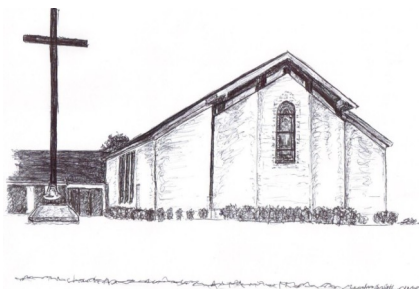


Presby News

APRIL 2016



FROM THE PASTOR . . .

Eugene Peterson, translator of The Message, says in his introduction to the book of Psalms that the two most basic cries of the human heart are: HELP and THANK YOU!

I think he is on target. So, I would like to write my first column as your new pastor by saying first of all THANK YOU! Thank you to the elders who set in motion the process which made it possible for me to be approved to be your stated supply pastor. Thank you for the many positive comments about my sermons. Without your statements of support, I doubt that the session would have moved forward to have me serve you in a more permanent capacity. Thank you for making it possible for me to have a place to use my talents and gifts the Lord has blessed me with.

My thanks are directed not only to you--but also to our wonderful God from whom all blessings flow! As I have shared with you before, my dear wife and I have been praying for years that He would open up some opportunity whereby I could help to meet our needs and at the same time fulfill His calling upon my life. We feel that at this time, First Presbyterian Church is an answer to our prayers. So we thank Him--and we thank you for being that answer!

Next, I would like to ask for your help. Please pray for me. Pray that as I prepare to preach Sunday by Sunday that the Holy Spirit will guide me. Pray that what I say will be Spirit-filled and helpful to those who are present.

Also, pray that God will give me wisdom as I visit with members of our congregation as well as others who may seek my help. Pray that I will always be sensitive to the Spirit of Truth and listen carefully as individuals share their concerns with me.

Pray, too, that the Lord will help all of us to develop a vision of what He wants us as the church, the body of Christ, to be and to do in our community and area. Pray that we will think positively and in terms of what we can do with His empowerment instead of thinking negatively and in terms of our limitations.

Please, remember to alert me or the church office if there is an illness or someone in the hospital or any concern you would like for me to know about.

Also, please help by giving me the name/names of anyone you would like for me to contact or visit. If you have any idea or suggestion about how to improve any aspect of our life or worship together here at First Presbyterian, help me by letting me know. I have every confidence that all of us who serve on the staff and the session want to do everything possible to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ here at First Presbyterian Church!

I'm glad to be here! THANKS! HELP!

Jim

The heavens declare
the glory of God,
and the skies above
proclaim the work
of His hands.

Psalms 19:1 (NIV)



SPECIAL DATES

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| April 3 | Brookdale Worship |
| April 18 | Session Meeting |
| April 19 | Healthworx Meal |
| April 28 | Spring Choir Concert |

*Wednesday Night Meals/Fellowship Suspended.
Choir Rehearsal Will Continue.*

Dr. Heath in office on Thursdays 10 am to 2 pm



Minutes of Stated Session Meeting
First Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, Louisiana
February 15, 2016

The Session met in the church library, 357 Windermere Boulevard, Alexandria, Louisiana. Jane Conerly called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and led in prayer.

Members Present: Bill Higgins, Jim Hockensmith, Jack Ready
Treasurer: Jim Smolenski, Absent
Elders Excused: Elizebette Kennedy
Guests Present: Jane Conerly, Moderator

A quorum was present.

Finance Report:

The financial statements for January, 2016, were distributed to the Session. The January, 2016 bank statements were reviewed and initialed by Session members.

Motion: That the Session approve the January, 2016 Financial Reports.

Moved: Jim Hockensmith
Seconded: Bill Higgins
Motion: Carried

Approval of Minutes:

The Session reviewed the minutes for the Stated Meeting of the Session for January 18, 2016.

Motion: That the Session approve the minutes for the Stated Meeting of the Session for January 18, 2016.

Moved: Jack Ready
Seconded: Jim Hockensmith
Motion: Carried

Clerk's Report: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND SESSION ACTIONS:

Congregational Life/Christian Education, Evangelism, Worship & Missions Committee Report: Jim Hockensmith

No Easter Sunrise Service will be held this year.
By common consent, approved increasing Aaron Rogers' salary from \$275 to \$300 per week.

Personnel Committee Report: None

Property Committee Report: Jack Ready

Jack Ready reported that some damage has been discovered on the wood surrounding two of the stained glass windows. One is on the rear of the building on the left end and the other is on the driveway side, front window. Paul Cantrell submitted a bid of \$3,525 with glass cover or \$3,325 with 1/4" plexiglass cover. The Session approved letting Paul Cantrell repair the window by common consent.

Pastor's/Moderator Report:

Motion: That Dr. James Heath continue to supply the pulpit through March, 2016.

Moved: Jim Hockensmith
Second: Bill Higgins
Motion: Carried

Old Business: None

New Business:

The Session will check with Ron Sutto about having an Elder officiate over Communion.

Adjournment:

Motion: That the Session Meeting be adjourned.

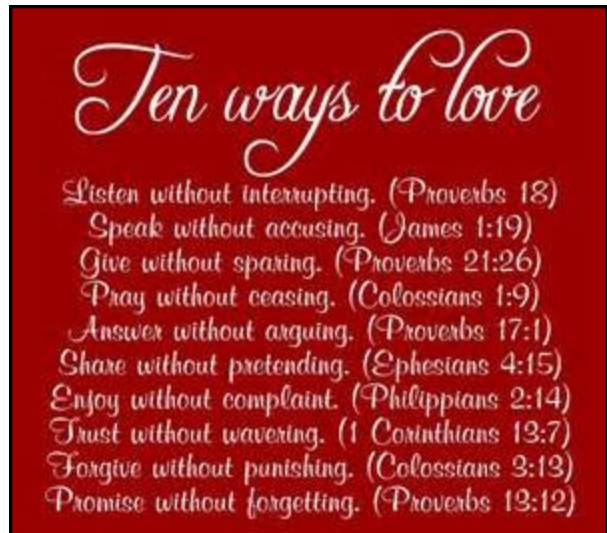
Moved: Jack Ready
Seconded: Jim Hockensmith
Motion: Carried

The Stated Meeting of the Session adjourned with a closing prayer by Jane Conerly. The next Stated Meeting of the Session will be 6:00 pm Monday, March 21, 2016.

Respectfully submitted:

Minutes taken by: Jack Ready

/cs



April Responders Schedule

	Usher Narthex	Monitor	Communion Servers
April 3	Vacancy Sulin Best (Oct-March) Helen McDaniel (March-Oct)	Jim Hockensmith	Elder Liturgist: Bill Higgins Communion Team: Wynn Ware, Elizebette Kennedy
April 10	Vacancy	Jim Hockensmith (for Dirk Benade)	
April 17	Bob Kennedy Elizebette Kennedy	Bill Higgins (May-Oct) Roger Best (Oct-May)	
April 24	Jim Hockensmith Vacancy	Jim Smolenski	



Anniversaries
and Birthdays

April 1 **Bill & Laverne Willson**
April 3 **Dirk & Annelize Benade**
April 4 **Dirk Benade**
April 11 **Ed & Barbara Ware**
April 15 **John Allen**
April 27 **Christopher Tyler**

FPC Spring



Choir Concert

April 28, 2016, 7:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church

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Alexandria, LA 71303 Fax: 318-443-5965

office@alexandriafpc.org

www.alexandriafpc.org

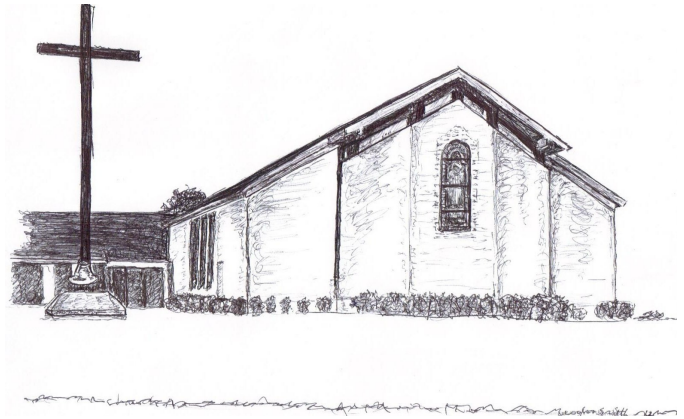
Jim Heath, *Stated Supply Pastor*

Aaron Rogers, *Choir Director*

DeAnna Brister, *Pianist*

Carolyn Sterne, *Secretary*

Charles Bell, *Sexton*



WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

(Meals & Committees/Fellowship Suspended)

- | | |
|------|---------------------------------|
| 5:45 | Meal |
| 6:30 | Fellowship/Committees |
| 7:00 | Choir Rehearsal (Will Continue) |

First Presbyterian Church

357 Windermere Blvd.

Alexandria, LA 71303

Come experience God's love at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday School—9:45 a.m., Worship—11:00 a.m.