, where, and how will fundraising be done?
  - What is the purpose of the fundraising project?
4. Some fundraising projects require the additional approval of Mission Outreach. These include appeals to which any one of the following criteria applies.
  - The funds to be raised are expected to exceed \$500.

- An appeal will be made to a majority of the membership.
  - An appeal will be made before, during, or after regular worship services.
  - The proposed project was not reflected in the minutes of the sponsoring committee at least six (60 weeks prior to the start of the fundraiser.
5. Care should be taken to avoid the proliferation of booths requesting funds before and after worship services.
  6. A special offering or free will offering shall be considered a fundraising appeal for the purposes of this policy.
  7. Free will offerings intended to cover the cost associated with a function such as food or a speaker are not considered fundraisers for the purposes of this policy.

### **WORSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT**

Steve Schlacks updated the Session regarding a projection system for the sanctuary and indicated the cost would be included in the 2007 budget.

### **LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Carl Wickizer gave a report of the LRPC and presented the Long Range Plan document, entitled THE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STRATEGIC PLAN --- "A ROADMAP TO THE FUTURE. Each section of the Plan was addressed by the Session as a whole in detail with full discussion paragraph by paragraph in a process that lasted nearly two hours. At the conclusion of the discussion, and after significant but not dramatic edits, the Session approved the following Motion:

**MOTION:** That the Plan be adopted with the edits as discussed, that the final document be republished with those edits incorporated in a final version, that the final version be distributed electronically to the Session, that the Session review and approve the final version electronically through communication to the Clerk, that the Clerk compile the Session's responses on the Final Plan and that, when it is either adopted or rejected, such action be incorporated into minutes to be approved at the next meeting of the Session. The Long Range Plan will be deemed approved upon the receipt by the Clerk of a positive majority of responses from the Session, with the requirement that it be noted whether or not all Session members responded.

### **DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY**

Session members pointed out important activities and actions of their committees for note by the entire Session.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Rev. Price presented her experiences from the General Assembly meeting in June where she served as an alternate commissioner and advocate for the proposal related to investment throughout the middle-east changing the previous GA's action supporting divestiture in companies doing business with Israel.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business raised.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by the Pastor at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Craig  
Clerk of Session