

Tenth Stated Meeting of the Lowcountry Presbytery

April 24, 2018

The Tenth Stated Meeting of the Lowcountry Presbytery was held at 9:00 a.m., Apr 24, 2018 at Grace Coastal Church in Charleston, SC.

Worship Service 9:00am TE Sam Joyner opened with the Call to Worship from Genesis 1:31. The Presbyters stood and sang, *All Creatures of our God and King*. TE Joyner led in prayer and presbyters responded with the Lord's Prayer. After singing, *Crown Him with Many Crowns*, and *Cornerstone*. After the Confession of Sin the Assurance of Pardon from Romans 6:23 was pronounced. An offering was collected and then the *Doxology* was sung. TE Joyner then read 2 Samuel 23:8-19 and then preached a message from God's Word. After properly fencing the table TE Joyner and several ruling elders from Grace Coastal Church served the Lord's Table. The congregation stood and sang, *He Will Hold Me Fast*. TE Joyner pronounced the benediction.

Break 10am

Call to Order 10:15am The Tenth stated meeting of the Lowcountry Presbytery was called to order by the moderator, RE Rich Wylly at 10:15AM in the sanctuary of Grace Coastal Church in Okatie, 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 for the Tenth Lowcountry Presbytery submitted by the Administration Committee and posted on the website and electronically distributed to presbyters be approved as presented.

The moderator appointed RE Bob Brinson and RE David Walters, Jr. 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.
No memorials were presented.

Ministry Equipping Time 10:20am Jobs For Life—TE Phil Stogner briefly shared about the gospel centered ministry.

Prayer Time: 10:30am TE Ron Steel asked the Presbyters to break into small groups and pray.

10:52am BUSINESS RE Rich Wylly called the presbyters back to order to conduct the business of the presbytery.
The minutes of the Ninth Stated meeting of the Lowcountry Presbytery were posted on the website for review.

M/S/C: to approve the minutes from the Ninth Stated Meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery held Jan 27, 2018 as presented and distributed to presbyters with corrections.

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** that the Stated Clerk and Moderator be authorized to fill the Lowcountry Presbytery 2018 General Assembly Committee of Commissioners positions from those Presbyters who will be attending the 46th meeting of the General Assembly being held in Atlanta, GA June 12-15, 2018. If you will be attending and are interested in serving on a Committee of Commissioners this year, please contact TE Chris Bennett as soon as possible at 717-224-0257, statedclerk@lowcountrypresbytery.org.

Administration
Committee
Report

TE Chris Bennett opened the Admin report in prayer.

The Stated Clerk's gave his report

M/S/C – motion to grant excused absences to TE John Olson, TE John Mark Patrick, TE Jon Payne, and TE JP Sibley.

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 – Metro North PCA, Goose Creek
- 14th – Tue, Apr 23, 2019 – Need invitation
- 15th – Sat, Jul 27, 2019 – Need invitation
- 16th – Thu, Nov 7, 2019 – Need invitation

Proposal to change Lowcountry Presbytery Standing Rules:

To match the mainstream of the PCA, both the Leadership Development Committee and the Church Planting and Outreach Committees are asking for their committees to be renamed, the Administration Committee is in agreement with these changes:

Leadership Development Committee to become: **Candidates and Credentials Committee**

Outreach and Church Planting Committee to become: **MNA and MTW Committee.**

The wording would be changed at the following places in the Standing Rules: 4.1.5; 4.9; 4.9.1; 4.9.2.6; 4.9.2.12; 5.5.4 AND 4.1.3; 4.7; 4.7.1; 5.5.4. To amend the Lowcountry Presbytery Standing Rules (2.2) the amendment must be read at one stated meeting of Presbytery, docketed for the next stated meeting, read again and then voted on. It requires a 2/3 affirmative vote to pass at that meeting.

M/C: (First Reading) to amend the Lowcountry Presbytery Standing Rules to reflect the following Committee name changes: Leadership

Development Committee to become: **Candidates and Credentials Committee**; Church Planting and Outreach Committee to become: **MNA and MTW Committee**. The wording would be changed at the following places in the Standing Rules: 4.1.5; 4.9; 4.9.1; 4.9.2.6; 4.9.2.12; 5.5.4 AND 4.1.3; 4.7; 4.7.1; 5.5.4. Carried w/o dissent.

Treasurer's Report	Treasurer, TE Chris Bennett gave a report on the Presbytery finances. See treasurer's report.
Administrative Committee	<p>M/S/C: to accept the report of the Administration Committee and the Treasurer's report as a whole.</p> <p>TE Chris Bennett closed the report of the Administration Committee in prayer.</p>
Church Planting and Outreach Committee	<p>TE Craig Bailey, Chairman, Redeemer PCA, Charleston [craig@redeemer-charleston.org]</p> <p>TE Craig Bailey opened the report in prayer.</p> <p>MNA – TE Bailey shared about the continued search for church planters and the demographic studies they are doing to determine where the 1st plant will occur. The committee will be sending out questionnaire on church planting which they ask each church to prayerfully respond.</p> <p>MTW – the committee has missions money for TEs who will be going a mission trip. The committee will be checking with churches to find out who they support in missions.</p> <p>TE Bill McCutcheon asked some questions regarding the Bluffton Presbyterian Church plant from Independent Presbyterian Church. Our planting committee met with the group planting the church and they were not willing to submit to the governance of the Lowcountry Presbytery. There have been numerous conversations with Independent Presbyterian Church and contacts with Savannah River Presbytery.</p> <p>TE Bill McCutcheon made the motion and it was seconded: M/S/C: That Lowcountry Presbytery authorize TE Bill McCutcheon to approach the office of Stated Clerk, Roy Taylor to make inquiries regarding the propriety of the actions of the church plant by Independent Presbyterian Church in Bluffton and declared on their website to be pastored by a Savannah River PCA pastor and then inquire as to the next steps that need to be taken by our Presbytery. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>TE Ron Steel made the motion and it was seconded: M/S/C: that our presbytery instruct Church Planting and Outreach Committee to take input received from the office of PCA Stated Clerk and then frame communications in preparation for the July meeting should these discussions not produce fruit with a focus on noting the irregularity of this planting action directed to the session of Independent Presbyterian Church, the core plant group in Bluffton and the Savannah River Presbytery. Motion passed unanimously.</p>

TE Phil Stogner closed the report in prayer.

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

Campus
Ministries
Committee

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

Report: Lowcountry Presbytery Campus Ministry Committee January 27, 2018

Actions- Approved sending \$2500 from our campus ministry account to help with the Spring Missions Trip of RUF at College of Charleston as they go to Costa Rica.

TE Danny Clark reported on his trip to Costa Rica.

Order of the
Day: Lunch
Resolution of
Thanks

TE Sam Joyner led the presbytery in prayer.
Adjourned for lunch after TE Joynery 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

***Whereas** we have gathered as the assembled body of presbyters for this 10th stated meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery, we give thanks to Grace Coastal PCA in the Lowcountry of Okatie, South Carolina; and,*

***Whereas** we have gathered on this 24th day of April 2018, and having traveled safely and having enjoyed the beauty of sweeping marsh views, and having traversed over bridges where the water is wide; and,*

***Whereas** we have been reminded by the majesty of moss draped oak trees, that the righteous shall be as trees planted by streams of living water, we acknowledge our Faithful Heavenly Father is indeed our provider of every good gift; and,*

***Whereas** we have together sung the hymn “All Creatures of Our God and King” in a place that reminds us that our Almighty Creator is not just a prince, but indeed the King of Tides; and,*

***Whereas** we have been reminded by Reverend Joiner to look to others for inspiration who themselves have in turn been inspired by our gracious Lord, our hearts overflow with gratitude for this gracious display of warmth and hospitality, and so we lift up our hearts and give thanks; now,*

***Therefore Be It Resolved**, that Lowcountry Presbytery offers praise to our Lord and King, our Loving Savior Jesus Christ for how He has abundantly blessed us in our time of worship, and in the conducting of our business for the sake of HIS church, and for this food and fellowship which has been so graciously extended to us by the dear saints of Grace Coastal PCA, and indeed for every good and perfect gift.*

***Further Be It Resolved**, that this resolution does now acknowledge that today is but a foretaste of that great eternal banquet, the wedding feast of our conquering Lamb, even our Lord Jesus Christ. “Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And He said to me, “The are the true words of God.” (Revelation 19:9)*

Humbly submitted on this 24th day of April 2018

By David Walters, Jr, RE, Church Creek Presbyterian and Bob Brinson, RE Eastbridge Presbyterian Church on behalf of the Fathers and Brothers of Lowcountry Presbytery.

Campus
Ministries
Committee
Continued:

The moderator called the Presbytery back to order at 12:51pm.

TE Joyner reported on the need to start considering what Campus Minister we can have at the Citadel after TE Stogner leaves.

Motion for Presbytery from Committee:

M/S/C: Lowcountry Presbytery will work to establish an RUF Campus Ministry at South Carolina State University/Claflin University.

This would be run under the new RUF Campus Resident Program.

It is our goal to budget funds from Presbytery beginning January 1, 2019.

Work on campus will begin in the fall of 2019.

Significant support would be sought from all the presbyteries in South Carolina.

JP Sibley would give much local support and oversight.

Motion carried.

TE Sam Joyner closed the report in prayer

Shepherding &
Church Vitality
Committee

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

TE Ron Steel opened the report in prayer.

Two Rivers PCA held a called meeting of the congregation after the worship service on April 8, 2018. The stated purpose of the meeting was to approve the session's recommendation to accept Phil Stogner's request to be released from his call as pastor of Two Rivers PCA. Phil addressed the congregation and read his request to the congregation. The motion to approve the session's recommendation to accept Phil's request was approved by unanimous vote (Yes: 34 / No:0). The Shepherding Committee by email vote approved the request to be sent to the presbytery. The dissolution of the Pastoral relation will be the date of the presbytery's approval (April 24, 2018 if so adopted) in accordance with BCO 23-1.

Motion: that presbytery approve that the pastoral relation between TE Phil Stogner and the Two Rivers Presbyterian Church be dissolved by mutual consent and that TE Stogner be placed on the rolls as "without call" by Lowcountry Presbytery. Motion carried.

M/S/C: That today's offering be given to Jobs for Life.

It was suggested that July's offering be given to Brenda Busch, widow of George Busch, who was called home on 4/24/2018 due to pancreatic cancer.

TE Ron Steel closed the report of the Shepherding & Church Vitality Committee in prayer.

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

Leadership
Development
Committee

TE Alex Mark, Chairman, First Scots PCA [amark@firstscotsbeaufort.org]

TE Alex Mark opened the report in prayer.

TE Alex Mark briefly shared about the process the committee will use to receive candidates.

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

TE Alex Mark closed the report in prayer.

Review of
Session
Minutes

TE Bailey M/S/C: that pending the resignation of RE Ron Hemmingway to appoint TE Howard Cole be placed on the Church Planting and Outreach Committee as the class of 2019. **Motion carried.**

M/S/C: Motion that Presbytery approve the 2017 minutes of Hilton Head Presbyterian church be approved with notations.

➤ Trinity Presbyterian still needs to submit their 2017 minutes for review

Adjournment

It was noted that the next meeting of Lowcountry Presbyter will be held on July 28th at Church Creek Presbyterian Church in Charleston, SC.

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

TE Joyner closed the meeting in prayer at 1:34pm.

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 April 24, 2018 Tenth Stated Meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery:

Bailey, Crag	Redeemer Church, Charleston	P
Bennett, Christopher	HR, Charleston	P
Brown, Christopher	LOB, Chaplain, MUSC, Charleston	P
Clark, Danny	RUF, College of Charleston	P
Cole, Howard	Metro North Church, Goose Creek	P
Donovan, David	Church Creek, Charleston	P
Bill Harritt	Eastbridge Church, Mt. Pleasant	P
Hodges, W. Ross	Christ Church, Charleston	P
Joyner, Sam	Grace Coastal Church, Okatie	P
Konopa, Ben	HR, Eastbridge, Mt. Pleasant	X
Mark, Alex	First Scots, Beaufort	P

McCutchen, William	Hilton Head Church, Hilton Head	P
Olson, John	Church Creek, Charleston	X
Patrick, John Mark	Trinity Church, Orangeburg	X
Payne, Jon	Christ Church, Charleston	X
Pitzer, Tim	Hilton Head Church, Hilton Head	P
Schley, John	Metro North Church, Goose Creek	P
Schweitzer, Bill	MTW, England	ME
Sibley, J.P.	Orangeburg Church Plant	X
Steel, Ron	Eastbridge Church, Mt. Pleasant	P
Stogner, Phil	Two Rivers Church, North Charleston	P
Turner, Mark	Oakbrook Church, Summerville	P
Walters, Michael	Church Creek, Charleston	P

Appendix B

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

Jim	Abbott		Eastbridge Presbyterian Church
Billy	Brooks		Two Rivers Presbyterian
Bob	Brinson		Eastbridge Presbyterian
John	Greaves		Grace Coastal Presbyterian
Tim	Greenway		Grace Coastal Presbyterian
Mark	Senn		First Scots Presbyterian
Mike	Slay		Grace Coastal Presbyterian
David	Walters, Jr.		Church Creek Presbyterian
David	Walters, Sr.		Church Creek Presbyterian
Ralph	Woodie		Hilton Head Presbyterian
Richy	Wyly		Eastbridge Presbyterian

Church Delegate Summary Report:

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

Appendix C

Guests & Visitors:

John Ring, Grace Coastal Church

Appendix D: Stated Clerk's Report

Revised: 4/23/2018

Stated Clerk's Report for the April 24, 2018 meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery

1. Correspondence:

- a. Completed and submitted the RUF Audit Form as requested.
- b. Sent a copy of sample By-Laws to TE Hodges.
- c. Received a hosting invitation from Metro North for the January 26, 2019 stated meeting.
- d. Forwarded to the members of Presbytery an email from PCA Discipleship Ministries outlining resources for the summer of 2018.
- e. Received an email from TE J. P. Sibley seeking questions and topics for the continuation of the ministry equipping time from the January stated meeting.
- f. Sent an email to all members of Presbytery soliciting those who would be interested in serving on a Committee of Commissioners at the 2018 GA.
- g. Received communications from several members of Presbytery regarding 2018 General Assembly (GA) Committees of Commissioners. We currently have four men signed up with others still welcome. If you are going to GA this year and would like to serve on a Committee of Commissioners, please contact the Stated Clerk as soon as possible.
- h. Received an email from Rand Millar of UTD-KCC Missions regarding a prayer campaign in support of our persecuted brothers and sisters in North Korea. Forwarded the email to the members of Presbytery.
- i. Provided an attendance estimate to TE Joyner in preparation for their church hosting the April stated meeting.

2. Administration:

- a. Sent copies of 2017 Presbytery minutes, membership list, and Standing Rules for the 2018 Committee for the Review of Presbytery Records.
- b. Updated the Presbytery directory to reflect changes in ruling elders serving. Updated the online database of the PCA Stated Clerk to reflect those changes.
- c. Sent in the list of men who are appointed to Committees of Commissioners for the 2018 General Assembly.

3. Excused absence requests. I have received an excused absence request from TE John Mark Patrick (Atlanta workshop), TE John Olson (vacation), and TE Jon Payne (hosting missionaries). I have received an excused absence request from Trinity Presbyterian Church and Christ Church Presbyterian Church which are unable to send any ruling elders.

4. Recommendations: None

Respectfully submitted,
TE Chris Bennett, Stated Clerk

Appendix E: Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report

Lowcountry Presbytery PCA
P.O. Box 31775
Charleston, SC 29417-1775

Updated: 4/16/2018

Treasurer's Report April 24, 2018 Presbytery Stated Meeting

2018 Unrestricted Income	
Member church contributions	\$11,470.33
Presbytery offerings	\$485.00
Individual offerings	\$0.00
Unrestricted Interest Income	\$15.75
Total Unrestricted Income	\$11,971.08

2018 Restricted Income	
5:10 Fund Repayments	\$10,000.00
Restricted Interest Income	\$20.31
Total Restricted Income	\$10,020.31

2018 Income by Committee	
Administration Committee	\$922.08
Campus Ministries Committee	\$3,252.72
Church Planting & Outreach Committee	\$7,233.74
Judicial Committee	\$0.00
Leadership Development Committee	\$43.29
Shepherding & Church Vitality Committee	\$34.25
Presbytery Designated Offering	\$485.00
Total	\$11,971.08

2018 Expenditures	Expenditure	Income	Cash Flow
Administration Committee	\$1,006.32	\$922.08	-\$84.24
Campus Ministries Committee	\$7,406.25	\$3,252.72	-\$4,153.53
Church Planting & Outreach Committee	\$21,430.04	\$7,233.74	-\$14,196.30
Judicial Committee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Leadership Development Committee	\$0.00	\$43.29	\$43.29
Shepherding & Church Vitality Committee	\$0.00	\$34.25	\$34.25
Designated Gift	\$485.00	\$485.00	\$0.00
Total	\$30,327.61	\$11,971.08	-\$18,356.53

2018 Unrestricted Fund Balances	
Administration Fund	\$15,204.58
Campus Ministries Fund	\$3,764.01
Church Planting & Outreach Fund	\$58,733.59
Judicial Fund	\$0.00
Leadership Development Fund	\$323.83
Shepherding & Church Vitality Fund	\$673.09
Correction for rounding error	-\$0.02
Total Unrestricted Funds	\$78,699.08

2018 Restricted Fund Balances	
Disaster Relief Fund (MNA)	\$0.00
MNA Expansion (5:10) Fund	\$15,098.08
Pastor Relief Fund	\$6,116.01
Total Restricted Funds	\$21,214.09

Current Bank Balances	
Checking	\$31,112.43
Money Market	\$68,800.74
Total	\$99,913.17

Respectfully submitted,
TE Chris Bennett
Treasurer

Comments

1. The Presbytery's financial picture is strong at the time of this report.
2. It has been the practice of the Treasurer to divide the income from non-designated church contributions and from non-designated Presbytery offerings among the committees of Presbytery according to the percentage that each committee's budget compared to the entire budget. Thus such income is divided as follows:

Administration -----	9.00%
Campus Ministries -----	32.30%
Church Planting & Outreach ----	57.93%
Judicial -----	0.00%
Leadership Development -----	0.43%
Shepherding & Church Vitality --	0.34%
Total -----	100.00%
3. Funds remaining in each committee's account are carried over at the end of the calendar to become the beginning balance for the new year.
4. Income that is designated to any committee or to any of our restricted funds (i.e. Disaster Relief, MNA Expansion, and Pastor Relief) is allotted to the destination designated by the donor.