

**THE WOODLANDS COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATED MEETING OF THE SESSION
FEBRUARY 20, 2018**

The Session of The Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church met for a Stated meeting on February 20, 2018. Members present and constituting a quorum were: Moderator Dr. Rev. David Jones, Rev. Laura Grice, Elders, Bubba Davis, Cinda Hitchcock, Gordy Lentz, Jen Connor, Nancy Castro, Ria Du Bruyn, Bruce Lee, Todd Duncan, Sheree Fleming, Megan Hansen, Sarah Martin. Elder, Chris Liddell was excused. Elder, Betsy Whitehead was absent. The following staff members were also present: Susan Duncan, Jonathan Aigner and Michele Stelter.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order with an opening prayer by the Moderator at 7:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT DOCKET

The Minutes of the January 14, 2018 Stated Session Meeting, the Called Session Meeting of January 28, 2018 and the Congregational Meeting on January 21, 2018 were approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Rev. Jones reviewed the Officer/Staff planning meeting held on Saturday, February 10, 2018. (Notes are attached)

There will be a Called Meeting of the Session on Sunday, February 25, 2018 to receive new members.

The Congregation Meeting has been called for Sunday, February 25, 2018 after the 11:00 service to act on Session's recommended Terms of Call for the Pastors.

CLERK'S REPORT

The 2017-2018 minutes will be reviewed for approval on Saturday, March 17, 2018 following the Presbytery Meeting in Conroe, Texas.

The Clerk reported that the individual Team Meeting Minutes are now available on the WCPC web site.

Elder, Bruce Lee is scheduled to attend the March Deacon Team meeting as a representative of the Session.

DEACON'S REPORT

Deacon, Erin Michaelis reported on the work of the Deacons.

TEAM REPORTS:

Building and Grounds - Bruce Lee reported on the work of this team.

Christian Enrichment (Adults) - Ria Du Bruyn reported on the work of this team.

MOTION: The following Study Materials were approved:

The Challenge of Jesus

Reading Biblical Literature

The Ten Commandments

Sitting In The Dark - Growing Through the Poetry of Pain

Sacred Journeys

If The Church Were Christian

Tex Mix - Stories of Earthy Mysticism

CHRISTIAN ENRICHMENT (CHILDREN/TWEENS) - Jen Connor reported on the work of this team.

CREATION CARE - Cinda Hitchcock provided an update on the Overture presented to Presbytery and Synod.

EVANGELISM - Sheree Fleming reported on the work of this committee and provided an update on the campus signs.

FELLOWSHIP - Cinda Hitchcock reported on the work of this team.

FINANCE - Bubba Davis reported on the latest financial status.

MISSION OUTREACH - Gordy Lentz provided a list of the 2018 Mission Benevolence donations.

MOTION: It was moved to approve the list of the 2018 Mission Benevolence donations. (See attached copy) The motion was approved.

PERSONNEL - Rev. Jones and Rev. Grice were excused from the meeting in order for the Session to discuss the new Terms of Call for the Pastors. Todd Duncan reported on the recommendation from the Personnel Team to present to the Congregation a .05% increase in the Terms of Call for both Pastors.

The Pastors were invited back to the meeting. Todd and Rev. Jones discussed the terms of a Pastor's Sabbatical for Rev. Jones (see attached report). The Session approved the Sabbatical and it will now be sent to Presbytery for their approval.

WORSHIP - Nancy Castro reported on the work of this team and announced that the Genius Program is up and running for Communion sign up.

YOUTH - Megan Hansen reported on the work of this team. The Confirmation Class is scheduled to be examined by the Session on May 6, 2018.

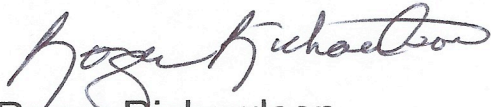
OLD BUSINESS - Jen Connor provided an update on the work of the Officer Nominating Committee.

Rev. Jones provided an update on upcoming services and events at the church.

ADJOURNMENT AND CLOSING PRAYER - There being no other business to discuss, Rev. Laura Grice closed the meeting with prayers of concerns and joy at 8:31 pm.

THE NEXT STATED MEETING OF THE SESSION IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 20, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger Richardson".

Roger Richardson
Clerk of Session

IN FIVE YEARS!

(These are not listed in order of priority.)

- Full sanctuary
- More diverse
- Rotation of Leadership (term limits not just for officers)
- Double Confirmation Class
- Intergenerational classes, ministry, Confirmation Classes
- Africa/Peru – more people involved
- Millennials/ someplace – somewhere
- No lonely seniors
- New organ
- Debt-Free or at least moving aggressively in that direction
- Shower in CHED
- Connection among groups/ministries
- Ongoing awareness of financial needs for ministry
- Stronger Presbyterian connections/awareness

THINGS TO CONSIDER?

(Again, not in order of priority.)

- Single ministry
 - Millennials outreach
 - Do we need two services?
 - Roping off rows in sanctuary
 - Removing some pews
 - 18 – 26 year old fellowship
 - Stewardship – monthly or weekly one minute statements concerning how funds are used
 - In Stewardship season encourage engagement in more than just finances
 - Generosity Team?
 - Have something like "Ask me about WCPC?" for ushers/others to wear on Sundays
- Dinner Groups – continual enrollment, especially for new members/guest
- How do we help our community know we are here and what we are doing?
 - Focus on Sabbath?
 - 3 Ways to Improve your Prayer Life? Outline of sermon?
 - Spiritual Gifts? How to discover?
 - Ending ministry or mission when no clear leader emerges
 - Becoming Jesus' hands – helping people see joy through mission

	o	Budget 2018
Montgomery County		
ESL Children's Program Payroll		2,500
Interfaith of the Woodlands		2,000
WCPC Mission Trips		0
Montgomery Co. Food Bank		2,500
Montgomery Co. Habitat for Humanity		8,000
Montgomery Co. Homeless Services		1,000
Parental Support Center - Willis		1,500
Community Clinic		6,000
The Gathering Place		1,000
Pastor's Discretionary Fund		4,000
Relay for Life		0
Family Promise		1,000
Love Fosters Hope Montgomery County		1,000
Meals on Wheels Montgomery County		1,000
Montgomery County Women's Center		2,000
Greater Houston Area		
Casa Juan Diego		3,000
Interfaith CarePartners		1,000
Presbytery New Church Development		1,000
Prayers of the People		1,000
International Seafarer Center		1,500
Project C.U.R.E.		500
CanCare		500
DeGeorge at Union Station		500
State or Synod Level		
Cho Yeh Camp and Conference Center		500
Mo-Ranch Conference Center		1,000
Presbyterian Children Homes & Services		2,000
National		
Presbyterian Church Per Capita		4,607
Presbyterian Church (USA) Undesignated		30,000
Theological Education Fund		1,000
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)		2,000
International		
Project for Evangelism in Africa - Zambia		11,500
Project for Evangelism in South America - Peru		2,700
The Outreach Foundation		1,000
Mission Personnel Support		7,000

Medical Benevolence Foundation	500
Hope for the Middle East	500
Bread For The World	0
Proyecto Amistad	1,500
miscellaneous	1,189
Total Benevolence	109,496
Mission Outreach	109,496
Speakers	0
Supplies+Postage+Wires	
Conferences	
Mission Assistance for Staff	
Miscellaneous	2,500
Total Mission Outreach	2,500

SABBATICAL PROPOSAL FOR DAVID FOX JONES

June 1 - August 31, 2018

Rest and Prayer: The sabbatical I am imagining will begin with a dedicated time to disengage from the 24/7 nature of pastoral ministry in order to regain balance in my life - physically, emotionally and spiritually. I turn 60 this year. I'm in my 34th year of ministry and when my sabbatical begins (early June '18) I will have been the pastor of WCPC for thirteen years. It is my desire and prayer to retire as the pastor of WCPC. I want to end my ministry here well and believe my sabbatical will give me the opportunity to reflect on my ministry up to this point and look with renewed energy to what lies ahead.

Study: Another aspect of the sabbatical I plan is time for study and reflection. First I intend to visit with pastors who are either retired or nearing retirement. I want to listen to either how they ended their ministries or how they are preparing to end them. Learning from them and also hopefully sharing some of what I have discovered from listening to others. Second I will invest at least ten days near Ghost Ranch, a Presbyterian Conference Center in New Mexico. First in a Bed and Breakfast near Ghost (their summer schedule won't allow me to stay at Ghost Ranch but the staff there has invited me to visit the Ranch, eat meals, etc.). Then I plan on a four day, three night visit at the Monastery of Christ in the Desert which is also near Ghost Ranch. I also plan in late July or early August to go to the Iona Community in Scotland and stay there for a week of meditation/study/prayer.

Travel: Lastly I will use some of the sabbatical time to do some traveling. I will be driving to New Mexico, then to Laguna Beach, CA. Jullie will be flying into Laguna and then we plan on visiting her mother, brother, and other friends, and then drive up the coast to San Francisco where Jullie will depart for home. I will continue my drive, returning in a week to ten days to The Woodlands. Along my route, both going and coming, I hope to visit with friends, as well as have conversations with pastors who, as mentioned before, are either retired or nearing retirement. Jullie will be joining me in Scotland and together we will travel Scotland for a week to ten days, ending our time in London.