

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

A regular monthly meeting was held via ZOOM on November 16, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 4:08PM with prayer by Rev. Patty Wolff.

**Elders Present:** Judy Ives, Don Cole, Gordon Spreutels, Becky Holley, Sandy Egli and Kathy Schmidt, Patty Wolff, moderator; with a quorum being present.

**Elders Excused:** none

**Elders Absent:** none

**Guests:** none

- The minutes Dec 4, 2002 through Aug 21, 2018 sent to the Presbyterian Historical Society for preservation.
- The clerk attended a session minutes review on November 9th via ZOOM. Last year's minutes were approved with an exception that a financial review was not held during the year under review.
- It will be required next year that the sexual misconduct policy and child and youth protection policy be reviewed annually with the date of review noted in minutes. It was recommended that a review statement be included in those policies.
- The sexual harassment prevention training needs to be done annually by Judy and Patty and that info included in the minutes.
- It was also recommended that the quorums needed for session and congregational meetings be stated each year in the minutes.

**Membership Roll**

Last report.....	49
Gains:.....	0
Losses: .....	0
Membership Roll, this report.....	49

**Sacraments**

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

**Consent Agenda:**

- Reviewed and set agenda for meeting.
- Approval of last month's minutes.
- Approval of standing committee reports.
- Approval of clerk's report.
- Approval of Pastor's report and mileage.
- Receipt of Presbytery report.
- Receipt of treasurer's report.

**Consent agenda was moved, seconded and passed.**

**Items removed from consent agenda:**

- It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the transfer of Dave and Kathy Williams' membership to Valley United Presbyterian Church in Waverly.
- It was approved that East Guilford host worship services in December and January and that Bainbridge host services for Easter.
- It was approved for Pastor Patty's Open House to be held at the East Guilford church on December 19<sup>th</sup> after worship service.
- The Sexual Harassment and Child Protection policies will be sent to the session via email for their review.

**Action via email:**

None

**Communications** were received:

None

**Worship, Sandy Egli and Becky Holley, chairs:**

- Worship was held at the Bainbridge Presbyterian Church for the month of November. Communion was served on November 7, with Pastor Patty as officiant.
- Pastor Patty will be on study leave November 28.
- Worship services will return to EG Presbyterian Church for the month of December

**Building and Grounds, Gordon Spreutels, chair:**

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**Mission & Stewardship, Judy Ives, chair:**

- The JAARS jar is showing contributions now that in-person church has resumed. The last count was \$41.
- The Blessing Box is still being filled and used regularly. The church's \$75 /month donation is buying items that will stand the cold and fill stomachs. A few voluntary contributions are also noted.
- We have donated more than \$500 toward Afghan relief.
- There is the upcoming Christmas Joy Offering through Advent. It supports those who are past, present and future church leaders. Student scholarships, Board of Pension assistance programs, and opening doors of opportunity for students at Presbyterian schools are all supported by this offering.

**Nominating Committee:**

The committee has convened and considering possible nominations for elder Becky Holley's seat.

**Personnel Committee:**

The personnel committee met with Pastor Patty on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Presbytery Assembly Report:**

Presbytery Assembly notes were received from Pastor Patty from the meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Pastor's Report:**

1. Administrative & Continuing Education
  - a. Met on October 28, 2021 with Operation Merry Christmas director Ginny Ireland
    - i. Plan this year's give away December 11th
    - ii. Discuss OMC becoming its own 501c3
  - b. Started "in-person" visiting.
  - c. Participated in Sidney Ministerium Meetings
2. Presbytery & Ecumenical
  - a. Operation Merry Christmas books and Outreach/Afghan donation
  - b. Attended Presbytery Assembly on October 9, 2021
3. Days Off (Vacation) requesting
  - a. Study leave scheduled November 22 through December 6
  - b. Vacation scheduled vacation for December 25, 2021 through January 7, 2022
  - c. Day off is still Monday
4. Worship/Events
  - a. Joint worship in person and over ZOOM on October 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31.
    - i. Added Windsor twice on October 10 and 31
  - b. Sending bulletins to Colleen Lewis (each Sunday) who does printing and mailing
  - c. Sending Thoughts for the Day as needed
  - d. Recording worship and sharing virtual link with anyone who asks and usual ZOOM attendees who are missing on any given Sunday - Current list has 10 East Guilford folks
  - e. Update prayer list
  - f. Started preparing announcement bulletin again

- g. Special prayers for October 31, Reformation Sunday
- 5. Bible Study – Continuing
  - a. Wednesdays at 9:00 AM @ East Guilford
    - i. Starting Living in Faith: Women Who Trusted God by LifeWay
  - b. Thursdays at 2:00 PM at the Manse
    - i. Starting Romans: In the Grip of Grace by Max Lucado
  - c. Ordered advent devotionals
- 6. Mission
  - a. Windsor Presbyterian – staying in contact. They will join us over ZOOM when they need to.
  - b. Filling Blessing Box on Friday

**Old Business:**

- It was approved to receive donations for the Christmas Joy offering.
- Roy and Sally Straka will meet with April Ray to do the financial review of the past year.
- Information was received from the GMU school Administrative Assistant Kristy Carey regarding the family the church will support during Thanksgiving and Christmas. It is the same family of 5 that we have supported the last few years. The Presbyterian Women will collect food and groceries for their Thanksgiving dinner. The church congregation will collect food and gifts for Christmas.

**Devotions:**

Pastor Patty gave an overview of basic session responsibilities and provided a link to the Book of Order.

**New Business**

- Advent plans were made for candle lighting, reading and singing for the 4 weeks.
- It was decided to decorate the church for the Christmas season after worship on December 5<sup>th</sup> with a coffee hour too.
- It was decided to continue using the individual servings for communion for safety reasons.
- Worship services will be held in the sanctuary during January instead of moving to the fellowship hall as that will allow further spacing of people given COVID concerns.
- The 2022 terms of call for Pastor Patty were presented by the personnel committee and approved by session.

The next meeting of the session will be Tuesday December 21, 2021 at 4:00PM at the church. With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Don Cole at 5:17PM.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Katherine Hager Schmidt, Clerk of Session