

**Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Session Meeting  
January 24, 2007**

Pastor Larry Hayward called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at Agudas Achim Congregation. Elder Amey Upton opened the meeting with prayer. The following members were present:

Louise Anderson	present	Paul Neureiter	present
Nancy Hall Berens	present	Greg Ogden	excused
		Anne Pickett	present
Geof Caldwell	present	Gopi Pitcher	absent
Linc Cummings	present	Betsy Preston	excused
Eileen Denne	present	David Roden	present
Spencer Dickerson	excused	Carol Skiba	excused
Katie Donley	present	Cathy Smyles	present
Don Fowler	present	Amey Upton	present
Priscilla Goodwin	present		
Lanny Griffith	present	Larry Hayward, Pastor	present
		Karen Blomberg, As.Pas	present
Diane Hellmuth	present	Patrick Hunnicutt As. Pas	present
David Hill	present	Kathy Harkness, Clerk	present
Brian Laubscher	present	Paul Van de Water, VCI	present
Robin McFarland	excused	Jane Stilmar, Treas.	present
Meredith Mitchell	excused	Joan Taylor Reid	present
		Nancy Bea	present

Also present were Terry Grindstaff, Henri Rush, Carolyn Fraser, and the newly elected elders and deacons listed below.

**EXAMINATION OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS**

Pastor Hayward called for the examination of incoming officers. The new officers were asked to give a brief overview of their religious pilgrimage. Those examined were deacons-elect Bill Eckert, Karin Edgell, Tamfu Fomuso, Catherine Linton, Wendy Lockard, Liz Moore, Mary Mbu, Carri Stoltz, Barbara Watts, and Barbara Wyman and elders-elect Louise Anderson, Eileen Denne, Don Fowler, Frank Fraser, Priscilla Goodwin, Stephen Moss, Elizabeth O'Brien, Karen Olson, and Christopher Ptomey.

**MSC:** To sustain the examination of these new officers for 2007 and to approve them for ordination and installation on January 28, 2007.

The Session will meet on Sunday, January 28, 2007, at 10:30 a.m. to examine incoming officers who were not present this evening.

## CLERK'S REPORT

Kathy Harkness gave the clerk's report:

On December 3, 2006, Guynell Brown received communion in her home; serving were deacons Carrie Stoltz and Barbara Watts. On January 14, 2007, deacons Laura Kopp and Maria Kaneer brought communion to Guynell Brown, and Jim Silverwood and Mike Barnhart brought communion to Walter Wendt and Ruth Osborne.

**Arnold Price** (#2545) died on December 10, 2006.

**Paul Perry** died on January 7, 2007. A memorial service was held on January 13, 2007, at the Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home, Patrick Hunnicutt officiating.

**Matt Biliouris** (#2617) and **Alicia Glassburn** (#2618) were married on December 16, 2006, at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, Larry Hayward officiating.

There were no baptisms.

Paul Van de Water circulated the prayer partners basket and a sign-up sheet for devotions and Presbytery meetings. He also apprised the Session of upcoming important dates.

## CONSENT DOCKET

The consent docket was approved:

Motion to approve the minutes of Session meeting of November 29, 2006 (with a correction noted by Kathy Harkness), new member meeting of December 17, 2006, and new member meeting of January 21, 2007.

Motion to approve corrected minutes of the new member meeting of November 19, 2006.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Congregational meeting of December 3, 2006.

Motion to accept minutes of the Foundation board for 2006.

Motion to accept all committee minutes.

Motion to elect Linc Cummings, David Roden, Cathy Smyles, and Amey Upton as commissioners for the National Capital Presbytery meeting of January 23, 2006.

Motion to elect Paul Van de Water as Clerk of Session and Carolyn Fraser as Vice Clerk for 2007.

Motion to elect William Keeth, Jane Stilmar, Douglas Todd, and William Watts as directors of the Westminster Foundation for the Class of 2009, as recommended by the board of directors of the Foundation.

Motion to confirm prior vote by e-mail to invite the Rev. K.C. Ptomey to preach on January 28, 2007.

Motion to make inactive the following members, who have joined other churches: **Gina Lewis** (#1902), **Gayle Reuter** (#1960), and **Evelyn Itoe** (#2573).

Motion to make inactive the following members, who have moved from the area, at their own request: **Aaron Nicholas Ulm** (#1679) and **Lisa French Ulm** (#1796).

Motion to make inactive the following members: **Richard White** (#1304) and **Penny White** (#1305).

Motion to transfer the membership of the following members: **Shelby Bostick** (#1895) and **Karen Bostick** (#1896) to Evergreen Presbyterian Church, Dothan, AL.

Motion to reactivate and transfer the membership of the following members: **Erin Fullerton Fennel** (#1913, inactive) to James Island Presbyterian Church, Charleston, SC.

Motion to approve the baptism of **Henry Andrew Allen**, born May 22, 2006, son of Christiana M. Leslie (member) and David C. Allen (member), on Sunday, February 4, 2007, at the 11:00 a.m. service.

Motion to approve the baptism of **Skylar Ann Small**, born March 24, 2006, daughter of Amy Falconer Small (member) and Thomas Small (non-member), on Sunday, April 1, 2007, at the 11:00 a.m. service, Larry Hayward officiating.

Motion to call the annual meeting of the congregation for Sunday, February 11, 2007, at noon. The purposes of the meeting are to receive the annual report and to review and take action on the recommendation of the Session concerning changes in terms of call for the pastors.

## **SPECIAL REPORTS**

*Capital Campaign Coalition.* Terry Grindstaff reported that the building renovation project is on schedule.

*Diaconate.* Carri Stoltz reported from the Diaconate. The deacons have arranged the schedules of flower delivery, home communion, coffee service, and door duty.

*Encore Campaign.* Kathy Harkness reported on the encore capital campaign. During the planning stage, Steve McSwain of Cargill will be interviewing some members of the congregation. Kathy also asked the Session to encourage the congregation to return a questionnaire that they will receive.

*Presbytery.* David Roden reported on the January 23, 2007, meeting of Presbytery. Among other business, the Presbytery installed a new moderator and vice moderator and heard a report on the Camp Meadowkirk, which opens this year.

*Statistical Report.* Nancy Bea presented the Church Record for 2006, a report to the Presbytery on trends in membership, worship attendance, and finances.

### Summary Statistics for 2006

Active members	851
Affiliate members	21
Average worship attendance	365

**MSC:** To approve the Church Record for 2006.

*Candidate Request.* Amey Upton described the progress of her seminary studies and her spiritual development and her desire to be enrolled as an inquirer. In consultation with Amey, the moderator will designate a liaison and a small committee to support Amey.

**MSC:** To recommend to the Committee on Preparation for Ministry that Amey Upton be enrolled as an inquirer, in accordance with section G-14.0303 of the Book of Order.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Administration and Finance—Treasurer’s Report.* The moderator and the Session expressed their appreciation to Jane Stilmar, who is ending her service as treasurer. Jane reported that 2006 was an extremely favorable year financially. Pledge income was 9.85 percent higher than the year before, compared to increases of 3-5 percent in recent years. Pledges collected represented 97.5 percent of the amount budgeted.

<u>2006 Year-to-Date Through December</u>	
Income	\$1,267,588
Expenses	1,216,873
Net Income	50,714
Total Assets	1,514,041

**MC:** To accept the treasurer’s report

*Administration and Finance—2007 Budget.* Terry Grindstaff presented the proposed budget for 2007, as reviewed by the Coordinating Council.

	<u>2007 Proposed</u>	<u>2006 Actual</u>
Expenses		
Benevolences	\$ 244,696	\$ 223,680
Church Staff	880,464	767,740
Admin. & Finance	159,554	124,277
Worship & Music	20,395	16,879
Communications	7,100	7,526
New Member	1,500	1,145
Diaconate	50	0
Christian Education	31,821	22,081
Congregational Life	10,100	4,184
Stewardship	2,000	2,546
Building & Grounds	76,527	39,652
Debt Service	<u>6,443</u>	<u>6,443</u>
Total	1,440,650	1,216,873
Income	1,440,650	1,267,588
Surplus/Deficit	0	50,714

**MC:** To approve the 2007 budget as presented.

*National and International Mission.* Paul Neureiter circulated a paper explaining the intergenerational mission trip on March 10-17 to help residents of Pascagoula, Mississippi, restore their homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

**MC:** To approve the intergenerational mission trip as presented.

*Local Mission.* Louise Anderson reported that the committee is doing due diligence on Carpenter's Shelter.

*New Member and Assimilation.* Linc Cummings reported that Westminster is poised for growth when it returns to its building.

*Nominating.* No report.

*Personnel.* Karen Olson reported on the proposed 2007 terms of call for the associate pastors.

Karen Blomberg

Effective Salary	\$43,799
Total Compensation	70,885

Patrick Hunnicutt

Effective Salary	\$57,669
Total Compensation	89,687

**MC:** To recommend that the congregation approve the 2007 terms of call of the associate pastors at the annual meeting on February 11, 2007, in accordance with sections G-10.0102 and G-7.0302 of the Book of Order.

The clerk served as moderator while Karen Olson reported on the proposed 2007 terms of call for the pastor.

Larry Hayward

Effective Salary	\$109,043
Total Compensation	173,977

**MC:** To recommend that the congregation approve the 2007 terms of call of the pastor at the annual meeting on February 11, 2007, in accordance with sections G-10.0102 and G-7.0302 of the Book of Order.

The detailed terms of call will be included in the minutes of the annual congregational meeting.

The clerk read a letter of resignation from James Hoben.

**MC:** To accept the resignation of James Hoben as Coordinator for Community Relations, effective January 31, 2007.

*Stewardship.* Priscilla Goodwin thanked the committee members and other volunteers who made the 2007 campaign a great success. Total pledges increased by 7 percent. Among those who pledged in both 2006 and 2007, pledges increased by 17 percent.

*Worship and Music.* David Roden presented Fiori Musicali, a program to enhance worship and remember loved ones through music.

**MC:** To approve the establishment of Fiori Musicali as an opportunity for members to contribute financially to the music for a worship service, with the program to be administered by the Director of Music Ministeries under the oversight of the Pastor and the Worship and Music Committee.

Nancy Hall Berens moved that the Session approve serving communion at the men's retreat.

**MSC:** To approve serving communion at the men's retreat at Hallwood on February 4, 2007, Patrick Hunnicutt officiating.

*Building and Grounds, Christian Education, Communications, and Congregational Life.* Because the building was about to close, Geof Caldwell, Eileen Denne, Brian Laubscher, and Nancy Hall Berens gave very brief reports on behalf of their respective committees.

## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Pastor Larry Hayward reported that he will be chairing a group of 16 people that will develop the Presbytery's new process for examining candidates for the ministry, in accordance with the report of the General Assembly's Theological Task Force on the Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church. In 2008, Larry will probably chair the Presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Larry has also been elected to the board of the Faith and Politics Institute.

## **CLOSING**

Elder Linc Cummings closed the meeting with prayer. The moderator adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul N. Van de Water, Clerk

Draft  
January 28, 2007