

The United Presbyterian Church of East Guilford
Regular Session Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Session of the United Presbyterian Church of East Guilford was scheduled to be held January 12, 2016 was cancelled due to the weather. These minutes reflect reports and decisions made via email.

The **Clerk of Session Report:** The annual report to PCUSA was reviewed by the session. Roy Straka has agreed to serve as substitute clerk for the annual meeting as the clerk will be out of town. Documents have been uploaded to the church's google drive account and copied onto a thumb drive include minutes, manual of operations, membership, and treasurer reports from the last 14 years. Approval was given for the purchase of a fireproof file box for storage of paper documents and microfiche of historical documents.

Membership Roll

Last report.....	55
Gain....April Geiger.....	.1
Losses:0
Membership Roll, this report.....	56

Sacraments

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

The following **Communications** were received: none

Consent Agenda:

- Approval of December minutes.
- Approval of standing committee reports.
- Approval of Clerk of Session report.
- Approval of Pastor's report and mileage for December.
- Receipt of treasurer's report for December.

Consent agenda was moved and passed included:

- Approval was given for the purchase of a fireproof file box for under \$90.
- The application for recertification as an Earth Care congregation was reviewed and approved.
- The proposed budget for 2016 was approved.

Approval to hold a training of volunteers for our upcoming mission program helping neighbors on January 24th was given.

Approval was given for Pastor Patty to take one week of vacation one day between now and April 15th, starting with January 30th and February 6th with the Sunday to be June 26th. The rest of the week will be scheduled as needed.

Approval was given to obtain pulpit supply for when Pastor Patty is at GA on June 19th and June 26th.

Items removed from the consent agenda for discussion:

None

Worship Committee:

Sharon reported that communion was held on December 6th. Christmas Eve service was held at 5:30PM to allow time for Pastor Patty to travel to her other service. Fred Downs will be substituting for Patty on December 27th.

The congregation will gather for regular 2016 Sunday worship at 9:00AM in the sanctuary for the months of April, May, June, September except first Sunday, October, November and December and outdoors by the pavilion in July, August and first Sunday of September and in the fellowship hall for January, February and March. Worship will be lead by Pastor Patty Wolff preaching each Sunday except for designated vacation days or study leaves.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated the first Sunday of each month and other special dates as approved by the session.

The session approves the use of the The Worshipping Church, Hymns of Praise and The Presbyterian hymnals and the Revised Standard Version of The Bible as well as the NRSV Bible and The Message.

Christian Education and Technology, Jan Lafayette, chair:

Jan reported that she will be posting on the church's facebook page the ideas from "Restoring God's Creation" bulletin board. She has purchased new folders for kids' activity packets and put notebooks inside for a "friend register". When accessing the church's website, warning messages were popping up. Jan plans to contact Dale Francis for assistance with the website as he created it and between Dale, Jan and Ray the problem was resolved.

Corporate & Administration, Building and Grounds, Gordon Spreutels, chair:

No report.

Nurturing, Membership, & Parish Life, Sharon Havens, chair:

Sharon Havens reported that on December 6th a holiday pot luck luncheon was held followed by Bingo with prizes of homemade treats.

A new members' class was held on December 5th with one person attending.

Mission Support & Stewardship, Dave Williams, chair:

Dave reported that there were four moments for mission to promote the Christmas Joy offering.

Pastor Patty, Kathy and Dave Williams met with John and Barbara Schwartz in December to learn more about the Tioga County Neighbors Helping Neighbors ministry in the towns of Richford, Berkshire and Newark Valley. This is an initiative that started within a church community and has grown to be an independent non-profit organization. The Schwartzs' stressed the need for an organization with specific policies, procedures and dedicated volunteers willing to adhere strictly to those policies and procedures. John and Barbara pointed out that the main thrust of the ministry is community-building. Yes, someone may need a ride to the doctor but more than likely, they need some human contact and to feel that someone else cares as well. Janice Merrill trains volunteers for this organization and has agreed to come here to train us on January 24. We will have lunch together at noon and training will follow in the afternoon. If this mission is to succeed we need a near 100% participation rate.

Nominating Committee:

The nominating committee has met and has been unable to find candidates for the slate of ruling elders for the annual meeting in January. Several members volunteered to help with various tasks around the church such as setting up communion, flowers, sound, and computer.

Presbytery Report:

No report.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Patty continues to work with the Executive Team of the Presbytery and attend cabinet meetings. This past month Patty participated in Presbytery Finance committee meetings, worked on the sale of the Guilford Center church closing to be held in January, and the processing of payments/deposits for Operation Merry Christmas. A new member class was held and April Geiger was received as a new member. Pastor Patty will be attending the General Assembly in Portland, OR June 16 through the 25th. Patty continued to meet with the morning and evening weekly Bible study groups.

Old Business:

-None

Devotions:

None

New Business:

-None.

Our next meeting of the session will be February 9, 2016 at 7:00PM at the home of Pastor Patty.

Submitted by: _____

Katherine Hager Schmidt, Ruling Elder and Clerk of Session