

**Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church**  
**Stated Session Meeting**  
**February 14, 2008**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order and Opening Prayer**

The Session of Saint Andrews met at the church at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by the Rev. Mike Nevling, Moderator. David Lane served as Clerk. A quorum was present.

**Approval of Agenda**

*The agenda for the meeting was approved by acclamation.*

**Attendance**

Pastors in attendance: Rev. Mike Nevling, Rev. Diane Knauf  
Elders in attendance: Sherry Hay, Ken Spainhour, Bill Turner, Bonnie Millikan, Fairley Cook, Ron Wiesenfeld, Stephanie Mitchell, Lynn Woolard, Marcia Williams, Gary Wires, Jim Smith, George McKellar, John Thomas, David Lane  
Elders Excused: Jennifer Green  
Deacons in attendance: Chris Mee  
Others in attendance: Leslie McKnelly, Bob Hill, Monty Parker, Kent Zotter

*A motion was moved, seconded, and approved to grant voice to others in attendance.*

**Presentation of PCUSA Young Adult Volunteer Program**

The Session received a presentation by Leslie McKnelly, a St. Andrews member and Spanish teacher at Apex Middle School, regarding the PCUSA Young Adult Volunteer (YAV). The program operates from PCUSA HQ and provides opportunities for young adults to serve in ministry in various national and international locations. YAV is an annual program beginning in September of a particular year. Participants must raise their own support (\$10,000/year) to participate. Once accepted into the program, participants are matched with localities and ministry areas that fit their interests and skill levels. Leslie is seeking Session endorsement to participate in the program. Her interest is to teach Elementary Education, ESL, or Spanish in Peru or Guatemala.

*A motion was moved, seconded, and approved to endorse Leslie McNelly's application for the PCUSA Young Adult Volunteer program.*

**Devotion**

Monty Parker provided the devotion with the theme of "Love God and Love Your Neighbor". Monty read the commandments to Love God and our neighbors from Leviticus 19.18 and Matthew 22.36-39. Monty provided a moving power point and musical presentation that showed

scenes from the Holocaust with musical overlay of Colin Hayes' "It's a Beautiful World". We are commanded to love God and our neighbors as ourselves; may we always seek to follow those commandments and to seek justice wherever needed.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

*Session approved minutes for the Stated Session meeting of January 15, 2008.*

*Session approved minutes for the Called Session meeting of January 29, 2008.*

*Session approved minutes for the Called Session meeting of February 8, 2008.*

### **A Time Together**

#### **Space Utilization Committee Update (see attached report)**

Committee Members - Mike Schley, John Thomas, Fairley Cook, Gary Wires

Mike Schley provided an overview of the Committee's work thus far and advised that it now appears we are one classroom short based on current projections. It is also noted that three of the Preschool classrooms could not be used by adult classes as originally anticipated. John Thomas noted that the lot configuration and drainage requirements support the need for an architectural review. The estimate for an architectural review is \$8,000 - \$10,000. A suggestion to use the Preschool space was discussed. Preschool uses the Sanctuary and Activity Center, and has greater space requirements than other additions that have been discussed. Building a new Preschool space would be very expensive and not recommended at this time.

*It was moved and approved that a Building Committee be formed to continue the evaluation and recommendation of building and space needs. The committee will consist of nine people to include officers and lay people. John Thomas, Kent Zotter, Fairley Cook, and Gary Wires will be the initial representatives. Additional members could come from the Diaconate, Youth, and congregation.*

#### **Pastor's Report (See written report attached)**

Mike reviewed the Statistical Report that had been completed and due to be sent to Presbytery.

*The Statistical Report was discussed and moved, seconded and approved to be sent to New Hope Presbytery.*

The new committee structure and assignments were reviewed. Mike advised that Gary Wires would be the point person for Education and Lynn Woolard would be the point person for Outreach. Mike discussed the upcoming Feb 29 – Mar 1 Officer Retreat and reviewed the Retreat Agenda.

#### **Associate Pastor's Report**

Diane Knauf thanked the Session and St. Andrews for their support and attendance at her recent examination. She reported that she will be participating in the upcoming Mexico Mission Trip.

#### **Clerk's Report (See written report attached)**

## **Membership Changes**

The Clerk reports the following Letters of Transfer:

- Transferring out to South Jacksonville Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville, FL are David and Maria Ibach.
- Transferring out to White Memorial Presbyterian Church is Susan Bowden Scott.
- Transferring out to Myers Park United Methodist, Charlotte is Christine Steadman Blanker.

## **Communications**

- Fairley Cook will present the devotion and provide refreshments for the March 18, 2008 Session meeting
- Gary Wires will serve as the Elder representative for the March 16 Baptism of Logan and Sophia Purdy, children of Bill and Beth Purdy
- Stephanie Mitchell and David Lane are Elder representatives from Saint Andrews for the July 15, 2008 Presbytery meeting to be held at Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church
- A request has been made to send a copy of all Committee reports to Shirley Isenhour at [shirleyisenhour@hotmail.com](mailto:shirleyisenhour@hotmail.com). This will allow Shirley to read the reports to Bill Turner as they are received rather than all in one evening in the Session packet.

## **Deacon's Report (See written report attached)**

Chris Mee reported that the Diaconate is short one deacon at this time. A candidate has been put forth by the Nominating Committee and is being contacted at this time.

## **Old Business**

### **Presbytery Report**

Mike Nevling, Diane Knauf, Mike Schley, and George McKellar attended the February 16, 2008 Presbytery Meeting that was hosted by Hudson Memorial. Mike Nevling presented a review of the actions taken at the Presbytery Meeting.

- Diane Knauf was among nine people examined to serve as Minister of Word and Sacrament and one who was examined as Certified Lay Pastor.
- Mike reviewed the recent GAPJC ruling regarding "scrupling" of the fidelity-chastity standard for G.6.0106B. GAPJC ruled that the scrupling amendment does not replace the existing Book of Order amendment. A prospective officer or Minister of Word and Sacrament can disagree with G.6.0106B in principle but not in practice.
- Mike Nevling reported on the Overture to the 218<sup>th</sup> PCUSA General Assembly to replace G.6.0106B. The Overture was presented to New Hope Presbytery by the Church of Reconciliation, Chapel Hill. After presentation and discussion, the Overture was approved by New Hope Presbytery by a vote of 137 in Favor, 98 Against, 11 Refrains. Mike reported that there are currently 31 Overtures that have been presented to the General Assembly. All Overtures will receive review and a recommendation from the General Assembly Advisory Committee (G.18.0301) before being voted on at the GA meeting. If an Overture is approved, it will be sent to the Presbyteries for a vote of the churches at a Stated Presbytery meeting. The action directed by the vote of the Presbyteries will determine the disposition of any Overtures approved at the General

Assembly meeting. It was noted that some churches have voted to disassociate themselves with PCUSA and move to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC). The ongoing debate regarding G.6.0106B is often cited as a reason for this disassociation. Mike Schley presented his analysis and rationale for supporting the Overture at the Presbytery meeting.

*It was recommended that we consider appropriate means to communicate the vote of New Hope Presbytery and the next steps for the Overtures to the congregation. Mike Nevling will discuss this with Sherry Hay.*

### **New Business**

*Lynn Woolard presented a motion that - "All pastoral packages and other staff salaries and/or packages be submitted for review by the Session at the Stated January Session meeting or whenever the completed budget for the upcoming year is to be presented to the Session for its final approval." The motion was seconded, discussed and approved.*

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Youth - (See written report attached)**

Monty Parker presented for the Youth Committee. A Confirmation Retreat is scheduled for Sunday, Mar 2, 3:00p.m. - 4:30p.m. Anne Hunter has requested that we have six Elders present to meet and participate with the youth. An email will be sent to request participation.

*Monty presented a motion to allow the Youth to sell the Attractions Coupon Book as part of the Youth fundraising efforts and Outreach. Books will be sold in neighborhoods and other venues (not at church) for \$20. Youth will net \$10 for each book. Proceeds will support Mexico Mission Trip. The motion was discussed and approved.*

#### **Children (See written report attached)**

*Bonnie Millikan presented a motion from Children's Ministry that St. Andrews have one combined/blended worship service during the summer, beginning the Sunday after Memorial Day and concluding Labor Day. The motion was discussed. It was noted that Session has reviewed a similar motion in previous years and chose not to support this request. It has been determined that attendance actually reduces with one blended service in the summer rather than experiencing an increase. It appears that people are seeking more offerings rather than fewer. There is a challenge of communicating the changes without confusing members and visitors. Adult Education continues to offer classes in the summer. St. Andrews recognizes the value of having a separate contemporary service and traditional service. Past experience with a blended service reflects that this is not desired by the congregation. Perhaps there are ways to offer programming for children and youth without overstressing volunteers. Suggestions included multiage classes, recruiting additional volunteers, using youth as volunteers, utilizing combined curricula. Diane Knauf will be working with Children's Ministry and Youth to explore additional opportunities. The motion was not approved. Bonnie will report back to Children's*

Ministry with an encouragement that the Session recognizes the need to find additional ways to support Children's Ministry and its volunteers.

**Adult (See written report attached)**

**Worship (See written report attached)**

**Mission - No report**

**Finance – (See written report attached)**

Jim Smith reported that January was a “good month” regarding the budget. He noted that approximately \$20,000 of the January income represented payment of annual 2008 pledges. Jim advised that health care expenses are projected to increase by 25%. The committee is looking at options of how to manage this expense with some consideration of increasing copays, pooling with other churches or Presbytery, possibility of HSAs.

**Personnel - No report**

**Membership- (See written report attached)**

Lynn Woolard reported that 36 prospective new members are participating in the New Member Class. They will be received into membership on February 24, 2008. Elders are requested to attend the last class on this date to vote on their acceptance into membership.

*Lynn made a motion from Membership Committee that a new pictorial directory be developed with a target completion date of October 2008. The motion was approved.*

**Communications – (See written report attached)**

**Stewardship – No report**

**Facilities – (See written report attached)**

John Thomas noted the report from Tommy MacNeill that recommended re-roofing be delayed for several years as detailed in his written report attached. It is anticipated that minimal repairs should keep the roof and ceilings secure in the interim.

**Long Range Planning - No report**

**Preschool - No report**

**Adjournment**

*A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved.*

*Mike closed the meeting with prayer.*

*The next stated Session meeting will be on March 18, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,  
David Lane  
Clerk of Session

The Rev. Mike Nevling, D. Min.  
Moderator