

**The United Presbyterian Church of East Guilford  
Regular Session Meeting**

A regular monthly meeting of the Session of the United Presbyterian Church of East Guilford was held on January 15, 2019 at Rev. Patty Wolff's apartment. The meeting was called to order at 6:20 PM with prayer by Rev. Patty Wolff.

**Elders Present:** Jan Lafayette, Sharon Havens, Judy Ives, Patty Wolff, moderator; with a quorum being present.

**Elders Excused:** Dave Williams, April Ray

**Elders Absent:** none

**Guests:** Becky Holley

**The Clerk of Session Report:**

**Membership Roll**

Last report.....	51
Gains:.....	0
Losses: .....	0
Membership Roll, this report.....	51

**Sacraments**

Communion.....	1
Infant Baptism.....	0
Adult Baptism.....	0
Weddings.....	0
Funerals.....	0

The following **Communications** were received:

- Discussed from January meeting a communication we received from the First Congregational Church in Sidney. They were asking us if we are interested in sharing a pastor and their facilities. We decided we would tell them we were not interested at this time but may want to discuss other types of cooperation in the future.

**Consent Agenda:**

- Reviewed and set agenda for meeting.
- Approval of last month's minutes.
- Approval of standing committee reports.
- Approval of Clerk of Session report.
- Approval of Pastor's report and mileage

**Consent agenda was moved and passed including the following:**

- Annual Report document
- Church report form 2018

**Items removed from consent agenda for discussion:**

- Carpet cleaning the sanctuary and narthex was discussed. Two estimates were received by Jan and it was moved, passed and approved to have John Palmer of Floorfool LLC do the work at total cost of \$335.

- Two concerns raised: the carpeting in the back rooms is stretched and unsafe and the drapery behind altar is dirty.
- Motion made and passed to purchase 10 more of the Glory to God hymnals.

**Worship Committee, Judy Ives and Jan Lafayette, chairs:**

- We celebrated the last Sunday of Advent with reading and lighting the fourth candle on the Advent wreath on December 23. Our Christmas Eve service at 5:30 PM on December 24 was a service of carols and readings and the lighting of the Christ candle. Terri Barnhart served as lay speaker on December 30 in Patty's absence. The first Sunday of January was Epiphany and Pastor Patty led communion served by Sandy Egli. Since we are in the fellowship room for the cold months and space is limited, we will be using only one server.

**Building and Grounds, Dave Williams, chair:**

- No report

**Parish Life, Sharon Havens, chair:**

- No report

**Mission & Stewardship, Jan Lafayette, chair:**

- We collected \$268 for the Christmas Joy offering.
- There has been a lot of interest in the Blessing Box this past month by way of our Facebook page.
- I need to start working on Earth Care Congregation recertification. Kathy and I are beginning to consider a new Earth Care bulletin board.

**Nominating Committee:**

- No report

**Personnel Committee, Jan Lafayette, chair:**

- No report

**Presbytery Report:**

- None

**Pastor's Report:**

1. Administrative & Continuing Education
  - a. Training of new secretary & Personnel Meeting December 6
2. Presbytery & Ecumenical
  - a. Administration of Operation Merry Christmas – all charges paid up to date
  - b. Operation Merry Christmas Giveaway on December 15
  - c. Participated in Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service on December 16 Bainbridge UMC
3. Days Off (Vacation)
  - a. Took last week of vacation for 2018 from December 25, 2018 through January 1, 2019
4. Worship/Events
  - a. Christmas Eve
  - b. Christmas Pot Luck on December 15
5. Mission
  - a. Filled Blessing Box
6. Bible Study
  - a. Wednesday Morning - 2 Chronicles
  - b. Thursday Afternoon - Proverbs & Job

**Old Business:**

- Microfilm reader: Motion made and passed to take one of the surplus microfilm readers from the Sidney Historical Society provided Kathy Schmidt can find room for it at the church.
- Discussed whether we should consider digitizing our church records.
- Membership review: tabled until we have a plan. Patty noted that she has not seen 15 members in church since she arrived.
- GoToMeeting use: Discussed that having meetings in bad weather is a safety issue. Another option might be to use Google Hangouts, which might be free. Decided that we will not purchase a license but will cancel and/or reschedule meeting in bad weather.
- Working with other churches: As of July 1, Patty will have been with our church 11 years. Patty is considering retiring and/or moving to NYC in the next couple of years. Session will continue discernment.
- Elder training set tentatively for March 9<sup>th</sup>. It would include morning and afternoon sessions with lunch.
- Tentatively set February 10<sup>th</sup> for Patty's open house. It will be with Bainbridge church and will be at the Bainbridge Presbyterian church.
- Motion was made and passed to change Yard Sale date to June 29, 2019.

**Devotions:** None

**New Business:**

- We need a Commissioner for the February 9 Presbytery Assembly in Johnson City
- Discussed 2 models of church cooperation during discussion about working with other churches
- Motion made and passed to hold Ash Wednesday service in cooperation with Bainbridge Presbyterian on March 6, 19 at 7 PM in Bainbridge. This is tentative pending Bainbridge Presbyterian Session approval.
- Moved and passed date of February 10 for Becky Holley's installation as elder.

Our next meeting of the session will be Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 6:00PM, location to be determined. With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Judy at approximately 8:35 PM.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jan Lafayette, Ruling Elder and Pro Tem Clerk