

**Reynolda Church  
Minutes of Stated Session Meeting**

**January 20, 2011**

Time: 6:30 pm

Elders present, (P), Absent (A):

A Senior Pastor – Alan D. Wright  
P Associate Pastor – Christopher E. Lawson

Elders

P Tom Hull	P Grant Kerber	P Marion Blackwell
A Barrett Johnson	P Karan Reavis	A Katherine Currie
P Charles Redden	P Gary Schambach	P Jeff Deaton
A Bill Rice	P Mickey Thigpen	P Bill Stuart

P Jack Sherard – Clerk of Session  
P Mickey Thigpen – Executive Director  
P Bruce Hayes – Assistant Pastor  
P Tina Whitman – Recording Secretary

Visitors:

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

The Stated meeting of the Session of Reynolda Church for January 20, 2010, was called to order by Pastor Lawson. Pastor Hayes gave the Session an update on several congregational needs. The Session opened with a time of praises and prayer.

Approval of Agenda

Passed with following recommendations: To move “Recommendation of new Ministry PAL” to the first item under Executive Committee report and move “Nominees for compensation committee: Blackwell, Stuart” to the last item under Executive Committee report.

Omnibus Motion

Approved by common consent.

Clerk’s Report

The next Stated Session meeting will be February 17, 2011, at 6:30 pm.

The next Mid-Atlantic Presbytery will be January 28-29, 2011, at St. Giles, Charlotte, NC. Currently Pastor Hayes, Pastor Lawson, Bill Stuart and Pastor Wright are planning on attending.

#### Administrative Commission Report

Jeff Deaton began with prayer. He praised Grace Josey and her skills and heart for the ministry areas. Jeff made the recommendation from the Executive Committee that Grace become the new Ministry PAL. She already operates in this capacity. Passed unanimously.

Jeff then reinforced to the Session the excitement in the Ministry Areas.

The Administrative Commission recommends: "That donations received from the Parents' Date Night event be used as financial support for student mission trips." Discussion followed. Passed unanimously.

#### Executive Committee Report

Pastor Lawson began with prayer. Mickey Thigpen reminded the Session of Karan Reavis' request that a portion of the Chicago Title settlement funds be given away to the poor, and orphans. Karan explained her request.

Motion by Marion Blackwell: "That we set aside \$25,000 for use as the Session dictates as a first fruits offering for benevolence." Seconded by Gary Schambach. Discussion followed. Motion tabled.

Mickey Thigpen passed out the revised proposed 2011 budget and 2011 compensation packages. He reminded the Session of the budget process, wherein the Compensation Committee proposes the personnel budget and the Administrative Commission proposes the operational budget. The Executive Committee then proposes the complete budget. Discussion followed. Passed unanimously.

Pastor Lawson discussed online giving. There is a growing population that do not carry cash or use checkbooks, choosing to use online banking for most needs. Much discussion followed.

Motion by Charles Redden: "That the Reynolda website be altered to the extent that it begins to offer online giving as an option." Seconded by Grant Kerber. Passed unanimously.

Jeff Deaton began with prayer. He updated the Session on Sharing the Light. 42% of the yearly donations come in during November and December. He discussed the future conferences. Reynolda Church will host a STL conference on March 26, 2011. Jeff made the motion: "That the Session authorize Jeff Deaton and Mickey Thigpen to agree on the financial arrangements and other details of the upcoming Free to Flourish conference at Reynolda Church on March 26, 2011." Seconded by Marion Blackwell. Passed unanimously.

Reynolda will lead a ministry training time in Florence, SC February 4-5, 2011. Laura Hull, Grace Josey, and Jeff Deaton will be leading this event.

The Executive Pastor job description is tabled.

The Executive Committee is recommending the following change:

## **WEDDING POLICY**

### Existing Policy:

#### HONORARIA

It is the privilege of our minister(s) to officiate at the weddings of his own church members. No honorarium will be accepted by the Pastors when either the bride or groom is a member of this church. In other cases, an honorarium is acceptable.

### Proposed Policy:

Honoraria to Pastors: Couples may choose to honor the officiating pastor(s) with a gift, but there is no set “fee” or “honorarium” required. Any such honorarium is given directly to the pastor(s) at the couple’s discretion.

Passed unanimously.

Executive Committee recommends the following addition:

### **“AUTHORITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR”**

#### Additional Authority:

Approval of special sanctuary décor or setup arrangements. When feasible, the Executive Director will confer with a pastor on such matters.”

Discussion followed. Passed unanimously.

Pastor Lawson recommends from the Executive Committee to re-name the current Reynolda general benevolence fund to “Widows and Orphans Fund”. Passed unanimously.

Entered Executive Session

Left Executive Session

Motion by Grant Kerber: “That the Executive Director be authorized to conform to church policy with respect to specific compensation items as discussed.” Seconded by Bill Stuart. Passed unanimously.

Mickey Thigpen began with prayer. The Executive Committee recommends the following changes:

Proposed Changes of Policy  
January 20, 2011

Existing Policy:

**c. Compensation Committee**

The compensation committee shall consist of four elders active on the Session. Each of the three class years should be represented, and at least one member of the prior year's Compensation Committee shall be appointed. The committee is appointed by the Session annually, by means of the following procedure: those elders serving on the Nominating Committee will meet to prepare a slate of nominees. This slate will be presented to the Session, at which time other nominees may be offered from the floor. Should there be more than four nominees; those four with the most votes will serve on the committee. Otherwise, the Session will vote to approve or disapprove the slate as offered.

Proposed Policy:

**c. Compensation Committee**

The compensation committee shall consist of four elders active on the Session. Each of the three class years should be represented, and at least one member of the prior year's Compensation Committee shall be appointed. The committee is appointed by the Session annually, by means of the following procedure: *the Executive Committee will* prepare a slate of nominees. This slate will be presented to the Session, at which time other nominees may be offered from the floor. Should there be more than four nominees; those four with the most votes will serve on the committee. Otherwise, the Session will vote to approve or disapprove the slate as offered.

Passed unanimously.

The Executive Committee recommends that Tom Hull, Grant Kerber, Marion Blackwell, and Bill Stuart serve on the Compensation Committee. Passed unanimously.

Motion by Tom Hull: "To approve secondary employment as requested by Rick Peacock."  
Seconded by Charles Redden. Passed unanimously.

Pastor Lawson reported on the candidates that the search committee is considering. Pastor Lawson will continue to update the Session on the progress

Minutes were read and approved at 9:30 pm

Adjourned with prayer.