

**Digest of February 22, 2020,
Winter Stated Meeting of Presbytery
Pawleys Island Presbyterian Church**

The Presbytery of New Harmony, at its Winter Stated Meeting:

- with a quorum present, opened with prayer; adopted the docket; was welcomed by host pastor, Louis Imsande; welcomed first-time Ruling Elders, Corresponding Members, and visitors; and seated corresponding members.
- approved an Omnibus Motion including reports from Stated Clerk; Guiding Council, including a way for Special Presbytery Meetings to be called, on first reading; amending Manual of Operations, changing the composition of Guiding Council regarding Black Caucus and Presbyterian Women designated commissioners, on final reading; giving voice, for 2020, to moderators of Committee on Representation and Nominations, Cultivation and Empowerment Committee, and Outdoor Ministries; electing Ruling Elder Orby Ferguson treasurer; receiving 2019 Financial Reports; revising Manual of Operations, on first reading, to include descriptions of the Committee on Ministry and Committee on Preparation for Ministry; and adding to the Manual of Operations a description of General Assembly Commissioners; Committee on Ministry; Committee on Preparation for Ministry, including approval, on second reading, of a change in Scholarship Repayment Policy, when a person elects not to serve in PC(USA); Committee on Representation analysis of presbytery committee membership; Administrative Commissions from John Calvin Presbyterian Church and New Harvest Administrative Commission; and Presbyterian Agency for Developmentally Disabled, including designating March 15 as PADD Sunday across the Presbytery with offerings being taken for PADD.
- Was led in worship by Rev. Gad Mpoyo, PC(USA) Southeastern Assoc. for New Worshipping Communities. The offering, of \$884.00 was designated for NHP's Church Extension Fund. Necrology for Ruling Elders and memorials for The Rev. Dr. Bill Holmes and The Rev. Dr. Ernest Jackson were part of worship. Communion was celebrated, and the 2020 Moderator, Ruling Elder Linda Jackson (Melina) was installed.
- Moved into Community Conversations for the purpose of learning more about "New Worshipping Communities", "Responding to an Exodus: Gospel Hospitality and Empire", and "Soul Care for You and Your Pastor: Living into Lent."
- Received a report from Stated Clerk, Gavin Meek, which included information on balance of Ruling Elders and Ministers of Word and Sacrament attending presbytery meetings and the statistical report which showed a net loss of 91 members in 2019 (presbytery now has a membership of 7,202). More statistics will be printed in future editions of "This Week."
- Received a report from Guiding Council (most of which was included in the Omnibus Motion) including receiving the Policy on Child, Youth, and Vulnerable Adult protection, on first reading, and approving the 2020 Operating Budget of \$1,079,442.
- Received reports from Committee on Representation and Nominations (electing slate of nominees); Committee on Ministry, including changes in terms of calls, covenants between churches and stated supply pastors, temporary supply pastors, and commissioned pastors; and electing a commission for the installation Rev. Dr. Steven Fitzgerald as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Cheraw.
- Received verbal and written reports from South Carolina Inn in Montreat; Tirzah Administrative Commission, which included approving the sale of Tirzah Presbyterian Church to the Tirzah Church Cemetery Association (Presbytery concurred with Administrative Commission & two remaining members to close the congregation at the benediction of a May 3, 3 pm, worship service.); the Hopewell Administrative Commission, which including dismissal of Hopewell Presbyterian Church to the Evangelical Presbyterian Church (with stipulations).
- Moderator, Linda Jackson, expressed thanks, particularly to Pawleys Island Presbyterian Church for hosting the meeting and adjourned the meeting with prayer. The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of New Harmony will be May 15-16, 2020, at Presbyterian College.