

Ninth Stated Meeting of the Lowcountry Presbytery

January 27, 2018

The Ninth Stated Meeting of the Lowcountry Presbytery was held at 9:00 a.m., Jan 27, 2018 at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Charleston, SC.

Worship Service 9:00am TE Craig Bailey led the worship service by opening in prayer and then leading the people in a responsive Call to Worship from Psalm 145 followed by the singing of Praises: *Come, Christians Join to Sing; All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name; and O Praise the Name (Anastasis)*. TE Bailey read 1 Corinthians 1:20-29 and allowed for a time of silent confession of sin. He then read the Assurance of Pardon from 1 Corinthians 1:30 and led the presbyters in singing *I Stand Amazed (My Savior's Love)*. An offering was collected and then TE Phil Stogner preached a sermon entitled *A Man on a Mission is a Missionary* from the biblical text Acts 20:17-28. TE Bailey properly fenced the Lord's Table and assisted by the elders of Redeemer Presbyterian we celebrated the Lord's Supper. We stood and sang the Doxology and TE Bailey pronounced the Benediction.

Break 10am

Call to Order The Ninth stated meeting of the Lowcountry Presbytery was called to order by the moderator, RE Rich Wylly at 10:32AM in the sanctuary of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Charleston, SC.

The Moderator, RE Rich Wylly, opened the meeting with prayer.

Quorum RE Rich Wylly asked the Stated Clerk if there was a quorum.

The Stated Clerk declared that a quorum was present.

Docket Approval **M/S/C:** The docket submitted by the Administration Committee and posted on the website and electronically distributed to presbyters be approved as presented.

The moderator appointed TE Ross Hodges and RE Rick Raven to form a Committee of Thanks.

Introduction of Guests Guests & first-time commissioners were introduced.

Presentation of Memorials The Moderator asked if there were any memorials.

TE John Olson read a memorial from Church Creek Presbyterian Church for RE Eugene Walpole, Jr. See Attachments.

M/S/C: TE Olson moved that the memorial be read, spread upon the minutes of Lowcountry Presbytery and a copy of the memorial be given to the family.

Order of the Day: Ministry Equipping Time TE JP Sibley led a panel discussion on: *How can the Lowcountry Presbytery extend the Gospel more effectively to the various populations represented within our boundaries?* The panel was composed of RE Mark Senn, TE JP Sibley,, TE Phil Stogner, RE John Thomas.

It was suggested that this discussion be picked up at the next Presbytery meeting with the following idea:

- Discuss what this looks like in practical ways for PCA churches in the Lowcountry. Intentional; relationships; etc.

Prayer Time: TE Ron Steel asked the Presbyters to break into small groups and pray.

BUSINESS RE Rich Wylly called the presbyters back to order to conduct the business of the presbytery.

The minutes of the Eighth Stated meeting of the Lowcountry Presbytery were posted on the website for review.

M/S/C: to approve the minutes with changes from the Eighth Stated Meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery held Nov 2, 2017 as presented and distributed to presbyters.

Presentation of the Omnibus Motion

M/S/C: to remove item #3 from the Omnibus Motion on the docket and handle that during the Stated Clerk's report.

The following Omnibus Motion for the Third Stated Meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery was passed:

1. **Motion** to form a Committee as a whole to review the Session minutes of the churches.
2. **Motion** from Campus Ministries Committee:
Whereas, Internal Revenue Code Section 107, as well as the associated Regulations and Revenue Rulings, provide that the portion of a minister's remuneration, designated as a rental/housing allowance by the employing church or other qualifying organization, is excludable from the minister's gross income under Section 107 of the Code; and
Whereas, the Lowcountry Presbytery is a qualifying organization, and **Rev. Danny Clark** is a campus minister with Reformed University Fellowship at College of Charleston. Therefore, be it Resolved that \$ 34,289 of the compensation paid the Reverend Danny Clark during 2018 is designated as a rental/ housing allowance in accordance with the provisions of Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code.
Now, Therefore, be it Resolved that the amounts so designated as rental/housing allowance are excludable from gross income of the recipient only to the extent that said amounts are used to rent or provide a home. Further, the amount eligible for the Section 107 exclusion may not exceed the fair rental value of the minister's home (including furnishings and appurtenances) plus the cost of utilities. To the extent a greater amount is designated as rental/housing allowance, the designation will be ineffectual with respect to such amount.

Administration Committee Report TE Chris Bennett opened the Admin report in prayer.

It was noted that we have invitations for the remainder of 2018 and we will be looking for invitations for hosting presbytery in 2019 Location and dates for upcoming meetings were announced:

10th – Tue, Apr 24th, 2018 – Grace Coastal, Okatie
11th – Sat, Jul 28th, 2018 – Church Creek, Charleston
12th – Thu, Nov 1st, 2018 – Hilton Head, Hilton Head
13th – Sat, Jan 26, 2019 – Need invitation
14th – Tue, Apr 23, 2019 – Need invitation
15th – Sat, Jul 27, 2019 – Need invitation
16th – Thu, Nov 7, 2019 – Need invitation

Stated Clerk's
Report

The Stated Clerk, TE Chris Bennett, gave his report.

M/S/C: that the advance excused absences for today's meeting from TE Chris Brown (work conflict) and TE Tim Pitzer (family conflict) be granted. That the Ruling Elder excused absence request from Christ Church be approved.

M/S/C: to authorize the Moderator and Stated Clerk to approve any nominations for Permanent Committees and Agencies of the PCA that may come in after the meeting and before the February 13 deadline for submission.

The Deadline for appointments to Committees of Commissioners is April 16, 2018.

M/S/C: that the Stated Clerk and Moderator be authorized to fill the Lowcountry Presbytery allotment of appointees to Committees of Commissioners to the 2018 General Assembly from those who will be attending the 46th meeting of the General Assembly being held in Atlanta, GA, June 12-15, 2018.

Treasurer's
Report

Treasurer, TE Chris Bennett gave a report on the Presbytery finances. See treasurer's report.

Administrative
Committee

M/S/C: to accept the report of the Administration Committee and the Treasurer's report as a whole.

TE Chris Bennett closed the report of the Administration Committee in prayer.

Campus
Ministries
Committee

TE Sam Joyner, Chairman, Grace Coastal PCA, Okatie
sam@gracecoastalchurch.org]

TE Sam Joyner opened the report in prayer.

TE Stogner shared about the campus ministry at The Citadel.

TE Sam Joyner closed the report in prayer

Order of the
Day: Lunch
Resolution of
Thanks

RE Bill Harrod led the presbytery in prayer.

Adjourned for lunch after TE Bailey gave instructions.

M/S/C: to approve the following resolution of Thanks as prepared by the Committee and have it read at lunch.

Resolution of Thanks

*To the Family of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in the Crown Jewel of the South,
the Steeple Studded Town of Charles, that Holy City of Charleston, South
Carolina,*

We thank you for hosting this 9th stated meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery. Your generous hospitality brought mission to our minds, joy to our souls, and sustenance to our bodies.

Much thanks to you on this 27th day of January! We thank you for providing for us ample parking in the challenging jungles of one-way streets, restricted lots, and over-eager city ticket workers. We thank you for providing such a beautiful and historic sanctuary of worship where we could reverence our God as stolid Presbyterians - joyful in our hearts, if not with our faces and hands. We thank you for navigating the waters of building renovation and the demands of the hysterical - that is, Historical Society - and for sharing this delightful space so that we could enjoy the delicacies of hot coffee, fresh fruit, cold yogurt, and crunchy granola, along with the sumptuous repast of a delicious lunch which soothed our stomachs, expanded our waistlines, and wrecked our New Year's resolutions! Again, we thank you!

Let it be resolved, therefore, that Lowcountry Presbytery offers praise to our Lord, King, and Sovereign Savior, Jesus Christ for these abundant and joyful blessings, and we commend you to God with these words: "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace" (Number 6:24-26).

Reconvene: The moderator reconvened Presbytery at 1:00pm with prayer

Church Planting and Outreach Committee
TE Craig Bailey, Chairman, Redeemer PCA, Charleston
[craig@redeemer-charleston.org]

TE Craig Bailey opened the report in prayer.

TE Craig Bailey introduced David Campbell with MTW National. Mr. Campbell shared with the presbytery about the 1% Tithe Initiative and how it is designed to bolster missions. David Campbell cell phone number = 423-503-1304

TE Phil Stogner shared briefly about on his trip and sabbatical to Scotland.

TE Craig Bailey closed the report in prayer.

M/S/C to receive the report of the Church Planting and Outreach Committee.

Judicial Committee
TE David Donovan, Chairman, Church Creek PCA, Charleston
[pastordavid@church-creek.org]
No report

Leadership Development Committee
TE Alex Mark, Chairman, First Scots PCA [amark@firstscotsbeaufort.org]
TE Alex Mark opened the report in prayer.

TE Alex Mark presented a proposal for the Leadership Development Team to modify their Leadership Development Manual concerning the use of the extraordinary clause in cases of ordination.

M/S/C: That the following be added to the Leadership Development Team's *Guidelines to the Credentials Process*.

It is the committee's belief that the original intent of the extraordinary clause in BCO 21-4 was given as a provision in order to ensure that a gifted man would not be prevented from

ordination due to educational requirements that he cannot reasonably meet. This clause specifically addresses two scenarios:

- Circumstances of the Church: A church in which the absence of an ordained minister may hinder them from doing ministry in accord with Scripture, our Confessional standards, or our BCO. In this scenario, the extraordinary clause may be invoked in order to expedite the church having a minister in place sooner rather than later.
- Extraordinary Gifts of the Man: Due to the varied requirements in seminary curriculum, as well as varied Masters-level degrees which may be applied toward ordination, there may be scenarios in which a man may be extraordinarily gifted but does not meet the educational requirements. In those cases, the extraordinary clause may be invoked in order to alleviate the burden of unattainable educational requirements so that such a gifted man may not be hindered from ordained ministry.

Motion 15 for. 13 against. Motion carried.

Motion from Bill McCutchen based upon the letter from the session of Hilton Head Presbyterian: request that the examinations under BCO 21.4 ... be omitted and that Rev. Tansill be examined on his Christian experience and call to ministry that he be examined in his views related to doctrine, Bible content, and church government and that Rev. Tansill state any differences that he has with the Westminster Standards.

Vote: 20 favor 8 against. **Motion did not carry requires ¾ majority (BCO 21-4).**

M/S/C to receive the report from the Leadership Development Team.

TE Alex Mark closed the report in prayer.

Shepherding &
Church Vitality
Committee

TE Ron Steel, Chairman, Eastbridge PCA, Mt. Pleasant [ron.steel48@gmail.com].

TE Michael Walters opened the report in prayer.

M/S/C: That today's offering be split between:
Next Steps of South Carolina and Jobs for Life Charleston.

The Shepherding & Church Vitality committee will oversee the PresWIC team.

TE Michael Walters closed the report of the Shepherding & Church Vitality Committee in prayer.as well as

M/S/C: that the report of the Shepherding Committee be received as presented.

Review of
Session
Minutes

M/S/C: Motion that Presbytery approve the 2017 minutes of the following churches be approved Oakbrook Community Church and Scots Kirk Presbyterian; Approved with Notations: Christ Church Presbyterian, Church Presbyterian, Eastbridge Presbyterian, Grace Coastal Church, Metro North PCA, Redeemer Presbyterian, Two Rivers Presbyterian.

It was noted that Hilton Head Presbyterian and Trinity Presbyterian still need to submit their 2017 Session Minutes for review.

Adjournment

M/S/C: that the Ninth meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery be adjourned with prayer.

TE Craig Bailey closed the meeting in prayer at 3:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

TE Chris Bennett
Stated Clerk

RE Rich Wylly
Moderator

Appendixes:

- A. Attendance Roster – Teaching Elders
- B. Attendance Roster – Ruling Elders
- C. Guest List for 9th Stated Meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery
- D. Stated Clerk’s Report
- E. Treasurer’s Report
- F. Memorial for RE Eugene Walpole, Jr.

Appendix A

Teaching Elder Attendance for January 27, 2018 Stated Meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery:

Bailey, Crag	Redeemer Church, Charleston	P
Bennett, Christopher	HR, Charleston	P
Brown, Christopher	LOB, Chaplain, MUSC, Charleston	X
Clark, Danny	RUF, College of Charleston	P
Cole, Howard	Metro North Church, Goose Creek	P
Donovan, David	Church Creek Church, Charleston	P
Bill Harritt	Eastbridge Church, Mt. Pleasant	P
Hodges, W. Ross	Christ Church Plant, Charleston	P
Joyner, Sam	Grace Coastal Church, Okatie	P
Konopa, Ben	HR, Eastbridge, Mt. Pleasant	P
Mark, Alex	Beaufort Church Plant, Beaufort	P
McCutchen, William	Hilton Head Church, Hilton Head	P
Olson, John	Church Creek Church, Charleston	P
Patrick, John Mark	Trinity Church, Orangeburg	P
Payne, Jon	Christ Church Plant, Charleston	P
Pitzer, Tim	Hilton Head Church, Hilton Head	X
Schley, John	Metro North Church, Goose Creek	P
Schweitzer, Bill	MTW, England	ME
Sibley, J.P.	Orangeburg Church Plant	P
Steel, Ron	Eastbridge Church, Mt. Pleasant	P
Stogner, Phil	Two Rivers Church, North Charleston	P
Turner, Mark	Oakbrook Church, Summerville	P
Walters, Michael	Without Call, Charleston	P

Appendix B

Ruling Elder Attendance for January 27, 2018 Stated Meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery:

Nate	Arnold		Metro North Church
Kurt	Brewer		Redeemer Presbyterian
Dean	Ezelle		Church Creek Presbyterian
Larry	Decker		Grace Coastal Presbyterian
Ron	Hemingway		Eastbridge

John	Hildreth		Two Rivers Presbyterian
Chris	Jarvis		Redeemer Presbyterian
David	McGee		Grace Coastal Presbyterian
Rick	Raybon		Eastbridge Presbyterian
Mark	Senn		First Scots Presbyterian
John	Thomas		Hilton Head Presbyterian
George	Townes		Hilton Head Presbyterian
Dan	Wall		Oakbrook Church
David	Walters, Jr.		Church Creek Presbyterian
David	Walters, Sr.		Church Creek Presbyterian
Ron	Woernle		First Scots
Richy	Wylly		Eastbridge Presbyterian

Church Delegate Summary Report:

Church Creek Presbyterian	TE & RE	Oakbrook Community Church	TE & RE
Eastbridge Presbyterian	TE & RE	Redeemer Presbyterian Church	TE & RE
Grace Coastal Church	TE & RE	Trinity Presbyterian	TE
Hilton Head Presbyterian	TE & RE	Two Rivers Presbyterian	TE & RE
Metro North PCA	TE & RE		

Appendix C

Guests & Visitors:

Mr. Luke Riddle, Candidate	Rev Dr. Jim Carter	Meg Horner
Frankie Bennett	Gray Morgan	Meredith Decker
Jeremy Schley, Metro North	Lisa Christian	Bobbie Foster
Grange Walters	Lois Woernle	Sally Purser
Kathy Levit	Barb Ingram	Laurie Sibley
Connie Iannelli-Smith	Joanne Chastain	Ashley Lowry
Druid Joyner	David Campell	Lynn McGee
Linda Stewart	Jessica Matthews	TE Satoshi Kawachi, MTW
Lisa McCutchen	Denise Lee	Kathy Wall
Jean Clark	Terri Carter	Amanda Dolnster
Shea Patrick	Susan Ulnier	Patty Brown
Kyle Phillips	John Duncan	Meghan Hunt
Tracey McSwain	Karen McKerihan	Kate Arnold
Sonya Logan	Clandia Holmes	Mary McLellan
Rosie Riddle	Terri Carter	Vernelle Evans
Christy Donovan	Wendy Stogner	Charles Deantonio