

SESSION Summary

*First Presbyterian Church, Belmont NC
October 2009*

The Session met for its monthly stated meeting on Sunday, October 18, 2009 in the Scout Hut. In an effort to keep our congregation informed, the following is a brief summary of that meeting.

1. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP: 635
2. FINANCES: The Session heard a report from Rod Smallwood (Vice-Chair of the Commitment & Finance Committee) concerning the financial condition of the *Church Operating Budget* (an operating deficit of \$63,117.80 through September 2009), *Weekday School* (an operating surplus of \$11,435.61 through September 2009), and *Capital Campaign* (receipts from April 2007 through October 2009 are \$2,273,101.46 less expenses of \$1,210,283.39 for a net surplus of \$1,062,818.07).
3. BOARD OF DEACONS: Current Chair Kent Nixon reported the Diaconate Helping Wheels Ministry is running well for Sunday mornings and Tuesday Midday Prayer. Additionally, the Helping Hands Ministry is continuing to be utilized by members of the church. New sets of keys for Helping Wheels and unlocking the church on Sunday mornings have been placed in the Deacon Closet (narthex) and in the Conference Room (EB105).
4. BUILDING RENOVATION/EXPANSION: Our architects have explored the use of the Ford House as the permanent location for the church office. ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements for a house larger than 2500 square feet prohibit such permanent use. The subcommittee is also exploring the design for a covering over the exterior doors at the front of the Sanctuary on Central Avenue.
5. COORDINATING & PLANNING: All Session committees are asked to discuss revising the Sunday Schedule to a year-round schedule (that does not change in the summer) to the following: Morning Prayer (9:00); Sunday School (9:30); Worship (10:30).
6. WEEKDAY SCHOOL: Approval was given for the Weekday School to begin providing life insurance and disability coverage for all Weekday School employees at a cost of \$393.10/month for the entire group.
7. PERSONNEL & ADMINISTRATION: A "Church Payment Schedule For Contracted Services" was approved and the church staff holiday schedule was revised to include Good Friday as a holiday and Easter Monday as a work day.
8. MISSIONS & DENOMINATIONAL RELATIONS: The committee recommended no changes in our 2010 benevolence budget. Special concern was shared, however, regarding the Belmont Parish Nurse Ministry (see back of this page) which anticipates a shortfall in 2010 of \$38,000 forcing the ministry to close on or about June 30, 2010 unless additional funding is forthcoming.

Several other issues were discussed, but no other actions were taken. The spirit of the Session this year continues to be positive, with elders speaking openly and freely, but doing so in a manner that *"builds up the Body of Christ."*

STATEMENT ON VIABILITY

Belmont Parish Nurse Ministry

October 2009

Perhaps as a consequence of the economic crisis that we all find ourselves struggling through, the Belmont Parish Nurse Ministry now finds its long-term viability doubtful.

Even with the strong support of its three sponsoring churches, First Presbyterian Church, First United Methodist Church and Queen of the Apostles Roman Catholic Church, occasional infusions of revenue from sporadic gifts from the community and individuals, or fund-raising efforts like the Heart-to-Heart Banquet and the Run for the Money, the ministry nevertheless is in need of \$38,000 in additional income in the year 2010, and \$50,000 in the year 2011.

In spite of many efforts by the Health Cabinet over the past several years to find an additional sponsor none has been forthcoming. Therefore we are anticipating the ending of the ministry of the Belmont Parish Nurse between the first and second quarter of 2010.

With many thanks to Cheryl Fleming, our Parish Nurse, for her years of dedicated service, and to Delta Sanders, our Ministry Resource Coordinator, for her administrative gifts, with great regret we now prepare for the dissolution of the ministry unless another significant source of funding is forthcoming within the next few months.

**The Belmont Parish Nurse Health Cabinet
Executive Committee**