



*CALLED TO WORSHIP, EMPOWERED TO SERVE*  
**MINUTES OF THE STATED SESSION MEETING**  
September 23, 2018 at 7:00PM – Room 319

**CALLED TO WORSHIP**

1. **Declared Quorum** **Kim Dawson, Acting Clerk of Session**
2. **Call to Order** **Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee**
3. **Opening Devotion and Prayer** **David Buchanan**
4. **Clerks Report/Consent Agenda** **Kim Dawson**  
**MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda** **APPROVED**  
Called Session meeting on October 14 to receive new members: Mary Overman, Kim Dawson, Cathy Ingram and Drake Dowler to attend.
5. **Moderator's Report** **Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee**  
Committee Chair meeting on October 7. New class of elders will attend November Session Meeting to share their journeys. Session will pick up work in October on 4 statements that are currently being shared with congregation in sermon series. Charlie will attend a 2 day Healthy Congregation training in Montreat in October.
6. **Action Item(s)**
  - **MOTION** to elect a commissioner to the next Salem Presbytery meeting Tuesday, November 13 at Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church in Blowing Rock. Cuyler McKnight will attend. **APPROVED**
  - **MOTION** to approve the Personnel Committee proposal that Session create an ad hoc committee comprised of a representative member from Building & Grounds, Tutoring, Youth and Caring plus Laura and other's deemed necessary to evaluate and develop a recommendation specifically to ensure our church bus usage is in compliance with the Safe Church Policy. Compared to area churches, our bus ministry is unique in that it runs on Sunday mornings and only picks up children/minors. **APPROVED**
  - **MOTION** to approve the Finance and Preschool committees request to allocate surplus funds as follows: \$5,000 to Susan White Helping Hands Fund for scholarship requests and the remainder of the surplus to Susan White Enrichment Fund to fund enrichment classes, equipment needs, staff workshops and salary for 4 year old Preschool teacher to assist on Fridays with bookkeeping and administration. **APPROVED**
7. **Lillian Steele Gift Presentation and Q&A** **Finance Committee**  
Original proposed administration of the Lillian Steele Bequest dated Sunday, June 14, 2015 was provided as a handout. Financial update as of 8/31/18 was reviewed including all community tithes, ministry grants and current balances.
8. **Committee Reports (highlights)**  
**Stewardship:** Campaign will be in October and November. Committee is focusing on positive messages and what we are doing and accomplishing. If we need to tap into the Lillian Steele Bequest a key message will focus on why, because we are receiving less in pledges not because we are spending

more.

**Building & Grounds:** Starmount has received a donation of an HVAC unit for the space we are renovating outside of Fellowship Hall. Session doesn't normally approval gifts of items but wanted to bring to Session due to significance. **APPROVED.**

**Faith Formation:** Small groups are going well. New one on Sunday mornings with over 20 congregants signed up. Request for a parent mentoring class or group that is being explored. Also adding group at River Landing. Nine potential confirmation candidates for confirmation class.

Ad Hoc Safety Committee: Met three times. Sought guidance from Session on ask and timeline – create a draft safety plan to be finalized by 2019/2020 programming year. Committee has a robust plan from First Presbyterian Church that they will adapt to fit Starmount.

**9. Treasurer's Report**

**Libby Wilson**

We are running ahead and are favorable on budget at this point in time. Pledges are running slightly ahead and expenses have been lower than budget.

**10. Prayer Concerns noted.** Barb on death of her mother in law. Drake – colleague's wife Susan Spaugh who has been diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

**11. Closing Prayer**

**Matt Winters**

**NEXT MEETING:**

Next Stated Session Meeting October 21, 2018 at 7:00PM, Room 319

October Devotion – **David Buchanan** October Closing Prayer – **Ginger Walton**

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**Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee**, Moderator

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**Kim Dawson**, Acting Clerk of Session

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**STATISTICAL INFORMATION**

1. **Roll:** The elders shown in **BOLD** were present.

<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>
<b>David Buchanan</b>	<b>Drake Dowler</b>	<b>Jack Barry</b>
<b>Kim Dawson</b>	<b>Elaine Gustafson</b>	<b>Martha Bursey</b>
April Hamilton	Barbara Newbauer	<b>Cathy Ingram</b>
<b>Anna Lewis</b>	<b>Mary Overman</b>	<b>Cuyler McKnight</b>
<b>Steve Blackwood</b>	Susan Porter	<b>Ginger Walton</b>
	<b>Matt Winters</b>	

**Staff:** **Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee** (Head Pastor and Moderator), **Rev. Dr. Kathryn Campbell** (Assoc. Pastor), and **Libby Wilson** (Director of Finance/Administration).

2. **Worship Attendance Report**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>		<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
<b>Jan</b>	166	163	<b>165</b>	July	156	158	<b>150</b>
Feb	183	196	<b>180</b>	Aug	179	165	<b>160</b>
Mar	231	186	<b>174</b>	Sept	174	177	<b>169</b>
April	188	219	<b>195</b>	Oct	175	170	
May	175	168	<b>162</b>	Nov	186	172	
June	180	184	<b>164</b>	Dec	199	248	

**Average weekly attendance to date 2018: 169**

3. **Membership Report** - Total active members August 19, 2018: 391

Death of Viola Yonce Rader August 30, 2018

Total active members September 16, 2018: 390