

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MINUTES OF STATED MEETING OF SESSION – November 24, 2008

The stated meeting of Session was held at Westminster Presbyterian Church in the Hall, 755 Bard Road, Port Hueneme, CA. Moderator, Rev. Dan Birchfield, called the meeting to order at 6:40pm and opened with prayer. A quorum was present. Elders present: Bob Williams, Linda Porteous, Gay Lanzarotta, Paul Spencer, Ron Carrillo, Elna Ranson, Jim Bell, Janice Brown, Carol Norton. Elders absent: Marilyn Rothwell. Guests: Mary Curtis, Clerk to the Session.

- I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
Session APPROVED the agenda as presented.

- II. PRAYER TRIANGLES:
Session prayed in small groups.

- III. CLERK TO THE SESSION REPORT:
 - a. Linda Porteous, elder commissioner, gave a report from the last Presbytery meeting held 11/18/08. She briefed Session on the changes to Word of Life – Pastor Ron Urzua is also filling in as pulpit supply at the Santa Paula church as well as Word of Life. Sean Chow is taking the lead at Word of Life when Ron is gone. Santa Maria church is finding it necessary to release Pastor Valerie DeLaTorre from her service due to financial constraints. Pastor Valerie will be staying in Ventura during January and February to assess where she will go next. Session agreed to pray for Pastor Valerie, Israel and the Santa Maria church as well as continued prayers for Word of Life.
 - b. Consent Agenda – Session discussed and APPROVED the following Consent Agenda items:
 - i. Approval of minutes of the October 27, 2008 Stated Meeting of Session, November 9, 2008 Stated Congregational Meeting and November 16, 2008 Called Meeting of Session.
 - ii. Approve Elder Ordination and Installation for Sunday, December 28, 2008.
 - iii. Approve request from *Hueneme Pilot* to use WesPres as a distribution point.
 - iv. Approve request for baptisms – Pastor Dan has spoken to these young people and they have been through his membership class. The baptisms will take place December 7, 2008 during the worship service: Michael Paul Worcester, date of birth 9/2/96; Paul Jason Dalton, date of birth 9/17/95; Rocky King, date of birth 7/19/95.
 - v. Deaths reported: Husband of member Mary Fleischbein (member #2156) Robert Fleischbein died October 26, 2008 (Robert was not a member). Member, Dona Elizabeth (Allen) Knutson, #2037, died October 14, 2008. A celebration of her life was officiated by Pastor Dan Birchfield at Westminster Presbyterian Church on October 25, 2008.
 - vi. Membership transfer: Kasey MacInnes, member #2283, requested transfer of membership via letter dated November 5, 2008, to Santa Maria Presbyterian Church. Macyee was baptized there on October 19, 2008.
 - vii. Informational:
 - Session Elders list for 2009
 - Letter from Presbytery regarding Hearts and Hands Mission
 - viii. Membership -- marriage:
 - Diane Johnson, member #2303 and Leo Cortez, member #2328 were married by Reverend Jasper Butler at Dove Christian Ministries on October 8, 2009.
 - Louis Edward Vann, member #1459 and Lennie Confer (aka Linda Anne Confer), member #2251 were married by Pastor Dan Birchfield at Westminster Presbyterian Church on November 15, 2008.
 - ix. Receiving the Financial Report for October 2008 submitted by Treasurer Michele Southerland. A recap is below:

Months	10	Percentage	83%
	Giving	Total Income	Expenditures
Budget	\$ 290,000	\$ 339,900	\$ 305,084
Actual	\$ 203,026	\$ 204,762	\$ 216,143
%	70%	60%	71%

IV. ENDOWMENT DISCUSSION:

- a. Carol Norton reported a special gift we received from the Cindy Renna Family Fund of \$5,000.00 to be used where it is needed most. After some discussion, Session APPROVED to use this money to pay for the new heater for the office, which was an unexpected expense. *Jehovah-Jireh – The Lord our Provider!*
- b. Carol Norton suggested we maintain a notebook to keep all the notes about different sizeable donations to the church, what stipulations they have, etc. She will work with Karen Burch to establish the notebook.
- c. It was reported that Ron Vincent resigned from the role of maintaining our investment accounts. A motion was made, seconded and approved to put Carol Norton and Michele Southerland as signatures on the accounts until the new officers are elected for 2009. Carol is taking suggestions for a third person and will bring that to Session.
- d. Dorothy Powers Estate has bequeathed \$5,000 to Westminster Presbyterian Women and Session APPROVED that the money will be given to that group to manage.
- e. Carol Norton reported that the \$25,000 in cash that was voted on has not been put into a CD fund yet. It is in the Wells Fargo account. Carol and Bob Williams will sit with the new UBS representative to discuss and review our accounts. She will report back about the \$100,000 in cash and bring suggestions to the next meeting.
- f. Tessie Bach Endowment Fund: ½ of the fund will become available soon and Pastor Dan presented a rough draft proposal for using the Tessie Bach fund to help with additional expenses of staffing needed: Choir Director, Organist, Youth Director at 40 hours per week and Children's Director at 20 hours per week. Pastor Dan's proposal has some salary information from Presbytery and other sources. Session AGREED that this would be a perfect use of the Tessie Bach Endowment Fund and the Personnel Committee will bring a final proposal to the next Session meeting, which is December 8, 2008 to discuss the budget. The search committee for these positions is made up of Jan Bogner, Paul Dalton, Kim Wieser, Kathy Antrobus and Pastor Dan.

V. BREAK AND FELLOWSHIP – ELNA RANSON PROVIDED THE DEVOTIONAL AND SNACKS. Her devotional centered on the Attitude of Gratitude and that we need to slow down and listen to God -- "Be Still and Know I am God."

VI. GENERAL BUSINESS:

- a. Stewardship: Pastor Dan will be gathering information on how the pledges are going and will have a working budget in each Elder's box before the December 8th meeting. Review your areas and be prepared to discuss.

VII. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm and closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Curtis, Clerk to the Session