

**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 August 21, 2018 at the church. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM with prayer by Rev. Patty Wolff.

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

Elders Excused: none

Elders Absent: none

Guests: none

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:

Email approval for:

- Driveway/parking lot sealing bid of \$1564 by Webster
- Operation Merry Christmas use of hospital space and insurance rider
- Stump grinding for \$150
- Vacation for Patty September 3 – 9th

Letter from Presbyterian historical society – moved and approved \$50 associate membership donation

Mission-related:

- Summer 2018 JAARS magazine
- Letter from Presbyterian Mission, thanking us for receipt of \$15 for Christmas Joy offering and \$674 for One Great Hour of sharing
- A Special Offerings packet from the Presbyterian Mission
- A packet about the Presbyterian Church's Peace and Global Witness Offering
- 2017 Presbyterian Mission Annual Report
- Otsego County Habitat for Humanity Newsletter

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
- Approval of Personnel Committee report

Receipt of treasurer's report

Consent agenda was moved and passed, including the following:

- Approval of revised job description for secretary
- Approval to hire Aimee Hardy as church secretary
- Finances: April will check on loose offering during the summer as it was designated for Buckhorn. April also reported that \$331.81 will be sent to the Jaars Core Mission Fund.
- October 8 –14 for continuing education leave for Pastor Patty was approved.
- December 25 – 31 vacation for Pastor Patty was approved.

Worship Committee, Judy Ives and Jan Lafayette, chairs:

- Pastor Patty led communion on July 1, served by Kathy Williams and Kathy Schmidt. She also led communion on August 5, served by Lola and Dick Palmer.
- We learned from and enjoyed the sermon series on Ruth. We explored some new hymn writers who have put new words to old familiar tunes. We are planning to have one Sunday in September when choices of the old standards will make up most of the service.

Building and Grounds, Dave Williams, chair:

- The blessing box/shed is complete PDF except for the sign and siding on the east end. We anticipate a September completion.
- Webster Paving sealed the driveway and walks.
- BlueOx is scheduled to complete the burner service the first week in September. The technician will assess the auto vent problem.
- Brad Theobald will grind the stumps.

Parish Life, Sharon Havens, chair:

- No report

Mission & Stewardship, Jan Lafayette, chair:

- The Blessing Box is almost done. Peter Schmidt is going to make a wooden sign in September and Kathy Schmidt is making vinyl letters for the window in the door.
- We received \$113 for the Blessing Box from the July breakfast and \$50 from the August breakfast.
- Use of the Blessing Box is still strong. Besides our regular food donations, we put zucchini and summer squash in it and people are taking it. I am aware of a couple of times that it was empty this month. Patty mentioned that the Presbyterian Church in Bainbridge is considering setting one up. Carol Clum, from Mt. Upton, has also mentioned that they have discussed starting one. I did receive some feedback that a member found garbage from granola bars and juice on the steps of the church

Nominating Committee:

- No report.

Personnel Committee, Jan Lafayette, chair:

- Held a coffee hour to honor Sharon Havens and thank her for her service as our church secretary.
- Contacted several people we thought might know someone who wanted the job.
- Made an announcement at church about the position.
- Posted the position on the church website, Facebook, and the Thursday Thoughts section of the Presbytery website.
- Conducted interview of a potential candidate recommended by Joann Aymar
- Conducted interviews of 2 references for potential candidate.
- Prepared worship materials (Patty) and printed bulletins and readied the PC at church each Sunday (Jan) starting in August.
- Recommends Aimee Hardy for position of secretary. She comes highly recommended and has the skills that we think she needs. She has access to a PC and will do her work at home and at church. We would

like Aimee to begin during the week of August 27 when Patty will begin training her. The personnel committee intends to have a discussion with her after 3 months in the beginning of December to see how she is doing.

- Cleaners have signed up for the rest of the year except for December.

Presbytery Report:

- None

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor Patty has been meeting with the Personnel Committee and is active in the administration of Operation Merry Christmas. She will be attending Suicide Prevention workshop on October 10th in Clifton Park as part of her continuing education. Patty will be on vacation September 3rd through the 9th and December 25th – 31st. In July she led a patriotic worship service on the 8th and did a sermon series on Ruth. Pastor Patty assisted with the sales at the lawn sale and attended the Guilford Historical Society's 20th anniversary and building open house. She continues to lead Bible study on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Old Business:

- Fuel Oil Issues: The consortium, through which we negotiated and ordered fuel oil, has been disbanded. Our church must negotiate for oil prices on our own. Dave suggested that we go with Mirabito.
- Discussed when and where to send benevolence check approved at last meeting. Temporarily on hold.
- Report of mission giving was received.

Devotions:

Matthew 19:16-22 – the Rich and the Kingdom of God: discussed that eternal life is a free gift from God, but we still put other things before God. Sometimes we fear that there won't be something left for us. Rich man in the story may not have been whole and Jesus was trying to help him see that.

New Business:

- Moved and approved \$250 for college tuition for Lusi Digal, the young Indian woman we have sponsored.
- Moved and approved 2018 Christmas Eve service to be held at 5:30 PM.
- Discussed back to school idea from Kathy Joerman. Patty will ask Kathy to attend a session meeting to explain her idea and so that we can discuss it further..
- Patty discussed homelessness and other issues of local school children.

Our next meeting of the session will be Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at 6:00PM, at the church. With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Judy Ives at approximately 7:15 PM.

Submitted by:

Jan Lafayette, Ruling Elder