

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STATED SESSION MEETING
January 17, 2018

I. The Session of the Northminster Presbyterian Church of Sarasota, Florida, held a stated meeting on January 17, 2018. The meeting was called to order in the Library at 7:00 P.M. by the Moderator Pastor Wally Johnson who opened the meeting with a discussion of Section F, Foundations of Presbyterian Polity and W-4.04h in the *2017-2019 Book of Order* followed by prayer.

II. A quorum was established:

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT: Moderator – Pastor Wally Johnson
Ruling Elders – Mark Goslin, Sally Kirby, Tom Latimer, Dick McGuire, Betty Miller, Sanford Mullet, Ron Myers, Bob Price, Bob Silver and Harry Wilde and Business and Ministries Administrator Jack Tibbets.

EXCUSED: Larry Brown, Nancy Haas

III. The Agenda was approved subject to necessary changes.

Betty Miller made a motion which was properly seconded to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed.

IV. PASTOR'S REPORT: (December 2017)

1. Lectionary Bible Study among the area
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 on Advent
6. Staff Lunch
7. Chairing the Blessing Grants Task Force for Peace River Presbytery
8. Serving on the Planning Committee for PRP
9. Deck the Halls – Christmas Cantata – Christmas Eve
10. Visits - 8
11. 2 Counseling Sessions

12. Conducted the funeral service for Dave Kinney
13. Took 2 days of vacation (for a total of 10 out of 20 for the year)

Bob Price 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 Silver and properly seconded, to approve Item V. A. - B. as set forth in the Omnibus Motion. The motion passed.*

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 12/20/2017 Stated Session Meeting

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Outreach and Marketing: Ron Myers

- a. The average attendance for 2017 was slightly greater than 2016. The average attendance in 2016 was 158 vs 160 in 2017.
- b. All seven (7) of the Midday programs have been added to "Nextdoor" which reaches 4,270 people in the area (several people have already responded that they will attend.)
- c. The first Midday program has been added to Facebook. The rest of the programs will be on Facebook in a timely way. Please "Share" the announcements on your timeline.
- d. An e-blast went out to 224 email addresses of Northminster members and friends. Hope that this will be effective. Each week Midday programs will be added to the Northminster E-Letter.
- e. The Bloodmobile was at Northminster Sunday, January 14 from 9:00-12:30. It was parked in front of the Church adjacent to the electronic sign.
- f. Judy Egan reported that all of the news print marketing is working well except the Ledger. No one in the specified zip codes has received the paper with our advertisement. The options discussed were to request our money back or send a registered letter.
- g. The New Movers program from Truth Advertising was reviewed and will be initiated immediately. The cost is \$.93 for each contact for their service.

h. The Easter Mailer will be prepared by Pastor Wally, Isabel, and Ron for review and approval at the February meeting.

i. All feedback received by the O & M Committee regarding the electronic sign has been positive.

j. Rich Rhodes reported that there has been no response to the Midweek Prayer.

k. Judy Egan reported that the Choir Festival will be March 4, and the "Walk of the Stages of the Cross " will be on Good Friday. She encouraged Northminster members to participate.

VI. REPORTS SET ASIDE FOR DISCUSSION:

A. Treasurer's Report – Bob Silver and Harry Wilde

1. Operating Fund Results

	<u>December, 2017</u>	<u>Year to Date 2017</u>
Income	\$67,434.79	\$372,023.09
Expense	<u>28,227.81</u>	<u>362,259.12</u>
Net Income	\$39,206.98	\$ 9,763.97

2. Operating Fund Balance

Iberia Bank \$65,733.56 + PILP Money Market \$22,695.29 = \$88,428.85

3. Capital Campaign Fund Balance

Scott Trade \$ 100.04 + PILP Money Market \$62,032.77 = \$62,132.81

4. Mortgage Balance as of December 12, 2017: \$319,468.10

Required Monthly Payment: \$2,684.92

Breakdown: Principal - \$1,627.48

Interest - 1,057.44

Revised Payment Est.: \$ 2,684.92

Interest Rate: 3.9720

Betty Miller made a motion, which was properly seconded, to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed and the full report filed for audit.

B. Finance Committee Report – Jack Tibbets and Tom Latimer

1. Operating Fund Based upon our preliminary figures for December, we will wind up 2017 in the black with a net income of around \$10,000. A very generous donation of \$27,000 received in December turned the tide for us. Our year to date expenses exceeded our budget by about \$7,000 or 2% and our year to date income exceeded our budget by about 4% or \$14,000.

2. Stewardship The 2018 program is underway. A mailing to the congregation went out on Monday, 1/8. Sunday, 1/14 includes a stewardship sermon and interviews with members. Sunday, 1/21 will feature Rev. Dr. Paul Eckel as guest speaker and a special coffee meeting for the congregation in Fellowship Hall. Pastor Wally will have comments and interviews with members at the Coffee Fellowship after the Worship Service. January 28, 2018 will be Commitment Sunday.

Following receipt of pledges, the Finance Committee will prepare a recommended budget for 2018 to present to Session at the regular February meeting for discussion and approval.

3. Capital Campaign Significant contributions were received and will be swept from the CC account to make additional payments to our mortgage principal in January. We anticipate this will reduce our mortgage principal to less than \$286,608.

Bob Price made a motion, which was properly seconded, to approve the Finance Committee Report. The motion passed.

C. Worship Committee Report – Sanford Mullet

1. For 2018 Communion will be scheduled for the first Sunday of each month. Additional communion services and/or special consideration follows:

a. Ash Wednesday February 14, (Valentine's Day) when the Ash Wednesday Service will be held in Fellowship Hall. The Fellowship Committee will be serving meals beginning at 5:30 pm. An Elder or Deacon will serve communion located at each of the tables.

b. On Thursday, March 29, Maundy Thursday, Communion servers will be the performing disciples following their performance of the “Last Supper re-enactment. This activity is under the leadership of Ed Stiles, Jr. This communion will be by intinction.

c. On Sunday, April 1, 2018, Easter Sunday, we will have one Easter Service at 10:30. We will need additional communion servers to facilitate a more efficient communion service.

d. On Sunday, October 7, 2018 World Communion Sunday.

e. On Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve, communion will be served by intinction.

The Worship Committee moved that Communion Services for 2018 be scheduled for the following dates: February 4 and 14; March 4 and 29; April 1; May 6; June 3; July 1; August 5; September 2; October 7; November 4; and December 2 and 24. The motion passed.

2. On Sunday, April 1, 2018, Easter Sunday, we will have one Easter Service at 10:30 am with the Bell Choir ringing the prelude, during the offertory, and during the first congregational hymn.

3. Gail Offerdinger-Ledgister is in the process of re-establishing Northminster Bell Choir in January 2018. Current plans look to have the Bell Choir be a part of the worship service once a month.

4. Rev. Paul Eckel will be preaching on Sunday January 21, 2018.

5. Women’s Sunday is set for February 18, 2018.

D. Mission Committee – Bob Silver

1. Wally has presented to the committee the idea of a blessing box. A 3’X 4’ box could be placed on the church property with a plexiglass cover in which food items (staples – canned goods) would be placed to benefit homeless people. The box would be placed on a pedestal on the property. “If you need a blessing take one, if you’ve been blessed, leave one.”

The committee moved that the blessing box become a mission of our church. The motion passed.

2. The committee suggested that we participate in a meal packaging event called Kids Against Hunger. We would provide the space, the tables and the man power to prepare the packages. Each bag feeds 6 people. It costs 25 cents a meal which we would provide. Pastor Wally suggested that we try it once and see how it goes.

The committee moved that Northminster participate in the Kids Against Hunger program once. The motion passed.

3. Last year \$17,400+ was donated from the Northminster congregation to missions.

VII. OLD BUSINESS - None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. *Bob Silver made a motion, which was properly seconded to change the February Stated Session Meeting from Wednesday, February 21, 2018 to Tuesday, February 13, 2018. The motion passed.*

B. Pastor Wally encouraged all Session members to attend the Peace River Presbytery Meeting on February 22, 2018.

Sally Kirby made a motion, which was properly seconded, to elect Betty Miller and Sanford Mullet as Elder Commissioners to represent Northminster at Peace River Presbytery Meetings on February 22, 2018. The motion passed.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Next Session Meeting – February 13, 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 8:00 P.M.

Pastor Wally Johnson, Moderator

Sally A. Kirby, Clerk of Session

