

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

A regular monthly meeting of the Session of the United Presbyterian Church in East Guilford was held on September 19, 2023, via Zoom. The meeting was called to order with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Ken Simurro at 6:05 p.m.

**Elders Present:** Don Cole, Al Clune, Gordon Spreutels, and Rev. Simurro, moderator; with a quorum being present.

**Excused:** Kathy Schmidt, clerk

**Guests:** Dorian Bunting-Cliffe, Bainbridge Clerk of Session

**Clerk of Session Report:**

**Membership Roll:**

Last report.....41  
Gains:..... 0  
Losses:.....0  
Membership Roll; this report:.....41

**Sacraments:**

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

Gordon Spreutels acted as meeting facilitator.

**Consent Agenda:**

- Reviewed and set agenda for meeting
- Approval of clerk's report
- Approval of Pastor's report and mileage for August
- Approval of minutes for August session meeting
- Receipt of treasurer's report for August

**Items removed from agenda:**

None

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

**Actions approved via email:**

- No items

**Communications:**

- Rob Ray has been helping with the maintenance while Gordon was out of town. He is not interested in continuing for the upcoming winter. Don will look for someone to help out with the sidewalks.

**Pastor's Report:**

Pastoral Acts:

- Conducted 4 services
- Made pastoral phone calls and responded to emails
- Attended 3 Joint Mission Committee meetings
- Attended Masonic Temple Awards luncheon
- Input into Sunday's liturgies

Pastoral Work:

- Taught 1 Confirmation class
- Attended Spiritual Nurture Committee Meeting
- Attended Presbytery (local clergy) meeting

Attended Tri-Towns Ministerium  
Attended Bainbridge Council of Churches meeting

Parish Concerns:

Bible Study opens October 1st  
Health Fair (update)

Mileage information:

Commutation in August 7 round trips = 840 miles  
Miles around town, visitation, meetings 1 trip = 4 miles

**Old Business:**

- Memorial donation from Jim Bartlett tabled until next March.
- April has completed the sexual harassment training. Ken is going to attend the Presbytery's training.
- Hunger series discussion. Ken is going to be investigating this next week and seeing if it is something that we can use for our bible study.
- Firewood sales by Aaron VanDusen. Due to the lateness of the season, this will not be happening this year.

**New Business:**

- Annual review of sexual misconduct policy and child and youth protection policy.
- Going forward as a congregation. The nominating chairs are not sure who to approach for the open positions. The congregation is older, and many people have served before. There was a discussion about who could serve. There is a lot of experience in the congregation, but not a lot of people to help with the day-to-day obligation of running the church. The question was asked what is the minimum number requirement for a session? Dorian will email one of the Presbytery clerks to find out.
- Ken discussed the need to have control over where we are headed, as opposed to it being done for us. We need to take charge and make the tough decisions.
- What do we do in the meantime? Should we have a congregational meeting after church some time? We need to have input from the congregation. We could have someone from the Presbytery come to help as well, they could walk us through the process. Al will talk with the lead Presbyter of Transformation and ask him if this is something that he could help with or could point us in the right direction.

With there being no further business, the East Guilford portion of the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m. with prayer by Don Cole. The joint session meeting with Bainbridge followed this adjournment. The next meeting of the session will be at 6:00PM via ZOOM with a joint meeting with Bainbridge at 6:45PM on October 17, 2023.

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

Dorian Bunting-Cliffe, Bainbridge Clerk of Session, clerk pro tem