

The session of Westminster Presbyterian Church ("WPC") convened for a stated meeting at 5:00 P.M. on 16 December 2007 in Room 105 of the Holderness Mission Center. Moderator Jack Walchenbach was present and called the meeting to order. Clerk of Session Doug Wellemeyer was present.

Associate Pastor Betty Berghaus was present. Associate Pastor Paul Ransford was absent and excused.

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

WPC staff members Barbara Fletcher and Nancy Rozak were present.

The meeting was opened with a reading in unison of the WPC Mission Statement, followed by a devotional by Holly Schmidt.

The Moderator declared a quorum present.

MINUTES

Draft minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Session on 18 November 2007 and the Called Meeting of the Session on 2 December 2007 were distributed at the beginning of the meeting.

The draft minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Session on 21 October 2007 were read.

Motion: On a motion by Susan Landis, the minutes of the Stated Meeting of the Session on 21 October 2007 were approved as read.

COMMUNICATIONS

Motion: On a motion by John Dancy, former WPC member Jane Pritchard was received as a member on letter of transfer from St. Giles Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, NC and according to the pertinent procedures prescribed in the Book of Order.

Motion: On a motion by June Jones, WPC members Diana Bramson, Neal Bramson, Rebecca Lula, Scott MacLeod and Nancy Thomas were moved to the Inactive Roll according to the pertinent procedures prescribed in the Book of Order, and the Clerk of Session was directed to notify each member of this action by letter.

Motion: On a motion by Susan Landis, WPC member Susan Pope was added to the list of members moved to the Inactive Roll.

OLD BUSINESS

Stewardship Campaign Report and Follow-up on Elder Contacts:

Shayne Ruffing reported on the progress and status of the stewardship campaign. To date, the campaign is approximately \$160,000 short of its goal, with approximately 100 stewardship packages still outstanding, and elders are still making contacts with members who have not yet responded. Elders were reminded to forward to Barbara Fletcher all information gathered during those contacts.

PNC:

John Graham reported that the CIF has been electronically posted and, pending final approvals, it will be available for review by prospective candidates in the coming days. John urged elders to review the church website and make efforts to refresh any information published there for the committees and programs under their direction. John also encouraged elders to pass along to PNC Moderator Bill Bartholomay the names of any recommended candidates.

Annual Session Retreat:

Bruce Cunningham reported that the Steering Committee is finalizing plans for the retreat program based on the book Resident Aliens. The Committee is working on possible ways to engage one of the book's authors, Stanley Hauerwas, in the program. The survey prepared by Frances Anton following last year's retreat is providing some very useful planning direction.

Proposal to Consider Changing the Session's Stated Meeting Schedule:

A recommendation by the Moderator to postpone further discussion or action on this matter until the session retreat in January was endorsed by acclamation.

REPORTS

Worship: (Kathryn Bunch) No report.

Christian Education: (John Dancy) The Christian Education Committee's 20 November 2007 meeting minutes were distributed via the Session Packet mailing, and a brief report highlighting the Commission's recent activities was provided.

Ways and Means: (Shayne Ruffing) The Ways and Means Commission's 12 December 2007 meeting agenda and WPC Financial Statements for November 2007 were distributed via the Session Packet mailing.

The goal of finalizing the 2008 budget by year-end will likely not be realized, given the status of the stewardship campaign as reported earlier. We will discuss together the operating budget and a possible capital campaign at the session's annual retreat next month.

Motion: On a motion by Shayne Ruffing, the attached resolution regarding the pastors' housing allowances for 2008 was adopted.

Nominating: (Alex Denson) No report.

Personnel: (Bruce Cunningham) No report.

Youth Council: (Susan Landis) The Youth Council's 18 November 2007 and 9 December 2007 meeting minutes were distributed via the Session Packet mailing, and a brief report highlighting the Council's recent activities was provided.

Transition: (Shayne Ruffing) No report.

Diaconate: (Betty Berghaus) No report.

Inquirers' Class: (Sara Pottenger) The current Inquirers' Class is an outstanding group including two individuals and 6 couples. We will meet later this evening with Alice Breeden, Colleen Carson, and Kim and Paul Garcia.

Sara Pottenger will be in contact with those members of the Inquirer's class who were unable to be in attendance at this meeting, and a called meeting of the session will be scheduled to examine and receive them.

Seminarians: (John Dancy) No report.

Global Missions: (John Dancy) The Committee met on 12 December 2007. Among subjects discussed were Haiti missions also supported by Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church in Raleigh, and the financial support needs of a missionary family that previously visited WPC, the Boyds.

Reported receipts from One World Market were \$2,552, and an additional \$1,043 in sales was reported from the Alternative Gift shop, during the events hosted by the Global Missions Committee on Sunday 9 December.

Local Missions: (Alex Denson) No report.

Assimilation: (Sara Pottenger) The Assimilation Committee's 5 December 2007 meeting minutes were distributed via the Session Packet mailing. There was no further report.

Congregational Care: (Eric Wolf) A high level of interest and personal need among members in regard to the developing WPC Health Ministry was reported. Parish Nurse Kay Wellemeyer recently completed Duke University's Health Ministry and Congregational Nurse training program.

Fellowship: (Holly Schmidt) The Fellowship Committee's 26 November 2007 meeting minutes were distributed via the Session Packet mailing. There was no further report.

Boy Scouts: (Holly Schmidt) Scout leaders are hoping for quick action by the church on their cabin upgrade proposals.

NEW BUSINESS

Shayne Ruffing raised a concern that there has been no elder greeter posted at the 11:00 worship service on several recent Sunday mornings. Following brief discussion, the Moderator asked that the Worship Committee review the elder greeter assignment process at its next meeting.

Guest Pastor:

Motion: On a motion by John Graham, the session authorized the Reverend Carol Gregg to preach at WPC on Sunday 20 January 2008.

STAFF REPORTS

Nancy Rozak expressed her sincere thanks to elders and to the planning committee for their excellent support and the great success of the Advent Wednesday evening programs.

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

Remembrance and sympathy: Frances Anton's aunt Julia White died. Gene Brannon's daughter-in-law's father died. Shayne Ruffing's grandmother died two weeks ago in Upper Marlboro, Maryland; the family asks for prayers for Shayne's grandfather.

EXAMINATION AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS:

Members of the current Inquirers' Class hereinafter identified joined the meeting at 6:20 P.M. for dinner and fellowship. Each member of the current Inquirers' Class who expressed an interest in joining the congregation was paired with a member of the Session. After meeting in pairs, the Elders introduced the Inquirers to the assembly.

Motion: On a motion by Eric Wolf, the following Inquirers were received as members of WPC according to the pertinent procedures prescribed in the Book of Order:

<u>New Member</u>	<u>Church</u>	<u>Introducer</u>
Alice Elizabeth Breeden	St. Andrew's Catholic Church Apex, NC	Kathryn Bunch
Ann Colleen Carson	Evangelical Lutheran Church Roxboro Rd., Durham, NC	Eric Wolf
Kimberly Ritchie Garcia	First Baptist Church Ann Arbor, MI	John Graham
Paul Anthony Garcia	St. Peter's Episcopal Church Weston, MA	

Baptisms:

Motion: On a motion by Sara Pottenger, the baptisms of Connor (age 7) and Brandon (age 3) Garcia, sons of Kimberly and Paul Garcia, were authorized with the understanding that dates and times are yet to be coordinated with the pastoral staff.

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

The meeting was closed with a prayer by June Jones at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Wellemeyer
Clerk of Session

Jack Walchenbach
Moderator

**RESOLUTION OF THE SESSION
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

WHEREAS section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code specifies that the amount of a minister's compensation that is designated in advance by an employing church as a housing allowance is not taxable in computing federal income taxes to the extent that it is used to pay for actual expenses incurred in owning or renting a home or apartment and, in the case of a minister who owns a home, does not exceed the fair rental value of the home (furnished, plus utilities); and

WHEREAS, ordained ministers Jack Walchenbach - Interim Head Pastor, Paul Ransford - Associate Pastor for Youth and Family, and Betty Berghaus - Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care are compensated by Westminster Presbyterian Church (WPC) exclusively for services as ministers; and

WHEREAS, WPC does not provide said ordained ministers with a parsonage; therefore, it is

RESOLVED that the following be designated as housing allowances for the calendar year 2008 pursuant to section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code: Jack Walchenbach - \$40,000; Paul Ransford - \$30,900; and Betty Berghaus - \$20,604; and it is further

RESOLVED that the above designations as housing allowances also shall apply to all future years that said ordained ministers are employed by WPC, unless otherwise provided.

Adopted by the session of Westminster Presbyterian Church on the 16th day of December 2007.