

THE PRESBYTERY OF NEW HARMONY

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

August 22, 2017

Williamsburg Presbyterian Church, Kingstree, S.C.

The Presbytery of New Harmony held a Special Called Meeting on August 22, 2017 at Williamsburg Presbyterian Church, Kingstree, S. C.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Ruling Elder Deloris Weaver, Moderator, who called upon Teaching Elder Josie Holler for the opening prayer.

FORMATION OF THE ROLL

The following Teaching Elders, Ruling Elders, CLPs, Administrative Council members, Program Council members, and CCEs were registered for this meeting.

PRESENT: Twenty-three Teaching Elders: Andrews, Richard; Andrews, Scott; Arnold, Alan; Bach, Buddy; Brearley, John; Cheek, Nick; Colclough, Franklin; Culpepper, Lisa; Diehl, Mark; Ford, Bruce; Foster, Jody; Foster, Rodney; Hampton, Carnell; Henderson, A. Kyle; Holler, Josie; Isola, Jill; Jackson, Ernest; Larson, Tony; Sansbury, Dan; Sparks, Sam; Thomas, Cam; Wilkes, George; and Wilkins, Steve.

EXCUSED: Five Teaching Elders were excused. Kiser, Rebecca; Hill, Scott; Talbert, Rhett; Ruth, Eva; and Dendy, Tom.

Visiting Teaching Elder: Washington, Alonza, (Charleston-Atlantic).

Commissioned Ruling Elders, (CREs/CLPs) and Certified Christian Educators Enrolled: Franklin, Othan; Humphries, Jack; Sloan, Bob; Staggs, Chuck; McCall, Mac; and Dickson, Avery.

RULING ELDERS IN ATTENDANCE: Twenty-nine ruling elders from twenty-nine churches were enrolled as follows: Bennettsville First, Rozier, Janice; Congruity, Wells, Randy; Cousar Memorial, Moses, LaTishe; Ebenezer, Jackson, Edith V.; Friendship, Smith, Maretta J.; G. W. Long Memorial, Johnson, Robert C.; Goodwill, Cooper, Gladys; Harmony, Nelson, Freddie; Indiantown, Braxton, Joyce; John Calvin, Coker, Jane; Kentyre, Glenn, Bobby; Latta, Allen, Jimmy; Manning, Cooper, Margaret; Marion, Roberts, Roy; Melina, Kennedy, Chars G.; Mt. Lisbon, Wilson, Henry; Mt. Pisgah, Peterson, Brooks; Myrtle Beach, First, Bruner, Audrey; New covenant, Yates, Loretta; Parkwood, Jackson, Tommy; Pawleys Island, Biddix, Charles; Summerton, Huggins, Steve; Sumter Second, Singleton, Frances; Swan Lake, Holton, Susan; Trinity (M), Isaac, Brenda; Trinity (S), Spite, Ray; Wedgefield, Ryan, Hugh; Westminster, Chandler, Rachel; and Williamsburg, Nexsen, Jean.

Excused from the meeting were the following sessions: Ruby, Morton, White Oak, Tirzah, Celebration, New Harvest, Chesterfield, and Georgetown.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL, PROGRAM COUNCIL, STAFF: Colclough, Walter; Hampton, Ellaree; Conklin, Al; Craig, Lola Faye; Dennis, John, Weaver, Deloris; (Staff) Bruce Ford, Julie Cox, Kelly Boone, and Darren Wilson.

VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE: Ten visiting Ruling Elders and eight guests were in attendance.

The total attendance for this meeting is eighty-seven.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The Stated Clerk, Teaching Elder Bruce Ford declared that a quorum was present.

OPENING WORSHIP

The Presbytery entered into a period of worship and prayer with Ruling Elder Frances Singleton serving as liturgist and Teaching Elder George Wilkes preaching. The scripture was taken from Matthew 13:31-32, the Parable of the Mustard Seed. Using the illustration of the Kudzu plant, sometimes the kingdom of God is not organized the way we expect. Sometimes God's mustard and kudzu grow outside the lines. We must look to see how God is revealing Godself in small and hidden ways.

WELCOME BY HOST CHURCH

Ruling Elder Jean Nexsen, a member of the Williamsburg Church welcomed the presbytery and gave a brief history of the church.

ADOPTION OF DOCKET

The docket for the Special Meeting was approved as presented.

REPORT OF EVALUATION AND LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Ruling Elder Al Conklin, committee moderator, stated that the purpose of this meeting was to allow the presbytery commissioners to review, discuss, and provide input to the committee on the Visioning Plan. The Plan was presented as information at the last Stated Meeting. Mark Tidsworth, consultant to the committee, also spoke to the presbytery providing further explanation of the process used in arriving at this draft of recommendations regarding the future ministry of New Harmony Presbytery. Meeting in small groups, commissioners spent time sharing their opinions, questions, and suggestions about the Plan. These comments were collected by the committee. They will be reviewed and a recommendation for first reading approval will be presented at the October Stated Meeting.

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Teaching Elder Bruce Ford reported on behalf of the committee. Teaching Elder Judy Cettei was elected as Commissioner to the Synod of South Atlantic and Ruling Elder Avery Dickson was elected to serve as Presbytery Moderator for 2018.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

Following a period of announcements and prayer concerns the closing prayer was offered by Teaching Elder Alonza Washington.

ADJOURNMENT

The Presbytery adjourned to meet next in a Stated Meeting on October 10, 2017 at Celebration Presbyterian Church, Myrtle Beach, S. C.

Bruce W. Ford
Stated Clerk

Franklin D. Colclough
Temporary Recording Clerk