

Second Stated Meeting of the Lowcountry Presbytery

April 26, 2016

The Second Stated Meeting of the Lowcountry Presbytery was held at 9:00 a.m., April 26, 2016 at Trinity PCA, in Orangeburg, SC.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Worship Service | TE John Mark Patrick, associate pastor of Trinity PCA in Orangeburg, SC led the Presbytery in a Psalm of Praise: Psalm 95:1-6. He then read Psalm 100 as the Call to Worship and opened in prayer. The presbyters then stood and sang, <i>I Greet Thee Who My Sure Redeemer Art</i> . TE Sean Sawyers led in prayer and then read a passage from Philemon after which an offering was taken. Presbyters stood and sang, <i>Poor Sinners, Dejected with Fear</i> and then responsively joined in a Corporate Confession of Sin. TE Sawyers proclaimed Psalm 32:1 as an Assurance of Pardon and the worshipers responded by singing the Doxology. TE Sean Sawyers preached a sermon from Hosea 2:8-17 entitled <i>God's Tenacious Love</i> . The presbyters then stood and sang <i>How Sweet the Name of Jesus</i> Sounds after which TE Sawyers properly fenced the table and led the presbyters in celebrating the Lord's Supper. |
| Ministry Equipping | Dr. Doug Kelly, shared with presbyters on the vision and plan to provide for theological training for African American and other pastors in the Charleston area. Hopefully this ministry will begin in Fall of 2016. |
| Call to Order | The Second stated meeting of the Lowcountry Presbytery was called to order by the moderator, RE David Walters, Jr. at 10:19 a.m. in the sanctuary of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Orangeburg, SC with a reminder for any remaining Session minutes to be brought forward for review. The Moderator opened the meeting with prayer. |
| Quorum | The Stated Clerk declared that a quorum was present. |
| Docket Approval | The docket was moved by the Administration Committee and approved with modifications. |
| Introduction of Guests | Guests were introduced by the members of Presbytery. |
| Committee of Thanks | M/S/C that RE David Walters, Jr. and TE Mark Turner comprise a Committee of Thanks to draft a Resolution of Thanks from the Presbytery to be presented to the host church before lunch. |
| Prayer | TE Ron Steel led the members and commissioners of Presbytery to break into small groups to pray for the requests provided by the churches and members of the Presbytery. |
| Omnibus Motion | The following omnibus motion was M/S/C: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Motion to form a Committee as a whole to review the Session minutes of the churches who did not submit them at our first stated meeting.2. Motion to approve the nomination of the following elders to serve on the designated Committee of Commissioners at the 2016 General Assembly of the PCA. |

RE Dean Ezell Overtures Committee
TE Jon Payne Mission to the World

3. Motion to appoint the Moderator and the Stated Clerk as a commission of Presbytery to act on any nominations received after this meeting of Presbytery, for Committees of Commissioners, Floor Clerks, and elders to help serve Communion at the 2016 General Assembly.

Stated Clerk's
Report

The Stated Clerk, TE Chris Bennett, gave his report.

Treasurer's
Report

Treasurer, TE Chris Bennett gave a report on the Presbytery finances.

M/S/C by TE Craig Bailey that the future meetings of Lowcountry Presbytery be held on Saturdays to increase ruling elder participation. Motion adopted 10-8.

Church
Planting &
Outreach
Committee

TE Craig Bailey opened in prayer and gave a brief report. M/C that the report be received as presented. TE Bailey closed in prayer.

Campus
Ministries
Committee

TE Sam Joyner opened in prayer. TE Phil Stogner gave a short report on the work at the Citadel. See Report in Attachments. TE Joyner closed in prayer.
M/C that the report be received as presented.

Leadership
Development
Committee

TE Sean Sawyers reported that the committee will be only accepting work electronically. He shared how the committee is putting together guidelines for candidates, licensure, etc.; guidelines for vacant pulpits, etc. He announced the committee's email address is ldt@lowcountrypresbytery.org. TE Sawyers closed the report in prayer. M/C that the report be received as presented.
Motion: That per BCO 19-1 Lowcountry presbytery define preaching "on a regular basis" as any man preaching more than one Lord's Day per month in the same church. (Lord's Day rather than times in pulpit to allow preaching am/pm).
After much discussion it was moved to close debate. The motion passed.
The motion failed.
TE Sean Sawyers reminded presbyters that they had received the "Guidelines to the Credentials Process in the Lowcountry Presbytery" BEFORE this presbytery meeting.
M/C: That presbytery received the submitted "Guidelines" packet be adopted by presbytery. See Guidelines in Attachments.
M/C: That the Standing Rules of Lowcountry Presbytery be amended from Leadership Development Committee to Leadership Development Team to reflect our email address and usage in our team guidelines. Motion adopted.
Note: Also requires passage at our next Presbytery meeting.
TE Sean Sawyers closed the report of the Leadership Development Team in prayer.

Shepherding
& Church
Vitality
Committee

TE Ron Steel gave an update on the work and plans for the Shepherding Committee.

M/C that TE William Todd Weedman be released from the Lowcountry Presbytery to the Convocation of Anglicans in North America (Diocese of the East) in

accordance with BCO 38-3a.

M/C that we approve the call of TE Michael Walters as a tent making Assistant Pastor at Church Creek.

M/S/C that the following commission be approved to install TE Michael Walters as Assistant pastor of Church Creek Presbyterian Church, Charleston, SC on Sunday, May 15th at the church: RE David Walters, Sr. as convener; TE John Olson, TE Mark Turner; RE John Hildreth; and RE David Walters, Jr.

TE Jonathan Williams has received a call from Fairview Presbyterian Church in Fountain Inn, SC.

M/C that we dissolve the pastoral relation by mutual consent between TE Jonathan Williams and the session of Two Rivers Presbyterian Church, North Charleston pending his acceptance by Calvary Presbytery at their stated meeting on April 28th, 2016.

TE Ron Steel noted that at the July meeting the Shepherding Committee will present a survey of items for the Ministry Equipping Time at future presbytery meetings.

TE Ron Steel closed the report of the Shepherding & Church Vitality Committee in prayer.

Old Business

TE Sibley made a motion that we take motion on Overture on Confessing Generational Sins from the table. Motion adopted.

TE Sibley gave a brief presentation of the state of the Motion in the PCA.

Discussion ensued.

TE Phil Stogner moved that we substitute Overture 11 from Calvary Presbytery. Motion Seconded.

The Overture was read.

M/C to call the previous question.

TE Brown led the Presbytery in prayer.

The presbytery voted to make the substitute motion the main motion. Motion failed.

The moderator called for a vote on original motion: Motion adopted.

TE Jon Payne and TE Ross Hodges abstained.

Resolution of Thanks

TE Chris Bennett read the following motion from the Committee of Thanks:

Whereas, the Second Stated Meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery met at the Trinity Presbyterian Church of Orangeburg, S.C. and;

Whereas, the host pastor TE Sean Sawyers and the Session of the Trinity Presbyterian Church led us in worship, and;

Whereas our worship service was blessed by the preaching of God's Word by TE Sean Sawyers, and;

Whereas, we were encouraged and enriched by the faithful teaching of Dr. Douglas Kelly and;

Whereas; a wonderful lunch was provided to our Presbytery by the members of Trinity Presbyterian Church and;

Whereas, gracious hospitality was extended by the staff, officers, and members of the church throughout our meeting;

Therefore, let it be resolved, that Lowcountry Presbytery offers its sincere praise to our Lord and King Jesus Christ for His love evidenced in the Trinity Presbyterian Church and we humbly ask that His richest blessings of grace be granted to this body as they serve the Kingdom.

Respectfully Submitted, The Worship Committee -- Lowcountry Presbytery

M/S/C to approve this resolution of thanks and pass this on to the congregation of Trinity Presbyterian. Motion adopted by common consent of applause.

Review of
Session
Minutes

M/S/C that the Presbytery approve the 2015 minutes of the Two Rivers Presbyterian be Approved.

Adjournment

M/C that the first meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery be adjourned. TE Craig Bailey closed the meeting in prayer at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

TE Chris Bennett
Stated Clerk

RE David Walters, Jr.
Moderator

Approved:

Attachments:

1. Attendance Roster – Teaching Elders
2. Attendance Roster – Ruling Elders
3. Guest List for Second Stated Meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery
4. Stated Clerk’s Report
5. Financial Discussion Analysis
6. Committee Reports
7. Overture on Confessing Generational Sins from TE J.P. Sibley

Attachment #1:**Teaching Elder Attendance for April 26, 2016 Stated Meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery:**

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|----|
| Bailey, Crag | Redeemer Church, Charleston | P |
| Bennett, Christopher | HR, Charleston | P |
| Brown, Christopher | LOB, Chaplain, MUSC, Charleston | P |
| Clark, Danny | RUF, College of Charleston | |
| Cole, Howard | Metro North Church, Goose Creek | P |
| Donovan, David | Church Creek Church, Charleston | |
| Hodges, W. Ross | Christ Church Plant, Charleston | P |
| Joyner, Sam | Grace Coastal Church, Okatie | P |
| Konopa, Ben | HR, Eastbridge, Mt. Pleasant | |
| Mark, Alex | Beaufort Church Plant, Beaufort | P |
| McCutchen, William | Hilton Head Church, Hilton Head | P |
| Olson, John | Church Creek Church, Charleston | P |
| Patrick, John Mark | Trinity Church, Orangeburg | P |
| Payne, Jon | Christ Church Plant, Charleston | P |
| Pitzer, Tim | Hilton Head Church, Hilton Head | P |
| Sawyers, Sean | Trinity Church, Orangeburg | P |
| Schley, John | Metro North Church, Goose Creek | P |
| Schweitzer, Bill | MTW, England | ME |
| Shank, Andrew | Hilton Head Church, Hilton Head | P |
| Sibley, J.P. | Orangeburg Church Plant, Orangeburg | P |
| Steel, Ron | Eastbridge Church, Mt. Pleasant | P |
| Stogner, Phil | Two Rivers Church, North Charleston | P |
| Turner, Mark | Oakbrook Church, Summerville | P |
| Walters, Michael | Without Call, Charleston | P |
| Weedman, W. "Todd" | Without Call, Aiken | |
| Williams, Jonathan | Two Rivers Church, North Charleston | P |

Attachment #2:**Ruling Elder Attendance for April 26, 2016 Stated Meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery:**

| | | | |
|--------|-----------|---|------------------------------|
| Gerrit | Albert | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| Steve | Anthony | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| Nate | Arnold | | Metro North PCA |
| Dan | Avant | | Redeemer Presbyterian Church |
| John | Baker | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| Todd | Billmann | | Metro North PCA |
| Kurt | Brewer | | Redeemer Presbyterian Church |
| Barry | Brinson | P | Two Rivers Presbyterian |
| David | Brown | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| Trey | Bruce | | Two Rivers Presbyterian |
| Todd | Christian | | Redeemer Presbyterian Church |
| Terry | Clark | | Church Creek Presbyterian |
| Ken | Crovo | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| Larry | Decker | | Grace Coastal Church |
| Dean | Ezell | | Church Creek Presbyterian |
| Mark | Ford | | Trinity Presbyterian |
| John | Greaves | P | Grace Coastal Church |
| Steve | Hawley | | Trinity Presbyterian |
| Ron | Hemingway | | Eastbridge Presbyterian |

| | | | |
|----------|--------------|---|-------------------------------|
| John | Hildreth | | Two Rivers Presbyterian |
| Michael | Howell | | Grace Coastal Church |
| Chris | Jarvis | | Redeemer Presbyterian Church |
| Brian | Kath | | Metro North PCA |
| Matt | King | | Oakbrook Community Church PCA |
| Doug | Langhals | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| Ernie | Locklair | P | Church Creek Presbyterian |
| Richard | MacDonald | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| David | McGee | | Grace Coastal Church |
| Hunter | Montgomery | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| Jonathan | Mullen | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| John | Musselman | | Church Creek Presbyterian |
| Frank | Myers | | Trinity Presbyterian |
| Rick | Owens | | Eastbridge Presbyterian |
| Tony | Paladino | | Redeemer Presbyterian Church |
| Peter | Pfeil | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| Rob | Reichel | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| Andrew | Rein | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| Matt | Richardson | | Grace Coastal Church |
| Jim | Rowland | | Grace Coastal Church |
| Michael | Salley | | Trinity Presbyterian |
| Mike | Slay | | Grace Coastal Church |
| Bob | Swanson | | Metro North PCA |
| Eddy | Swanson | | Metro North PCA |
| Maury | Tepper | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| John | Thomas | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| George | Townes | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| Dan | Wall | | Oakbrook Community Church PCA |
| David | Walters, Jr. | P | Church Creek Presbyterian |
| David | Walters, Sr. | P | Church Creek Presbyterian |
| Jeff | Watford | P | Trinity Presbyterian |
| Woody | Watford | | Trinity Presbyterian |
| Ralph | Woodie | | Hilton Head Presbyterian |
| Rich | Wylly | | Eastbridge Presbyterian |

Church Delegate Summary Report:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Church Creek Presbyterian | TE & RE |
| Eastbridge Presbyterian | TE – No RE present |
| Grace Coastal Church | TE & RE |
| Hilton Head Presbyterian | TE – No RE present |
| Metro North PCA | TE & RE |
| Oakbrook Community Church | TE – No RE present |
| Redeemer Presbyterian Church | TE – No RE present |
| Trinity Presbyterian | TE & RE |
| Two Rivers Presbyterian | TE & RE |

Attachment #3:

Registered Guests for April 26, 2016 Stated Meeting of Lowcountry Presbytery:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Daniel P. Sibley RE Trinity | Frankie Bennett, Redeemer | Ron Woernle, First Scots BFT |
| Justin Parrish, Two Rivers | TE Doug Kelly, RTS Charlotte | Stephane Jeonrenow, RTS Charlotte |
| Laurie Sibley, New City Fellowship | Wendy Alsup, Trinity | TE Kevin Thumpston, Palmetto |
| Shea Patrick, Trinity | Christine Mims, Trinity | |

Attachment #4: Stated Clerk's Report

Stated Clerk's Report

26 April 2016

1) **Correspondence:**

- a. Forwarded an inquiry about an Edisto church plant to the CP&O Committee chairman.
- b. Worked with Monica Johnston of the PCA Administration Committee to get their database up-to-date for our Presbytery.
- c. Worked with TEs Mark Turner, Howard Cole, and Ron Steel regarding scam emails that were going around claiming to be from Howard Cole or Ron Steel.
- d. Received an email from TE Todd Weedman regarding his request for release to the Convocation of Anglicans in North America. I referred the email to TE Ron Steel of the S&CV Committee.
- e. Received emails from RE Dean Ezell and TE Ross Hodges regarding nominations for Committee of Commissioner positions.
- f. Informed Angela Nantz of PCA AC of our nomination of John Mark Patrick to the permanent committee of MTW.
- g. Received emails from TE Sean Sawyers and TE Alex Mark regarding a Ministry Equipping speaker for the April 26 meeting of Presbytery and forwarded the information to TE Ron Steel.
- h. Researched and provided electronic copies of other overtures before the 2016 GA regarding the matter of racial reconciliation to TE Ron Steel as per his request.
- i. Received and email from TE Jonathan Williams regarding his receiving a call to a church in Calvary Presbytery and forwarded that email to TE Ron Steel.
- j. Forwarded an email from TE Igou Hodges to the TEs of the Presbytery regarding the Palmetto Presbytery Health Plan.
- k. Received by email a link to the 2016 Tax Return Preparation Guide from PCA RBI and forwarded it to the TEs of the Presbytery.
- l. Communicated by email with TE Bill Schweitzer to verify that he wished to be a member of Lowcountry Presbytery.

- m. Sent a letter to Mrs. Jean Clark verifying that she is the Treasurer of Lowcountry Presbytery Women in Ministry so that she would be able to open a bank account for that ministry.
- n. Sent a letter of good standing for TE Sean Sawyers to the Stated Clerk of Southern New England Presbytery of the PCA.
- o. Participated in an email exchange with TE Jon Payne, TE Mark Turner, and TE Ron Steel regarding the procedure for the particularization of Christ Church Charleston.

2) **Administration:**

- a. Set up the following collective email addresses for the Presbytery
 - i. committeechairman@lowcountrypresbytery.org
 - ii. presbyters@lowcountrypresbytery.org
 - iii. rulingelders@lowcountrypresbytery.org
 - iv. sessionclerks@lowcountrypresbytery.org
 - v. teachingelders@lowcountrypresbytery.org
- b. Reviewed the Recording Clerk's draft minutes of the January 23, 2016 meeting of Presbytery and made editorial changes.
- c. Worked with TE Mark Turner on preparing a draft docket for the April 26 meeting.
- d. Created a map of South Carolina showing the boundaries of the PCA presbyteries represented in the state and sent it to the Recording Clerk and to Mrs. Frances Bennett (for use by Women in Ministry).

3) **General Assembly Nominations:** The Presbytery needs to vote on nominations of TEs and REs to serve a Committee of Commissioners at this year's General Assembly. The following nominations have been received to date. The stated deadline for submitting the names of approved nominees to the PCA AC is April 22. However, I have been told by a representative of the PCA AC that nominations can be submitted up to the date of General Assembly. Late nominations will not receive meeting materials prior to General Assembly.

| <u>Ruling Elder</u> | <u>Nominee</u> | <u>Teaching Elder</u> | <u>Nominee</u> |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Administration | | Covenant College | |
| Discipleship Ministries | | Mission to the World | TE Jon Payne |
| Covenant Theological Seminary | | PCA Retirement and Benefits, Inc. | |
| Interchurch Relations | | Ridge Haven | |
| Mission to North America | | Reformed University Ministries | |
| PCA Foundation | | Overtures | |
| Overtures | RE Dean Ezell | | |

4) **Recommendations:**

- a. Motion to approve the nomination of the following elders to serve on the designated Committee of Commissioners at the 2016 General Assembly of the PCA.
 - RE Dean Ezell Overtures Committee
 - TE Jon Payne Mission to the World
- b. Motion to appoint the Moderator and the Stated Clerk as a commission of Presbytery to act on any nominations received after this stated meeting of Presbytery for Committees

of Commissioners, Floor Clerks, and elders to help serve Communion at the 2016 General Assembly.

- 5) Those who wish to serve as Floor Clerks at this year’s General Assembly need to contact me by May 18 so that I can submit your name by the deadline. The floor clerks need to be available for the whole time of business up to adjournment.
- 6) Those who wish to serve as a Communion Elder at this year’s General Assembly need to contact me by May 18 so that I can submit your name by the deadline. The Communion Elders serve during the worship service on the Tuesday evening of General Assembly.
- 7) I am attempting to update the Presbytery database of contact information for teaching and ruling elders and keep it current. Please provide me with any changes in your home address, personal phone number, and email address. Thank you. I am lacking contact information for the following ruling elders:

| <u>Ruling Elder</u> | <u>Missing Information</u> | <u>Church</u> |
|---------------------|---|--------------------|
| Gerrit Albert | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| Steve Anthony | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| Nate Arnold | Home address, phone number, & email address | Metro North |
| John Baker | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| David Brown | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| Ken Crovo | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| Mark Ford | Home address, phone number, & email address | Trinity Orangeburg |
| Steve Hawley | Home address, phone number, & email address | Trinity Orangeburg |
| Doug Langhals | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| Richard MacDonald | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| Hunter Montgomery | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| Jonathan Mullen | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| Frank Myers | Home address, phone number, & email address | Trinity Orangeburg |
| Peter Pfeil | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| Rob Reichel | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| Andrew Rein | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| Dr. Michael Salley | Home address, phone number, & email address | Trinity Orangeburg |
| Maury Tepper | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| John Thomas | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| George Townes | Home address, phone number, & email address | Hilton Head |
| Jeff Watford | Home address, phone number, & email address | Trinity Orangeburg |
| Woody Watford | Home address, phone number, & email address | Trinity Orangeburg |
| Ralph Woodie | Email address | Hilton Head |

8) No requests for excused absence for this meeting have been received to date.

9) The official mailing address for the Presbytery is:
 Lowcountry Presbytery
 P.O. Box 31775
 Charleston, SC 29417-1775

Respectfully submitted,
 TE Chris Bennett
 Stated Clerk

Attachment #5: Financial Discussion Analysis

Financial Discussion Analysis

Lowcountry Presbytery PCA
P.O. Box 31775
Charleston, SC 29417-1775

Updated: 4/5/2016

Financial Discussion Analysis April 7, 2016

All information is through March 31, 2016 plus a check from a church that was written on March 20, but not received until April 6.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Year to Date Income</u> | |
| Member church contributions** | \$18,970.98 |
| Presbytery offering | \$355.00 |
| <u>Total Income</u> | <u>\$19,325.98</u> |

**This figure includes contributions from 7 churches and a \$4,000 gift from 2nd Presbyterian Church, Greenville, SC on behalf of Christ Church in Mt. Pleasant

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| <u>Year to Date Income by Committee</u> | |
| Administration Committee | \$2,635.36 |
| Campus Ministries Committee | \$8,235.49 |
| Church Planting & Outreach Committee | \$5,435.42 |
| Judicial Committee | \$0.00 |
| Leadership Development Committee | \$0.00 |
| Shepherding & Church Vitality Committee | \$164.71 |
| Designated Offering | \$355.00 |
| <u>Total</u> | <u>\$16,825.98</u> |

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| <u>Year to Date Expenditures</u> | |
| Administration Committee | \$1,454.89 |
| Campus Ministries Committee | \$3,895.00 |
| Church Planting & Outreach Committee | \$5,468.76 |
| Judicial Committee | \$0.00 |
| Leadership Development Committee | \$0.00 |
| Shepherding & Church Vitality Committee | \$0.00 |
| Designated Gift | \$355.00 |
| <u>Total</u> | <u>\$11,173.65</u> |

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Unrestricted Fund Balances</u> | |
| Administration Fund | \$13,248.47 |
| Campus Ministries Fund | \$4,340.49 |
| Church Planting & Outreach Fund | \$29,399.62 |
| Judicial Fund | \$0.00 |
| Leadership Development Fund | \$0.00 |
| Shepherding & Church Vitality Fund | \$164.71 |
| <u>Total Unrestricted Funds</u> | <u>\$47,153.29</u> |

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Loan Fund Balances</u> | |
| MNA Expansion (5:10) Fund | \$17,500.00 |
| Pastor Relief Fund | \$6,116.01 |
| Disaster Relief Fund (MNA) | \$432.88 |
| <u>Total Loan Funds</u> | <u>\$24,048.89</u> |

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Current Bank Balances</u> | |
| Checking | \$7,564.01 |
| Money Market | \$63,638.17 |
| <u>Total</u> | <u>\$71,202.18</u> |

Respectfully submitted,
TE Chris Bennett
Treasurer

Attachment #6: Committee Reports

Administration Committee

TE Mark Turner, Chairman, Oakbrook PCA, Summerville [mturner@oakbrookpca.org]

Important Information:

- The mailing address for Lowcountry Presbytery is P.O. Box 31775, Charleston, SC 29417-1775. The website address is www.lowcountrypresbytery.org
- Stated Clerk: TE Chris Bennett statedclerk@lowcountrypresbytery.org 843-202-0655
- Treasurer: TE Chris Bennett treasurer@lowcountrypresbytery.org 843-202-0655
- Recording Clerk: TE Mark Turner recordingclerk@lowcountrypresbytery.org 843-224-9337
- Moderator: RE David Walters, Jr. dwaltersjr@jonesford.com 843-296-8298
- Health Insurance is cooperatively provided among the 3 multiplied Presbyteries through the *Stewart and Monroe Health Insurance Agency*.
- You are reminded that if each local church will give to the Lowcountry Presbytery in 2016 the expected amount of at least 1% of its Tithes and Offerings then we should be able to meet our 2016 budget. This is especially important that each church participate financially so we can continue to support our Campus Ministers and plant churches!

Church Planting and Outreach Committee

TE Craig Bailey, Chairman, Redeemer PCA, Charleston [craig@redeemer-charleston.org].

They will give very brief verbal update. The committee has been working on policy, strategy and getting in touch with current church planters and potential church plants. They are continuing to meet with potential church planting groups. This committee also oversees MTW and wanted to remind presbyters that some scholarships are available for missions trips.

Campus Ministries Committee

TE Sam Joyner, Chairman, Grace Coastal PCA, Okatie [sam@gracecoastalchurch.com].

Phil Stogner will give a short report on the work at the Citadel.

Campus Ministry Reports:

RUF at College of Charleston Update: April 2016, TE Danny Clark

Points of Encouragement:

- We hope to have 20-25 students attend Summer Conference in May.
- 2 questioning/seeking students have already signed up to attend.
- The Freshmen Girls Small Group has grown throughout the year and has 12 regular attenders.
- 4 freshmen have begun reading the Bible on their own for the first time and 2 girls are going through Knowing God (Packer) with our female intern Annie Kate Barr.
- 2 sophomore girls have begun reading Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands and meeting with Annie Kate to discuss it.
- Our guys and girls sophomore small groups have nearly completed at 12 week study on the covenants and the student response (as light bulbs go on in their heads) has been remarkable.
- We added 5 new students to our leadership team this spring and will have 3 more joining us in the fall.
- We have been assigned an extremely gifted male intern named Philip Rohrer who will be arriving sometime this summer! We've truly been blessed with a "Dream Team" of interns for this upcoming year.

Areas for Prayer:

- Annie Kate Barr and The Clark Family each need \$5,000-\$10,000 of increased financial support to keep RUF going on CofC's campus this year.

- We are graduating a class of 16 seniors and they will be leaving a void of leadership and energy. Although they are probably our largest graduating class RUF@CofC has ever had, they are also the youngest in their faith. They need more than any other class, the blessing of finding good churches in their new communities as they disperse literally across the world.

RUF at USC Update, TE Sammy Rhodes:

- The Lord continues to sustain our ministry here at USC. We just got back from our spring break mission trip to San Francisco where we served alongside local ministries there. 16 of us in all made the trip. It was a really encouraging time both in terms of the ministry we got to be involved with, but also in terms of our group development. Spring break trips are great in terms of building community for our group.
- I've been teaching through Proverbs this semester, which sounds great but has been harder than I thought. Wisdom is such a crucial concept for our students and I'm praying the Lord will take an imperfect series and use it for some eternal good.
- I've been teaching through Proverbs this semester, which sounds great but has been harder than I thought. Wisdom is such a crucial concept for our students and I'm praying the Lord will take an imperfect series and use it for some eternal good.
- The Rhodes family is doing well too. Kids are winding down the school year. We feel like professional taxi drivers between all the ballet and flag football practices, but are enjoying this season. I also wrote a book called This Is Awkward which came out on March 1st with Thomas Nelson Publishers. It's been a roller coaster of emotions, but all in all, its been an encouraging process.
- Thank you for your love and support of our ministry. If you ever need someone to fill the pulpit while you are away I'd love to come serve in that way.

RCF at The Citadel,

- This spring we are learning to pray as we spend time in a Monday evening series on prayer. Rev. Phil Stogner has been leading this study on Monday evenings. Our primary text has been Matthew Ch 6. During our time we have not only learned about prayer, but spent the end of our large group time praying. For ongoing training and development each cadet received a copy of Paul Miller's "A Praying Life." We've already received great feedback on this book from our cadets who have requested additional copies to give to their friends.
- Prior to our large group meetings, every Monday, I have had the privilege of meeting with four of our seniors for Bible study. Together, we have read and discussed 1 Timothy and seen how the Gospel informs our character, life together as a body, and leadership in the Church. It has been a joy to grow and learn with these young men all of whom will be officers in the US Army and US Air Force.
- This February some of our group attended a retreat with Anderson University's RUF held at Second Presbyterian Church in Greenville, SC. Our cadets had a great time learning from the speaker who taught on God's rescuing grace from the book of Jonah. Our retreat was meaningful to our cadets in that they were able to form relationships with other college students, discuss God's word with one another, and have a much welcome break during the hardest month of their year.
- RCF is undergoing a change in leadership this Spring. In March I received and accepted a call from Fairview Presbyterian Church in Calvary Presbytery to be their pastor. I have transitioned out of RCF and am handing over leadership to Phil Stogner who will continue with RCF for at least the remainder of the academic year.
- Continue in prayer for the work of Reformed Campus Fellowship at the Citadel: (1) That God's word would continue to move powerfully through our cadets: that they would be encouraged in Christ and take Christ to those in their companies. (2) Pray that Monday nights would continue to be a Gospel centered safe environment for all who come. (3) Pray that the Lord would raise up volunteer

leaders from the our church community and new cadet leadership. (4) Pray that we would grow in grace and grow in number for the sake of the advancement of the Gospel at the Citadel.

- Rev. Jonathan R. Williams

Judicial Committee

TE David Donovan, Chairman, Church Creek PCA, Charleston [pastordavid@church-creek.org].

No Report. Let us pray that this committee remains without work.

Leadership Development Committee (LDT)

TE Sean Sawyers, Chairman, Trinity PCA, Orangeburg [pastorsawyers@gmail.com].

Information:

1. Unless there is a compelling reason, such as an examination, the LDT meets by email. Generally speaking, the LDT must have all written work THREE MONTHS before a presbytery meeting, and then all examinations will be TWO MONTHS before presbytery. Please see the attached schedule for specific dates.

2. The deadline for submitting any written work for the **June 11** LDT meeting is **May 23**.

3. It is our desire to be thorough gatekeepers for membership in our presbytery, while pastorally shepherding men through the credentials process. To that end we have written our guidelines for the various means of joining our presbytery as outlined in our BCO. These guidelines are to be freely distributed. In addition we have reworked or completely rewritten all of the various exams, and these will not be distributed.

4. Study guides are available for the various exams. Please email ldt@lowcountrypresbytery.org to receive copies.

Recommendations:

1. **Motion:** That per BCO 19-1 Lowcountry presbytery define preaching “on a regular basis” as any man preaching more than one Lord’s Day per month in the same church. (Lord’s Day rather than times in pulpit to allow preaching am/pm)

Presbyters are encouraged to carefully read and review the “Guidelines to the Credentials Process in the Lowcountry Presbytery” BEFORE this presbytery meeting. Any changes or suggestions should be submitted ASAP to TE Sean Sawyers, Chairman, Trinity PCA, Orangeburg [pastorsawyers@gmail.com]

2. **Motion:** That presbytery received the submitted “Guidelines” packet be adopted by presbytery.

3. **Motion:** That the Standing Rules of Lowcountry Presbytery be amended from Leadership Development Committee to Leadership Development Team to reflect our email address and usage in our team guidelines.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sean Sawyers

Shepherding and Church Vitality

TE Ron Steel, Chairman, Eastbridge PCA, Mt. Pleasant [ron.steel48@gmail.com].

Report:

As time permits, this Committee will lead the Presbytery in asking for ministry reports and prayer as appropriate.

William Todd Weedman:

Motion that TE William Todd Weedman be released from the Lowcountry Presbytery to the Convocation of Anglicans in North America (Diocese of the East).

CANA East is one of four missionary dioceses in the Convocation of Anglicans in North America. CANA is connected to the Anglican Communion through the Church of Nigeria. TE Weedman is being released to being under care of a bishop. In the Anglican world, Presbyters don't cease to be presbyters when they are outside of a parish setting. As long as he is under the Bishop's care, he is considered under a call. TE Weedman is currently working as a chaplain resident in a hospital setting, while earning credits in CPE (Continuing Professional Education) and he is developing a core group for an urban church plant.

Michael Walters:

Motion that we approve the call of TE Michael Walters as a tentmaking Assistant Pastor at Church Creek.

He will continue to work in the family business while discharging a variety of pastoral duties.

Jonathan Williams:

Motion that we dissolve the pastoral relation by mutual consent between TE Jonathan Williams and the session of Two Rivers Presbyterian Church, North Charleston pending his acceptance by Calvary Presbytery at their stated meeting on April 28th, 2016.

He has received a call from Fairview Presbyterian Church in Fountain Inn, SC.

Dr. Douglas Kelly will be speaking at the 04/26/16 meeting on theological training among African American Anglicans in the Charleston area.

Presentation of a survey to find out brothers' felt needs for ministry instruction and training for future presbytery meetings.

Respectfully submitted, TE Ron Steel, Eastbridge Presbyterian, Mount Pleasant

1. Attachment #7: Overture on Confessing Generational Sins from TE J.P. Sibley

1 OVERTURE 52 from Lowcountry Presbytery (to OC)
2 "Confession of Sin and Commitment to Racial and Ethnic Diversity,
3 Lowcountry Presbytery Version"
4
5 [Editorial Note: This overture is very similar to Overture 4 from Missouri Presbytery, but
6 follows the wording of the Providence Presbytery version on page 2, lines 4-6 and lines 24-26.]
7
8 Whereas, the 43rd General Assembly considered a personal resolution on Civil Rights
9 Remembrance and deferred action on it until the 44th General Assembly meeting in
10 Mobile, Alabama; and
11
12 Whereas, in the 1973 "Message to All the Churches," the founding generation of the
13 Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) expressly declared our denomination to be
14 the "continuing church" of the Presbyterian Church in the United States (PCUS),
15 saying, "We have called ourselves 'Continuing' Presbyterians because we seek to
16 continue the faith of the founding fathers of that Church"; and
17
18 Whereas, a "continuing church" inherits not only the faith of the predecessor organization,
19 but also the larger history of the Church from which it descends, whether that history
20 is honorable or dishonorable; and
21
22 Whereas, the members of the PCA are increasingly aware that during the Civil Rights
23 period, many of our founding denominational leaders and churches not only failed to
24 support, but also actively worked against racial reconciliation in both church and
25 society through sins of commission and omission, including: barring African
26 Americans from worship services; misusing and twisting the Bible to support racial
27 segregation; participating in and defending white supremacist organizations; and
28 failing to speak out against state-supported segregation and to support efforts to
29 secure access to basic human and civil rights; and
30
31 Whereas, the 30th General Assembly adopted a resolution on racial reconciliation that
32 confessed "covenantal, generational, heinous sins" connected with unbiblical forms
33 of servitude, but did not deal specifically with the covenantal, generational, heinous
34 sins committed during the much more recent Civil Rights period, which betrayed the
35 visible unity of all believers in Christ (Ephesians 2:11-22), the command to love our
36 neighbor as ourselves (Mark 12:31), and the image of God in all people (Genesis
37 1:27); and
38
39 Whereas, the 32nd General Assembly adopted a pastoral letter on "the Gospel and Race,"
40 but in doing so, adopted a statement that did not directly acknowledge our sins
41 against African Americans that many of our founding leaders and churches displayed
42 during the Civil Rights period; and
43
44 Whereas, our denomination's unwillingness to speak truthfully about our failure to seek
45 justice and to love mercy during the Civil Rights period significantly hinders

1 present-day efforts for reconciliation with our African-American brothers and sisters
2 and their participation in the PCA; and
3
4 **Whereas**, the General Assembly recognizes that sins of racial superiority, racial
5 indifference, racial stereotypes, racial biases, and racial injustice to other ethnic
6 groups are not simply past sins, but continue to be sins with which our churches and
7 congregants wrestle; and
8
9 **Whereas**, God has once more given the PCA a gracious opportunity to show the beauty,
10 grace, and power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through confession and through the
11 fruits of repentance: such as, clarity that racism is a sin requiring formative and
12 corrective discipline; growing into cultural intelligence regarding different cultures;
13 establishing interracial friendships and partnerships inside and outside our
14 denomination; renewing our church's commitment to develop minority leadership at
15 the congregational, presbytery, and denominational levels; and encouraging a
16 denomination-wide vision for and commitment to a more racially and ethnically
17 diverse church in the next twenty years;
18
19 **Be it therefore resolved**, that the 44th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in
20 America does recognize and confess our church's covenantal and generational
21 involvement in and complicity with racial injustice inside and outside of our
22 churches during the Civil Rights period; and
23
24 **Be it further resolved**, that this General Assembly also confesses our continued sins of
25 racial superiority, indifference, stereotypes, biases, injustice, and failure to love
26 brothers and sisters from different cultures in accordance with what the Gospel
27 requires; and
28
29 **Be it further resolved**, that this General Assembly recommits itself to bear fruit in keeping
30 with our repentance, seeking appropriate courses of action and reconciliation
31 humbly, sincerely, and expeditiously, for the glory of God and the furtherance of the
32 Gospel; and
33
34 **Be it finally resolved**, that the General Assembly urges the congregations and presbyteries
35 of the Presbyterian Church in America to study this action as well as the PCA
36 position paper on the Gospel and Race, to confess their own particular sins and
37 failures regarding racial injustice as may be appropriate, and to seek to bring forth
38 fruits of repentance for the Gospel's sake within their own local communities.
39
40 *Adopted by Lowcountry Presbytery at its stated meeting, April 26, 2016*
41 *Attested by /s/ TE Chris Bennett, stated clerk*