

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
STATED SESSION MEETING  
February 13, 2018

**I.** The Session of the Northminster Presbyterian Church of Sarasota, Florida, held a stated meeting on February 13, 2018. The meeting was called to order in the Library at 6:53 P.M. by the Moderator Pastor Wally Johnson who opened the meeting with sharing a devotion about “Listening Slowly”, the call to fast (what are you going to add) followed by prayer.

**II. A quorum was established:**

**THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:** **Moderator** – Pastor Wally Johnson  
**Ruling Elders** – Larry Brown, Mark Goslin, Nancy Haas, Sally Kirby, Tom Latimer, Dick McGuire, Betty Miller, Sanford Mullet, Ron Myers, Bob Price, and Bob Silver and Business and Finance Manager Jack Tibbets.

**EXCUSED:** Harry Wilde

**GUEST:** Jim Christie

**III. The Agenda was approved subject to necessary changes.**

*Bob Silver made a motion which was properly seconded  
to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed.*

**IV. PASTOR’S REPORT: (January, 2018)**

1. Lectionary Bible Study among the area ministers
2. Participated in a Clergy Cohort Group in Sarasota
3. Attended a meeting of the Sarasota Ministerial Alliance
4. Stewardship Committee
5. Led Tuesday Bible Study
6. Chairing the Blessing Grants Task Force for Peace River Presbytery
7. Serving on the Planning Committee for PRP
8. Visits - 10
9. 3 Counseling Sessions
10. Hosted an Open House at our house – well attended

11. Blood Donation Sunday (6 donations)

12. Mid-Day History and Music started and are drawing great crowds. All programs have been excellent.

***Bob Silver made a motion which was properly seconded to approve the Pastor's report. The motion passed.***

**V. OMNIBUS MOTION:** *A motion was made by Bob Price and properly seconded, to approve Item V. A. as set forth in the Omnibus Motion. The motion passed.*

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** 1/17/2018 Stated Session Meeting

## **VI. REPORTS SET ASIDE FOR DISCUSSION:**

### **A. Treasurer's Report and B. Finance Committee Report – Jack Tibbets**

1. Operating Fund For several reasons including a problem with our new software and the early date of this meeting we cannot give you a credible Treasurer's Report for January. We can however give you a good (+/- \$100) estimate of our income of \$22,362. A guess at our expenses is \$28,000 based upon last January. This gives us a net loss of around \$6,000.

This is not as bad as it would appear. In January 2017 we showed a net income of \$14,600, but we had several annual pledges for 2017 paid totaling about \$20,000 which swelled our month income to a total of \$42,000. That was good for the month and bad for the year. This year, because of the IRS income tax changes these pledges were received in December 2017 as Pre Paid Pledges, not included in our 2017 income. These are now being added to our income each month. The final result will be better for us each month this year.

2. Stewardship As of 2/13 we have received 84 pledges for an approximate total of \$219,000. This compares favorably to the total of 85 pledges received as of 2/9/17 totaling \$200,686. Our end of campaign total was \$225,000. We are projecting a total of \$240,000 by the end of this campaign.

3. 2018 Budget A budget of \$374,560 is proposed for 2018. The full budget workbook is included in this packet.

***Tom Latimer made a motion which was properly seconded to amend the budget by moving \$400 from the Parish Life Committee budget and \$175 from the Fellowship Committee budget to Maintenance Reserve. The motion passed.***

*The Finance committee moved that the 2018 budget of \$374,560 be approved. The motion passed.*

4. PILP Mortgage As of 2/13/18 our balance is \$289,207.75. This remaining balance has been re-amortized over the rest of the life of the mortgage (14 years) giving us a new monthly payment of \$2,184.74 as of 4/1/2018. Our old payment has been \$2,684.92.

**C. Clerk of Session Report – Sally Kirby**

1. The Annual Church Statistical Report was reviewed by the Session with thanks to Pastor Wally and Jack Tibbets for their help in preparing the Annual 2017 Report.
2. *Betty Miller made a motion which was properly seconded to approve the transfer of Victoria Urban's membership to First Presbyterian Church, Sarasota, Florida. The motion passed*

**D. Worship Committee Report – Sanford Mullet**

1. Ash Wednesday is scheduled for 5:30 P.M. February 14, 2018 where soup will be served. After the meal, a communion service will be held at the tables. Each table should have an elder or deacon to assist in the distribution of the elements. Ashes will be offered to all following the communion. We need a sign-up sheet for those people planning to attend to plan the amount of food required for this event.
2. Presbyterian Women Sunday is planned on February 18, 2018. Rev. Melanie Kim-Hamill will preach on that day.
3. Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018 will include palms given to everyone entering the church. During the service everyone will be encouraged to wave the palms. It is still to be determined whether the choir will process waving palms as they sing. The palms will be collected and burned for use as the ashes on Ash Wednesday 2019.
4. Looking to have a cross installed outside the church that will be draped in black during passion week. It will be changed to be draped in white on Easter Sunday. Likewise, the main cross at the front of the church auditorium will be draped in Purple for the Passion Week, then changed to white on Easter Sunday and a period of time beyond Easter.
5. Maundy Thursday service, March 29, 2018, is planned to include the reenactment of the Lord's Last Supper. This service will conclude with a communion service administered by the disciples.

6. Easter Service, April 1, 2018, will be held at 10:30 am with the Bell Choir ringing Crown Him and one congregational hymn. We will need additional communion servers to facilitate a more efficient communion service.
7. Helen Healy will be coordinating the sale of Easter lilies to be delivered and placed at the front of the church on Easter. These lilies shall be de-scented. Purchasers shall pick them up to take them home after the Easter service.
8. The church hand bells are permanent equipment owned by the church and require refurbishment. Cost estimate for this maintenance is \$3,000.
9. A 24 foot runner rug is needed for the playing of the bells. This is needed to prevent damage to a dropped bell.
10. Our current grand piano has outlived its useful life. It can be tuned, but it fails to retain correct pitch for a single performance. Correcting this problem is not cost effective. Recommend the church explore a means to replace it with a quality six-foot grand piano.
11. Beginning May 6, 2018, we will start a Bible reading program, consisting of 100 Bible stories. This program will run for 20 weeks. There are 5 readings each week and the pastor will preach one of the passages each week. Reading schedules will be provided to the congregation. A discussion class prior to the worship service will discuss the other readings for that week

#### **E. Outreach & Marketing Committee Report – Ron Myers**

1. The average Sunday worship attendance has increased by five (5) versus January 2017.
2. The Midday Program attendance has increased from last year.
3. The Budget Committee approved a budget of \$10,000 instead of the \$15,000 requested. Since the Midday budget of \$1,500 was not part of the FY 2017 Outreach & Marketing budget, the Midday budget will not impact the \$10,000 budget.
4. After discussion, the Committee decided to use local advertising for the Easter season and not use Truth Advertising. Positive results have been received from the local advertisements at a much more reasonable cost.
5. Advertising has been placed in the Ledger, Meadowood, Sarasota, and Bradenton newspapers. In addition, cards will be prepared in house to promote the Easter programs.
6. Isabel Oake is waiting for a proof back from Truth Advertising before we can move ahead with the New Movers program.
7. Judy Egan suggested some possible changes in the attendance books which would provide additional information on new attendees.
8. The Food bank program discussed will be referred to the Mission Committee.
9. Dick Murphy suggested that a Biblical subject might be included as part of the Midday Program.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS – None**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. The Metro Diner has asked us to support their variance request from the Sarasota County ordinance which would allow for Metro Diner to lawfully obtain a license to serve beer and wine on premise.

*Mark Goslin moved that we grant the exemption for Metro Diner.  
The motion passed.*

- B. Pastor Wally asked that Ary Hernandez, who will be at our Presbytery Meeting on February 22, 2018, be invited to a breakfast meeting on February 24, 2018 at Northminster.

*The Session agreed that NPC would host the above breakfast meeting on February 24, 2018.*

**IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Next Session Meeting – March 21, 2018.

**X. ADJOURNMENT & CLOSING PRAYER**

There being no further business to come before the Session, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Pastor Wally at 8:17 P.M.

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Pastor Wally Johnson, Moderator

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Sally A. Kirby, Clerk of Session