September Stated Monthly Meeting of the Session
First Presbyterian Church
Burington, North Carolina
September 20, 2026

Attendees included:

Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Ron Joyce	A. C. Arnn	Pat Askew
Hal Bates	Jerry Bailey	+Jordan Britton
Rog Kolarich	Caroline Durham	Veronica Biscocho
Virginia Wilburn	Sara Beth Hardy	Bob Giles
Kent Byrd	Gail McGowen	Phil Langley
Don Grady	+Scott Moffitt	Mary Parker
Betsy Reeves (excused absence)	David Sapp	Chip Smith
Charlie Harris	Avery Wagoner	Nan Wooten (excused abs)

+Jim Lunde, Pastor and Moderator

+Dari Rowen, Associate Pastor

Barbara Roberts, Clerk (excused absence

John Johnson, Parish Associate

David Pinson, Treasurer

+Matt Brittain, Director of Music

The Reverend Doctor Jim Lunde, the Moderator of the Session, called the September stated meeting of the Session to order at 7:00 pm on September 20, 2026 in the Witherspoon Room of First Presbyterian of Burlington, North Carolina.

Jordan Britton opened the meeting with a devotion and a prayer.

The Moderator asked if there were questions about anything on the Consent Agenda and Ron Joyce requested the following edits to the August Session meeting minutes:

1. At the time of the August meeting, there had been no goal established for the 2027 campaign. The minutes reflected a $1.3 million goal.
2. The addition of Tori Stadler's name to the Gratitude & Generosity committee.

With no further comments, the Moderator asked for a motion to approve. AC Arnn made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Phil Langley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Capital Campaign Update:

Scott Moffitt reported that $2,497,539 had been pledged and 136 pledges have been received. Work is continuing on the MH Long Garden, the new boilers, new windows for the sanctuary and Shive Hall, and new flooring for the CDC and kitchen. The Capital Campaign also has approved moving forward on the proposed renovation of the Garrison-Joyner Activities Building and the work is underway.

Gratitude and Generosity Update:

Ron Joyce provided an update on the *Together We Love, Together We Serve* campaign. Established a goal of $1.2 million based on the proposed 2027 budget. Total pledges from the church leadership for 2027 are $207,000. Only have pledges from 50% of the church officers. Ron reviewed the timeframe for the rest of the campaign and urged the Elders who have yet to pledge to please do so. Kent Byrd shared that he couldn't access the Titheley portion of the

www.fpcburlington.org using CHROME as his web browser. John Johnson will follow up on this finding.

Budget and Finance Update:
Dave Pinson--July YTD budget. The budget still has a positive variance due to pre-paid pledges and excellent expense management by the staff.

New Endowment Update:
Dave Pinson, on behalf of Leanna Giles as Chair of the Foundation Board, provided a proposed motion from the Foundation Board on the new endowed fund for building and grounds maintenance. The proposed fund name will be the *Gather & Grow Maintenance Fund* with the proposed fund description as follows:
"This endowed maintenance fund is being created out of the *Gather & Grow Capital Campaign* of 2026. As described in the campaign brochure, this fund strengthens our ability to address future maintenance. The interest earned will be used to support ongoing and routine maintenance and unexpected needs of the church buildings, grounds, and related infrastructure."
The Moderator called for any questions. Hearing none, Mary Parker made a motion to approve the name and description of the fund. The motion was seconded by Bob Giles. The motion passed unanimously.

Report from the September 1st Presbytery Meeting:
Dave Pinson provided a report of September 1, 2026 Salem Presbytery meeting that was hosted by the Clemmons Presbyterian Church in Clemmons, NC. Those representing First Presbyterian Church of Burlington included Dr. Jim Lunde, Chip Smith, and Dave Pinson. The attendees heard reports on:

- Western North Carolina recovery efforts with the victims of Hurricane Helene
- Salem Presbytery Innovation Grants Program

Church Directory Update:
Dr. Dari Rowen provided an update and overview of the upcoming church directory project. Barbara Roberts is working with Dari on the

church directory project. She and Barbara are looking at leveraging the digital church directory as well as a tangible directory. The church directory project will run in parallel with the REALM software upgrade since the software will facilitate a newer digital church directory to complement the hard copy church directory. Dari and Barbara will share more details at the October Session meeting.

FPC Music Program Update:

Dr. Matt Brittain provided an overview and update of the music program. Following are the list of events Matt shared:

- Dr. Brittain and Rebecca McClain's recital on Sunday, September 27th at 5 pm in the sanctuary.
- Kirsten Homdrum's piano recital on Friday, October 23rd at 7 pm in the sanctuary.
- Brass quintet on All Saint's Sunday on November 1st at 10 am.
- Handbell workshop with Brian Childers from the Myers Park United Methodist Church on Friday, November 6th and Saturday, November 7th followed by his leading us in the 10 am worship service on November 8th.
- The Service of Lessons and Carols on December 13th at 5 pm.
- Sacred Choral Clinic led by Andre Thomas at Duke Chapel to be attended by our Chancel Choir on Saturday, January 23rd.
- Evensong with the Episcopal Church of the Holy Comforter on February 7th at 5 pm in our sanctuary.
- Carillon Choir concert at The Village at Brookwood on Tuesday, February 23rd at 6 pm.

REALM Conversion:

John Johnson provided an update on the important office software conversion to the new REALM software which will be replacing our legacy system, ACS. The conversion process will involve two parts: the initial part involves the migration of the "people" information from the current ACS database into the new REALM database. The second part involves the migration of financial information, and this will begin following an upcoming training session to be attended by John, Dari, and Tori Stadler in mid-October in Tampa, Florida. Additionally,

REALM provides an individual app that all of the FPC – Burlington members can download onto their devices.

Moderator's Report:

Dr. Lunde provided the Moderator's report. He began by requesting an update from the Building & Grounds team (Phil Langley and Dave Pinson) as to the current status of sanctuary repairs and renovation from the recent water damage due to failure of a condensation drain in the attic above the balcony. The team is working with First Call to remove the remaining moisture from the damage areas, testing for lead and asbestos in the areas damaged, and providing an estimate for the necessary repairs.

Building & Grounds further reported they are working through options for making the sanctuary more wheelchair accessible and compliant with ADA guidelines.

Jim further announced that the FPC Child Development Center board had hired Omira Thompson, our current interim Director, as the new Director. In addition to hiring Ms. Thompson as Director, the board has hired Chemeyer Wilkins as the Assistant Director. These moves will allow the board to now find dedicated administrative support for Ms. Thompson and Wilkins.

It was also announced that our former summer intern, Eleanor Hill, is now officially working as an intern for us as part of the Elon University Work-study program. Jim acknowledged the good work of the Personnel Committee and Charlotte Nance Albright for securing this opportunity for Eleanor and our church.

Lastly, Jim asked for Session approval for an off-site Celebration of the Sacrament of Communion at the upcoming Take Root class retreat on October 18th. A motion was made by Bob Giles and seconded by AC Arnn. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Adjournment:

The Moderator asked about further business to be discussed and hearing none, he received a motion to adjourn from Caroline Durham which was seconded by AC Arnn. The motion passed by unanimous vote. He adjourned the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Moffitt
Assistant Clerk of Session

Membership Updates from the Consent Agenda: September 2026

Deaths: Larry Ray Long (#2715) died on August 14, 2017
Laura Johnson Skow (#3802) died on August 17,2026
Sandra Elder Harper (#2328) died on August 31, 2026
New member letter of transfer: Alice M. Livey from Rocky Mount UMC, Rocky Mount, VA

Congregational Meeting for Special Purpose: First Presbyterian Church, Burlington, NC
September 27, 2026

Rev. Dr. Jim Lunde called the meeting to order. Clerk Barbara Roberts confirmed that a quorum was present. Dr. Lunde opened with prayer and announced that the purpose of the meeting was to elect officers for the Class of 2029. He called on A. C. Arnn as chair of the Nominating committee to present the nominees. A.C. Arnn listed the following nominees: Deacon-Jill Fisher, Ben Hardy, Jane Kolarich, Carolyn Langley, Maggie Lowe, Allie Moffitt, Will Pluer, Stephanie Wisner. Elder-Jin-Jin Blackburn, Patty Blaetz, Loy Campbell, Carolyn Ent, Eddie Gant, Erin Pluer, Hal Vincent, John Walton.

Dr. Lunde asked for additional nominations. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to accept the proposed slate. A motion was made and seconded. It passed with no dissenting votes. Dr. Lunde declared the slate elected and adjourned the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Roberts
Clerk of Session