

**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 December 17, 2019 at the church. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM with prayer by Rev. Patty Wolff.

Elders Present: Dave Williams, Sharon Havens, Judy Ives, Becky Holley, Kathy Schmidt, Patty Wolff, moderator; with a quorum being present.

Elders Excused: none

Elders Absent: none

Guests: none

The Clerk of Session Report:

The church's records (minutes and register) were approved and accepted on November 23, 2019,

Membership Roll

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Last report..... | 50 |
| Gains:..... | 0 |
| Losses: | 0 |
| Membership Roll, this report..... | 50 |

Sacraments

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

The following **Communications** were received

BlueOx contract acknowledgement, thank from Presbytery Mission for our \$200 donation, special offerings from PCUSA.

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 with correction of date of next meeting.
- Approval of Pastor's report and mileage.
- Receipt of treasurer's report.

Consent agenda was moved and passed.

Items approved via email:

None

Items removed from consent agenda:

- Freeze alarm draft was approved as presented and will be included in the manual of operations along with a copy of the instructions for the device.
- Notes from the Presbytery Assembly in November were presented. 2020 meeting dates are February 22, June 6, September 19, and November 14.

Worship Committee, Judy Ives, chair:

- There was no church on December 1 due to bad weather. Therefore communion was held the second Sunday, December 8, with Pastor Patty officiating and Lola Palmer and Sandy DuMond serving. We need more volunteers to sign up to serve, starting in February.

- We will be having combined services in Bainbridge at 10 AM on December 29 and January 5, during Patty's vacation, and they will do an in-house service. Therefore our January communion will be celebrated with Bainbridge.
- The Advent wreath was lighted for the first three Sundays of Advent, with several congregation members volunteering to read and light candles. Each lighting was preceded by a spiritual/gospel type hymn.
- Poinsettias were ordered in early December and picked up on December 13. Price was \$6 each. Dedication forms were handed in by December 15. Plants will need to be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.
- Georgia Baker may be a potential lay preacher. Patty will call her and then check with COM.
- Annual meeting time was set for 10:45am after 9:30 worship. Coffee will be available. The meeting will be followed by a discussion on brainstorming what challenges face our church and its future.

Building and Grounds, Dave Williams, chair:

- April has signed us up for solar produced electricity through Delaware River Solar. We are on the waiting list to be assigned our portion of an array. We have no estimate regarding the completion of "our" panels.
- Judy found that the narthex door lock was inoperable on December 6. She could not unlock the door with her key and she had much difficulty turning the lock knob on the inside door knob once she was inside. I worked on it during the week and succeeded in getting the inside lock knob to work but failed to get the lockset apart to fix the key lock mechanism. We will deal with this issue when better weather arrives.
- I assume that we can set up the fellowship hall for worship any time after Christmas Eve and before the 12th of January.

Parish Life, Sharon Havens, chair:

- No report.

Mission & Stewardship:

- No report

Nominating Committee:

- Due to an incomplete membership on the nominating committee, nominations will be taken from the floor at the annual meeting for the position of ruling elder. Sandy Egli has indicated that she would be willing to serve.

Personnel Committee:

No report.

Presbytery Assembly Report:

Kathy Schmidt was commissioner for the Presbytery Assembly meeting on November 23, 2019 in Walton. The report from the meeting includes: the Presbytery budget was passed with per capita at \$40.55 per member; the committee on Preparation and on Lay Preaching were merged; visitors from Ethiopia were introduced and spoke about their plans for upcoming centennial celebrations there; the youth from Triennium shared some of their experiences from the summer trip; first reading of calling of interim pastors and family leave docs; two overtures were passed on divestment of fossil fuel investments and Korean peace initiative.

Pastor's Report:

1. Administrative & Continuing Education
 - a. Held Townhall #2 – Abridged
 - b. Took 2nd Study Week from November 11 through 18, 2019
2. Presbytery & Ecumenical
 - a. Administration for Operation Merry Christmas
 - b. Attended COM Policy Review Team Meeting (GoToMeeting)
 - c. Attended COM Meeting
 - d. Attended Sidney Ministerium Meeting
3. Days Off (Vacation)
 - a. Planning Christmas Vacation - 2 weeks - on December 25, 2019 through January 6, 2020

4. Worship/Events
 - a. Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at St. Paul's Episcopal
 - b. Joint Worship w/ Bainbridge at East Guilford on November 3
5. Bible Study – Two Groups
 - a. Wednesday at 08:00 AM – Job
 - b. Thursday at 2:30 PM – Reading Proverbs and Matthew
6. Mission
 - a. Stocked Blessing Box
 - b. Operation Merry Christmas – 2 clients

Old Business:

- Chuck and Vikki Ostrander will be asked if they would like to join the church and if so then Patty will conduct an Inquirers Session with them. Chuck was a member over 50 years ago and was removed from the membership list at some point in the past.
- UCC is closing in Sidney. Communion set would be appreciated. Possibly kitchen pots and pans.

Devotions:

None

New Business:

The East Branch Methodist Church that burnt recently may need donations of equipment or money and we will wait and find out what they need.

Declined to host a Presbytery Assembly next year.

Financial review for this year. Patty will contact Becky, Roy and April to see about overseeing this process.

Annual meeting will be January 19, 2019 10:45 am followed by town hall meeting. Reports are due January 5th to Kathy Schmidt.

January 26th will be breakfast right after worship service.

Presbytery paperwork approved and distributed. \$1500 ministry and mission amounts were approved.

The 2020 budget was presented and reviewed and moved and approved as presented.

Future session meetings will be the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 3:00 and will check with new elder Sandy Egli to confirm that she is good with that time.

Our next meeting of the session will be Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 3:00PM, at Patty's house. With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Dave at 7:18PM.

Submitted by: _____
Katherine Hager Schmidt, Clerk of Session