

The session of Westminster Presbyterian Church (“WPC”) convened for a stated meeting at 6:17 P.M. on 18 May 2008 in Room 105 of the Holderness Mission Center. Acting Moderator Betty Berghaus was present and called the meeting to order. Assistant Clerk of Session Alex Denson was present.

Interim Pastor Jack Walchenbach was absent and excused.

Elders Kathryn Bunch, Bruce Cunningham, John Graham, June Jones, Susan Landis, Sara Pottenger, Shayne Ruffing, Holly Huffman Schmidt and Eric Wolf were present. Elders John Dancy and Claudia Draffin were absent and excused.

WPC staff members Barbara Fletcher and Gail Reynolds were present and past Director of Christian Education Sue McCaughan was present.

The meeting was opened with a reading in unison of the WPC Mission Statement, followed by a devotional and prayer by Bruce Cunningham.

The Acting Moderator declared a quorum present.

#### **EXAMINATION AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS:**

Members of the current Inquirers’ Class hereinafter identified joined the meeting for dinner and fellowship. Each individual or couple from the current Inquirers’ Class who expressed an interest in joining the congregation was paired with a member of the Session. After meeting in twos and threes, the Elders introduced the Inquirers to the assembly.

**Motion:** On a motion by Elder Sara Pottenger, the following members of the current Inquirers class were received as members of WPC according to the pertinent procedures as prescribed in the Book of Order:

<u>New Member</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Introducer</u>	<u>Service</u>
Jeanne Behr	St. Catherine Siena	Holly Schmidt	6/29 @ 11:00
Hunter Gentry	Johns Creek UMC	Eric Wolf	6/1 @ 11:00
Kim Fisher	Watts St. Baptist	Susan Landis	6/1 @ 11:00
Scott Matheson	University UMC	Bruce Cunningham	6/1 @ 11:00
Whitney Matheson	University UMC	Bruce Cunningham	6/1 @ 11:00
Billy McFall	Affirmation of Faith	Sara Pottenger	TBA
Quinn McFall	Affirmation of Faith	Sara Pottenger	TBA
Clint Myers	Hope Valley Baptist	Kathryn Bunch	TBA
Angela Myers	Hope Valley Baptist	Kathryn Bunch	TBA

**Motion:** On a motion by Elder Sara Pottenger, the session authorized the baptisms of Avery, Tate, Carter and Daly, children of Clint and Angela Myers, and Katherine McFall, daughter of Billy and Quinn McFall, at dates and times to be coordinated with the pastoral staff.

The newly received members were then excused with a prayer by Elder Susan Landis.

## **MINUTES**

The Assistant Clerk noted that the draft minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Session on 20 April 2008 had not yet been distributed by the Clerk.

Draft minutes of the Called Meetings of the Session on 26 April 2008 and 4 May 2008 and the Called Meeting of the Congregation on 11 May 2008 were read.

**Motion:** On a motion by Elder Susan Landis, the draft minutes of the Called Meetings of the Session on 26 April 2008 and 4 May 2008 and the Called Meeting of the Congregation on 11 May 2008 were approved as read.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Review of Rolls – Follow-up:**

At the suggestion of the Acting Moderator, further action on the review of rolls was deferred until the next meeting.

### **2008 Outstanding Older Adult Award:**

Elder Eric Wolf announced that Ralph Coonrad had been selected to receive our nomination for this award and that the written nomination would be presented at the next meeting.

### **Interim Associate Pastor Search Committee:**

This committee is not active now because it has been decided to wait until the new senior pastor has been selected and installed before searching for the new associate pastor.

### **PNC:**

Elder John Graham reported that the PNC has begun telephone interviews with candidates and that others are “in the pipeline” also. Applications are still coming in. It is estimated that the PNC will focus on a small number of candidates by mid-fall.

### **Personnel Committee:**

Elder Bruce Cunningham announced that Don Heagren has resigned from the Personnel Committee after serving as its chair for fifteen years. The Session will acknowledge this service with an appropriate resolution. Betty Berghaus and Alex Denson will prepare a draft.

It has been decided that the Personnel Committee will consist of three elders, one from each class, with the senior member serving as chair. Currently, these members are: Bruce Cunningham (rising third year), chair, Claudia Draffin (rising second year), and Dana Lange (incoming first year).

A member of this committee will meet with each member of the staff to touch base. Depending on those conversations, it will be decided later whether written evaluations will be prepared. Rebecca Mattern has requested evaluation as to her performance so far as Youth Director.

If we do not have a senior pastor installed before Jack Walchenbach’s current term expires (in November), the Presbytery has given permission for us to extend his term beyond that.

## REPORTS

**Worship:** (Kathryn Bunch) Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday 1 June 2008. Sara Pottenger will coordinate for the 8:30 A.M. service, and Claudia Draffin will coordinate for the 11:00 A.M. service.

**Christian Education:** (John Dancy) The Christian Education Committee's 15 April 2008 meeting minutes were distributed via the Session Packet mailing. There was no further report.

**Ways and Means:** (Shayne Ruffing) The Ways and Means Commission's 14 May 2008 meeting agenda, 9 April 2008 meeting minutes and WPC Financial Statements for April 2008 were distributed via the Session Packet mailing.

Ways and Means has formed three sub-groups: 1) Comprehensive Campaign, headed by Dave Pottenger and Dana Lange, 2) Stewardship (theme this year is "We are The Church"), and 3) Strategic Planning.

Dave and Dana believe we need to hire a professional fund raiser for the comprehensive campaign and will recommend someone at the next session meeting.

**Nominating:** (Alex Denson) A copy of the 2008 Nominating Committee's report regarding election of officers for the classes of 2011, which was presented at the congregational meeting held on 11 May 2008, was distributed via the Session Packet mailing. There was no further report.

**Youth Council:** (Susan Landis) The Youth Council's 27 April 2008 meeting minutes were distributed via the Session Packet mailing. There was no further report.

**Transition:** (Shayne Ruffing). No report.

**Diaconate:** (Betty Berghaus) Draft minutes from the 13 April meeting of the Board of Deacons were distributed via the Session Packet mailing. There was no further report.

**Inquirers' Class:** (Sara Pottenger). The current class has just concluded with the admission of the new members listed above.

**Seminarians:** (John Dancy). No report.

**Global Missions:** (John Dancy) No report.

**Local Missions:** (Alex Denson) No report.

**Assimilation:** (Sara Pottenger) No report.

**Congregational Care:** (Eric Wolf) No report.

**Fellowship:** (Holly Schmidt) No report.

**Boy Scouts:** (Holly Schmidt) No report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Marian Draffin's Ordination Service:**

Marian's ordination service will be held at Westminster on 17 August at 4:00 P.M. Marian has made two special requests: 1) that there be an offering to benefit WPC seminary students, and 2) that Holy Communion be served.

**Motion:** On a motion by Elder Holly Schmidt, both of Marian's requests were approved.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

Barbara Fletcher reported that Tully graduated from Columbia Theological Seminary yesterday, and is in the process of seeking a call as an Associate Pastor of Youth Ministry.

## **CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS**

Betty reported that:

- Kitty Currie is in hospice at the home of her daughter, Eloise.
- Barbara Penick is in Duke Medical Center and is suffering a lot of pain.
- Marvin Walker is recuperating at home following heart by-pass surgery.
- Ann Way is at Duke Medical Center after falling and breaking her hip.
- Barbara Vanden Broek has had gall bladder surgery.

The Session's current business having been completed, the Moderator declared the meeting adjourned.

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Eric Wolf at 8:17 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Alex Denson  
Assistant Clerk of Session

Betty Berghaus  
Acting Moderator