**Stated Session Meeting Minutes**

**August 22, 2021**

The Session met on Sunday, August 22, 2021 by Zoom and in person in the session room. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

**Elders Present:**  Caroline Culpepper, Mandy Hildebrand, Cynthia Honeycutt, Evelyn King, Bryant Kirkland, Rhonda Nichols, Adam Oakley, Bob Smith, Knox Tate, Shirley Thomason, and Phil Trick. Claude Davis was excused. Andi Banks and Jim Campbell were not present. Elder Ken Bates, Clerk of Session, was also present.

**Pastors:** Whit Malone and Heather Davis were both present.

**Opening Devotion and Prayer:**  Evelyn King, “Gratitude for All our Blessings”

**Matters for Discussion and Action:**

* The baptism of Avery Mazzoli was approved by common consent.
* Update from Mission Study Task Force – Dennis Stamper, Chairman of the Committee, reported on the progress and challenges we now face in our study. Our consulting group is gathering data from local government, Presbytery, and church staff, interviewing people In the community to discern their impression of our church, and looking to see who we are. The congregational conversational groups have been put on hold because of Covid but will meet at some point in the future. The full report will be available in mid-September.
* Recommendations regarding fall regathering (see attached letter from Whit dated August 24, 2021) were approved by common consent.

**Consent Agenda**

**Items requiring Session Approval:**

* Stated Session Minutes from July 18, 2021 were approved by common consent.

**Clerk’s Report**

**Births:** none

**Baptisms** **Administered**: none

**Deaths:** Barbara Hungerpiller, former member, died on August 14, 2021. Marian Adams died on August 21, 2021.

**Administration of Communion:** June 6, July 11, and August 1, 2021.

**Email business since the last stated meeting:** The transfer of membership for Maddie Taylor Milne to St. Mark’s Episcopal Church in Jacksonville, Florida was approved.

**Correspondence:** none

**Reports by Committee Liaisons:**

* Nominating: Bryant Kirkland reported that one more person is needed to serve in the Class of 2024. He also encouraged the session to submit names to him for members of the Pastor Nominating Committee. Seven members are needed to serve on that committee.
* Youth Council: A request was made for volunteers to serve as pen pals for the college students with contact at least three times a year.

**Staff Report:** Whit reported that at the September meeting the session would delve more deeply into the Holy Cow! Data.

**Next Meeting:** Sunday, September 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

**Devotion September:** Caroline Culpepper

**Closing Prayer:** Whit Malone, Pastor

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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Dr. J. Whit Malone, Moderator Dr. P. Ken Bates, Clerk of Session