

FOCUS

*Happy
New
Year!*

January 4, 2012
Issue #565
Editor: Janice Gray

First Presbyterian Church
1400 South Elm St.
Greenville, NC 27858
PH: (252) 758-1901
FAX: (252) 758-1365
www.fpcgreenville.org



WORSHIP SERVICES

Baptism of the Lord
January 8, 2012
8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary

Genesis 1:1-5
Acts 19:1-7

Rev. Bill Neely, preaching
***“If Baptism is not about Repentance,
What is it?”***

(Service broadcast live on WNCT—1070 AM radio starting at 11:00 a.m. and streamed live at www.1070WNCT.com.)

HELP NEEDED WITH UNGREENING

We need your help with removing all the Christmas decorations from the church and storing them for next year. If you are able to assist, please come to the church Saturday, January 7th, at 10:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Thank you for your generous giving to our Christmas offerings. Following are the totals:
Greenville Community Shelter Honor Cards - \$600
Christmas Eve Offering for Greenville Community Shelter and Angel Cops - \$16,012.28

CHILI COOK-OFF



First Presbyterian will be holding its third Chili Cook-Off on Wednesday night, January 11th, 6:00 p.m.

If you have a special chili recipe that you would like to prepare, please feel free to bring it. Or you can bring a dessert, salad, chips, crackers, cheese, etc. An award will go to the best chef. Can you out-cook Bill Neely, our winner two years running? We look forward to everyone coming and joining in the fun!

Please stay after the meal to hear a short presentation about the columbarium by Bill Lehman.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, January 22, 10:45 a.m., the annual meeting of the congregation and corporation of First Presbyterian Church will be held. In worships that day, the annual report for 2011 will be presented. We need digital pictures of Vacation Bible School, Christmas programs, mission trips, youth activities, Sunday School activities or any other mission or ministry of the church.

Email your photos **ASAP** to wil-liamkneely@embarqmail.com or place photos on a CD and put in Bill Neely's mailbox in the church office.

Our next issue of “FOCUS” will be printed Wednesday, January 18, 2012. Please submit all articles to fpcstaff@embarqmail.com by 9:00 a.m. Monday, January 16, 2012.

FPC GREENVILLE UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday January 8	Monday January 9	Tuesday January 10	Wednesday January 11	Thursday January 12	Friday January 13	Saturday January 14
<p>8:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)</p> <p>3:15 p.m. Youth Singers</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Youth Handbells</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Information Session About Bylaws</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Ministry Meetings</p> <p>8:00 p.m. Communications Council</p>	<p>11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting Circle 1</p> <p>12:00 noon AA (BFH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anon (R211)</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Circle 3</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Cypress Glen Cir</p> <p>12:00 noon AA (BFH)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Personnel</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Circle 6 (Peggy Barnes)</p> <p>7:15 p.m. Bell Choir</p>	<p>9:00 a.m. Quilters Group (R207)</p> <p>12:00 noon AA (BFH) Alanon (R211)</p> <p>Cypress Glen Lunch</p> <p>5:30 p.m. JAM</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Chili Cook-off Prayer Shawl Ministry Quilters Group</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (R216)</p> <p>8:00 p.m. AA (R202)</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. Bible Study (Parlor)</p> <p>12:00 noon AA (BFH)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. PCM Dinner (BFH)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anon (R211)</p> <p>8:00 p.m. AA (R224) Alanon (R207)</p>	<p>12:00 noon AA (BFH) Youth Winter Retreat</p>	<p>10:30 a.m. Overeaters Anon. (R211)</p>
Sunday January 15	Monday January 16	Tuesday January 17	Wednesday January 18	Thursday January 19	Friday January 20	Saturday January 21
<p>8:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)</p> <p>3:15 p.m. Youth Singers</p> <p>4:00 p.m. Youth Handbells</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Session Meets</p>	<p>Church office closed</p> <p>12:00 noon AA (BFH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts Cub Scouts</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anon (R211)</p>	<p>11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting</p> <p>12:00 noon AA (BFH)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. MOC Dinner (FH)</p> <p>7:15 p.m. Bell Choir (R213)</p>	<p>9:00 a.m. Quilters Group (R207)</p> <p>12:00 noon AA (BFH) Alanon (R211)</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Address Angels (R202)</p> <p>5:30 p.m. JAM</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry Quilters Group</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir (R216)</p> <p>8:00 p.m. AA (R202)</p>	<p>Age Venturers Trip</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Bible Study (Parlor)</p> <p>12:00 noon AA (BFH)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. PCM Dinner (BFH)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Overeaters Anon (R211)</p> <p>8:00 p.m. AA (R224) Alanon (R207)</p>	<p>12:00 noon AA (BFH)</p>	<p>Youth to Food Bank</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Overeaters Anon. (R211)</p>

OUR MEMBERSHIP CARES

Cypress Glen: Florence Holt ** C128, Sarah Allen, * C220, Ben Lattin *C214
*Assisted Living **Skilled Unit

Ayden Court: Nina Weston, Rm. 500, Mickie Ezelle, Rm. 103

Pitt County Memorial Hospital:

At Home: Jack Barnhill, David Eggers, Barney Kane, Dick Oates, Kathleen Randall, Liz Wilkerson

BIRTH



Congratulations to Lauren and Vinse Bowers on the birth of a daughter, Taylor Kathryn Bowers, born December 27, 2011. Grandparents are Pete and Annelle West. Greatgrandmother is Wilma Piner.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Circle Meetings for January:
Circle 1 meets Monday, January 9, 11:00 a.m. at the church.
Circle 3 meets Monday, January 9, 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mary Stoneham, 1311 North Overlook Drive.
Cypress Glen Circle meets Tuesday, January 10, 10:00 a.m. at Cypress Glen.
Circle 6 meets Tuesday, January 10, 7:00 p.m. at the home of Peggy Barnes, 111 Cardinal Drive.
CT Meeting will be Monday, January 23, 10:00 a.m.
All Presbyterian Women are invited to attend lunch at McAlister's Tuesday, January 24, 12:30 p.m.



First Presbyterian Church extends Christian sympathy to Vera Braswell and family in the death of her uncle, Carroll Brown, who died December 28.

MOC DINNER

The Men of the Church will meet for its monthly dinner January 17, 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Lisa Chappell will be the speaker and will talk about her trip to the Holy Land. Bill Farrior will be cooking. Sign up in the Welcome Center.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation classes will begin January 22. The class takes place during the Sunday School hour (9:45) in the Confirmation classroom downstairs. The class is open to all 8th grade students and older who wish to participate. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Carrie Finch, 758-1901 ext 205 or Rev.Carrie.Finch@gmail.com.

A Word from our Interim Director of Christian Education



Thanks to all of you who were so welcoming last Sunday. I enjoyed meeting many of you and I will work hard to remember your names, but please keep reminding me. My office is always open so come share a story, cup of coffee or a Christian Education idea. See you soon.

Kathleen Williams

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2	Madeleine Mizelle Jean Soranno Angela Vinson	9	William Brechtelsbauer Barbara Tyson Ted Werdal	19	Becky Horton Betty Thompson Kaylynn Wheelles	30	Rebekah Hefner
3	Roy Beck Ben Chappell Hampton Poplin	10	Makayla Kean Greg Steele	20	Cynthia Harvey	31	Tom Harvey Barbara Lanford Mary Helen Stasavich
4	Mark Hayes Alison Lehman Eric Mossman	11	Angie Goldie Meg Griffin	21	Jack Barnhill		
5	Janie Irons Katie Stanley	12	Erin Bartlett	22	Copeland Spell Judy Worley		
6	Jacob Beaver David Chappell Austin Goins	13	Marvin Jarman	24	Kristie Wooten		
7	Lauren Phillips Holli Williams	14	Ed Atkinson Emma Bornt Lake Williams	25	Susanna Lewis		
8	Aaron Asselmeier Jennifer Pabst Ennis Pearce, IV Jessie Smiley	15	Bill Finch Mark Phillips	26	Van Madray LuAnne Phillips		
		16	Randy Chitwood	27	Ryder Davis Bari Stasavich		
		17	Bill Russ	28	Cathy Taylor		
		18	Ron Denham Rebecca Warren	29	Christy Botros Mark Hasselbach James Young		



FLOWER CALENDAR

The 2012 flower calendar is now available if you would like to sign up to provide flowers for the sanctuary. The calendar is in the narthex just outside the sanctuary. If you provide flowers and you wish to keep them, please let the church office know or make a note on the calendar. Otherwise, circle members will divide the flowers and they will be taken to shut-ins. Thank you.

AGE VENTURERS RALEIGH TRIP

The Age Venturers are going to the art museum in Raleigh January 19 to view the Rembrandt exhibit. If you purchased a ticket, please be at the church no later than 8:00 a.m. We will ride the church bus and return around 4:00 p.m.

SACRED GARDEN & COLUMBARIUM

The Sacred Gardens and Columbarium at First Presbyterian Church will provide a place on the church property for spiritual renewal and the permanent preservation of the ashes of cremation for church members, their immediate family, and others deemed by the Session to meet the criteria. The garden also recognizes saints of the church by naming them on the memorial wall and path. The garden is set aside for those who hold their Christian faith dear and who have loved First Presbyterian Church through their lives. To walk in the garden is to walk encompassed by the saints.

If you are interested in memorializing someone or having your cremains placed in the garden, please contact the church office at 252-758-1901.

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

The First Presbyterian Church Form of Government Compliance Task Force was appointed by the Session last summer for the purpose of reviewing our church's compliance with the new Form of Government passed in 2011 by the Presbyterian Church (USA).

After a thorough review of our current by-laws called "*Bylaws of First Presbyterian Church, Inc. of Greenville, NC (Incorporated on December 1, 1986)*," the task force is bringing to our congregation a revised version of this document called "*Proposed by-laws of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, NC.*" Our congregation will have the opportunity to vote on and approve this document at our annual congregational meeting on January 22.

The revised document can be found inserted in this newsletter. Both current and revised documents can be found on our website at www.fpcgreenville.org. The current document will also be available in the church office. We encourage all members of the congregation to read these proposed by-laws and plan to vote on them on January 22 at 10:45 a.m.

Informational sessions will be available to members to ask questions and to learn more about the proposed changes. These will occur at the following times:

- January 8 at 6:30pm in Fellowship Hall prior to Ministry meetings
- January 15 at 9:45am in Fellowship Hall and 7:00pm at Session meeting in Fellowship Hall
- January 22 at 9:45am in Fellowship Hall

Please feel free to talk with any members of the task force at any time. Our members are Carrie Finch, Lynne Marks, Vernetta Dean, Peggy Wood, and Jack Barnhill. The church office can provide you with contact information.

SHELTER MEAL

On January 28 (youth) and 31, FPC will prepare and serve meals at Greenville Community Shelter. Contact Mickey Herrin mherrin@herrin-morano.com if you would like to help prepare or serve a future meal. Our church is responsible for the fourth Saturday and fifth Tuesday of each month.

NOTES FROM BILL WOOD



CHILDREN'S MUSIC ACTIVITIES will start next Wednesday, January 11 with an abbreviated schedule.

5:30 Pre-School Music

6:00 Chili Cook-Off Supper

6:30 - 7:00 Music for K - 5

JAM regular schedule and activities will start next week.

Schedule:

5:30 - Pre-School Music Activities

6:00 - Supper

6:20 - K-1 Music

2-5 activities

6:45 - 2-5 Music

K1 activities

Choir: Chancel Choir resumes Wednesday rehearsals next week, January 11th at 7:30 pm. New singers are encouraged to participate in this ministry of leading music for worship services. We sing selections from many eras and traditions including American and world folk music, spirituals, chants and traditional liturgical selections. In addition to organ, the choir may be accompanied by guitar, bells, percussion, flute, and sometimes just voices.

This group is open to high school ages through adult.

Bell Choir: FPC's Bell Choir will start Tuesday rehearsals again Jan. 10th at 7:15.

Youth Music note from Josh Allen: After a wonderful holiday season, the youth handbell and singing groups will resume regular meeting times beginning Sunday, January 8. Singers meet at 3:15 p.m., and handbells at 4:00 p.m. Any and all are welcome to join. Experience is not a requirement, it is something you gain. See you there!

“Share the Journey;
Grow in Faith”



YOUTH NEWS

Grace to you and peace to you this day and always!

Lo and behold we are in 2012! This year holds a lot of good opportunities for fellowship, service, and hopefully, spiritual growth. In January we have our annual ski retreat, we will feed the folks at the Greenville Shelter, and we will begin our new Confirmation class. Plus, we will have a scavenger hunt, Bible study and Lisa Chappell will tell us about her adventures in the Holy Land. Here's a look at the next few weeks in schedule form:

Sunday, Jan 8- Youth Group 5-7pm/ deadline to sign up for the ski retreat

Friday- Monday, Jan 13-16- Winter Ski Retreat at Banner Elk and Sugar Mtn.

Saturday, Jan 21- Food Bank, 9am-12pm

Sunday, Jan 22- Confirmation begins, 9:45am; Youth Group 5-7pm

Saturday, Jan 28- Evening Shelter Meal

Sunday, Jan 29- Confirmation, 9:45am; Youth Group 5-7pm SCAVENGER HUNT

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at (252) 702-0059 or e-mail me at Rev.Carrie.Finch@gmail.com and I will get back to you as soon as I can. Have a great week everyone!

Take good care- Carrie Finch (Associate Pastor of Youth and Congregational Care)

SUNDAY MORNING LEADERS

	January 8	January 15	January 22
Communion Servers 8:30 a.m.	Ward Bradshaw, Anita Britt	Kyle Braswell, Vera Braswell	Clay Britt, Anita Britt
Communion Servers 11:00 a.m.			
Sunday Fellowship	Betty Bailey		
Flowers – Sanctuary	Melissa Nasea		
Flowers – Welcome Center			
Flower Arranging	Circle One	Circle Three	Circle Six
Time for Young Disciples	Alisa Fraley	Kathleen Williams	Georganne Perry
Godly Play	Linda Kean	Ashley Hardee	Kathy Howard
Lay Reader 11:00 a.m.	Lynne Marks	Ed Scull	Charles Snow
Elder Assisting in Worship	John Ogle	John Ogle	Landon Allen
Invitation to Discipleship 8:30 a.m.	Gerald McGowan	Marcia Spears	Jack Barnhill
11:00 a.m.	William Griffin	Chip Little	Mark Pabst
Greeters			
8:30 a.m. Welcome Center Doors	Mike Metcalf	David Scull	Glen Fisher
8:30 a.m. Sanctuary	Shelley Basnight	Thelma McGowan	Wilma Piner
11:00 a.m. Welcome Center Doors	Dallas Taylor	David Webb	Derek Perry
11:00 a.m. Welcome Center Doors	Kay McLeod	Wendell Branch	Bill James
11:00 a.m. Sanctuary	Ann Taylor	Kathleen Randall	Georganne Perry

Communion Preparation Committee January - March 2012	Elaine Nagy, Cathy Taylor	
Communion Baker	Connie Bridgewater	
Sanctuary Guild - January	Pam Finch	
Sound Team: 8:30 a.m.	Ward Bradshaw / Joe Asselmeier / David	Shackelford
Sound Team: 11:00 a.m.	Clay Britt / Chris Riddle	
USHERS – 8:30 a.m. - January	USHERS – 11:00 a.m. - January	USHERS – 11:00 a.m. (cont.)
Joe Asselmeier (Captain)	Charles Price (Captain)	David and Cindy Webb
Judy Asselmeier (Co-Captain)	Griff Burgwyn	Mark or Mary Jon Pabst
Barrie Grady-Wood	Tyler Burgwyn	Jennifer/Jessica/Samantha Pabst
David Shackelford	George Bosch	William Griffin
	Greg Steele / Drew Steele	Bobby Hutchison

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Share the Journey, Grow in Faith

PASTOR'S WORD

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Epiphany comes from the Greek word, ἐπιφάνεια, *epiphaneia*, which derives from the verb "to appear". The church set January 6 as the day for celebrating God's appearance among us in the form of Jesus, the Nazarene. As we begin 2012, there is a keen awareness that if we are to be God's people in the world, it will take a special appearance of God in our midst.

Epiphany is also used to describe a sudden and unexpected revelation of some new thought or idea — a breaking-in to the present reality of something that is both new and life-changing. We enter 2012 longing for new evidence that God is still at work in our lives, our nation, and our world. One thing that I have learned is that those who are not looking seldom see and those who do not know what to look for seldom find. Jesus, in the revelation of John, says to the church at Laodicea, "Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in." Surely we are in need of having Christ reenter our lives so that we might be both comforted and transformed by his presence.

As we celebrate Epiphany, the breaking-in of the light of God in new ways into the world, may we indeed have an epiphany, a heightened awareness that God is with us.

Bill

**Proposed bylaws
First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, NC**

Revised January 2012

I. Mission Statement

The vision and mission of First Presbyterian Church, Greenville, NC come from the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ as reflected in the scriptures.

With God's grace:

We shall strengthen ourselves as God's people through worship, teaching, learning, and sharing the journey of faith.

We shall seek to show Christ's love by serving, individually and collectively, to meet the spiritual and physical needs of our brothers and sisters.

We shall accept the dynamic nature of the Christian faith and strive to grow in it.

Motto: Share the Journey; Grow in Faith

II. Relation to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The First Presbyterian Church is a member church of the Presbytery of New Hope in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

III. Governance of the Church

This church shall be governed in accordance with the *Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*. Consistent with that *Constitution*, these bylaws shall provide specific guidance for this church. The most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order newly revised* shall be used for parliamentary guidance. G-3.0105

The session is the council for the congregation. G-3.02. The session has stated meetings once a month typically on the third Sunday of the month.

IV. Meetings of the Congregation (G-1.05)

A. Annual and Special Meetings: (G-1.0501)

There shall be an annual meeting of the congregation in the church building in January. Special meetings may be called by the session. Such calls shall state clearly the purpose of such special meetings, and business shall be restricted to that which is specified in the call.

Business Proper to Congregational Meetings (G-1.0503): Business to be transacted at meetings of the congregation shall be limited to matters related to the following: electing ruling elders and trustees; calling a pastor or associate pastor; changing existing pastoral relationships, by such means of reviewing the adequacy of and approving changes to the terms of call of the pastor or pastors, or requesting, consenting to, or declining to consent to dissolution; buying, mortgaging, or selling real property; requesting the presbytery to grant an exemption as permitted in the Book of Order.

Consistent with the laws of North Carolina, both ecclesiastical and corporate business may be conducted at the same annual congregational meeting.

B. Quorum of the Meeting (G-1.0501)

The quorum of a meeting of the congregation shall be the moderator, the secretary, and 10% of the active membership. The moderator shall determine if a quorum is present. All active members of the congregation present at either annual or special meetings are entitled to vote. Voting by proxy is not allowed at congregational meetings.

C. Notice of Meetings (G-1.0502)

Public notice of the meetings shall be given in printed, electronic and/or verbal form for at least ten days prior to the meeting. When the meeting is called for the purpose of electing a pastor, the notice shall be given in printed and verbal form at least 10 days in advance.

D. Moderator (G-1.0504)

One of the pastors shall moderate the meetings. When the church is without a pastor, the moderator appointed by the presbytery shall preside. If it is impractical for the pastor or the moderator of the session appointed by the presbytery to preside, he or she shall invite, with the concurrence of the session, another teaching elder of the presbytery to preside. When this is not expedient, and when both the pastor and the moderator concur, a member of the session may be invited to preside.

E. Secretary and Minutes (G-1.0505)

The clerk of session shall serve as secretary. If the clerk is not present or is unable to serve, the congregation shall elect a secretary. The minutes of the meeting shall be recorded in the minute book of the session by the secretary of the meeting. The minutes shall be readily available in the church office and on the church website.

V. Incorporation and Trustees (G-4.01)

In accordance with the laws of the state of North Carolina, the congregation of First Presbyterian Church Greenville caused a corporation to be formed. Consistent with the laws of this state, both ecclesiastical and corporate business may be conducted at the same annual meeting of the congregation.

In the matter of corporate business, the pastor or moderator is not a member of the corporation. A member of the session shall be invited to moderate the meeting when corporate matters appear on the agenda.

In the matter of corporate business, consistent with the laws of the state of North Carolina, a quorum shall be 10% of the active members on corporate matters. The secretary will determine that a quorum is present. Consistent also with the laws of North Carolina, voting is restricted to active members age 18 or above. Voting by proxy is not allowed.

The congregation shall elect 3 trustees who shall serve as officers of the corporation. They shall be divided into three equal classes, one class of whom shall be elected for a three year term. No trustee shall serve for more than 2 consecutive terms or for 6 years in continuum. A trustee having served a total of six years shall be ineligible for reelection to the board of trustees for a period of at least one year. The pastor cannot serve as a member of the corporation.

VI. Nominating Committee (G-2.0401)

The congregation shall form a representative nominating committee which shall itself include both women and men, giving fair representation to persons of all age groups and of all racial ethnic members and persons with disabilities who are members of our congregation. The committee shall be comprised of nine members including:

1. Four members of the session designated by the session.
2. Five active members of the congregation, not persons currently serving on the session, nominated and elected annually at a congregational meeting. No member shall serve more than three years consecutively;
3. The pastor who shall be a member ex officio and without vote.
4. Once the committee is formed, it shall elect its own moderator from within the committee.

The nominating committee shall bring to the congregation nominations only for the number of positions to be filled. The floor shall be open for nominations at the congregational meeting called for this purpose.

VII. Ruling Elders & the Session (G-2.04 & G-3.02)

The congregation shall elect 30 ruling elders for a three year term, and 2 ruling elders that will serve a two year term on the session. The 2 two-year term elders are high school students elected to serve between their sophomore and senior years. Each class shall then elect 11 elders, 10 for a 3 year term and 1 for a 2 year term. No ruling elder may serve more than 2 consecutive terms or 6 years without taking a mandatory rest for at least one year.

The congregation should elect persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. When elected by the congregation, they shall serve faithfully as members of the session. (G-2.0301) After being elected, the person shall be prepared, examined and ordained into the office (G-2.0402). Once ordained and while they are active members of any congregation of this denomination, ruling elders continue to bear the responsibilities of the ministry to which they have been ordained in accordance with the Rules of Discipline (G-2.0404)

The session has the responsibility and power to: provide that the Word of God may be truly preached and heard; provide that the Sacraments may be rightly administered and received; and nurture the covenant community of disciples of Christ. (G3.02 a, b, c)

The session has stated meetings once a month (typically on the 3rd Sunday of the month). The moderator shall call a special meeting when he or she deems necessary or when requested in writing by any two members of the session. The business to be transacted at special meetings shall be limited to items specifically listed in the call for the meeting. A quorum for the session shall be the pastor or other presiding officer and one third of the elders. An exception to this quorum shall be for the reception or dismissal of church members. There shall be a minimum of four ruling elders and one teaching elder. The session consists of all active ruling elders and the pastor and associate pastors. Each member is allowed to vote and a teaching elder shall moderate the meeting. (G-3.0203)

VIII. The Clerk of Session, Minutes and Records

The session annually, at its last meeting in December or its first meeting in January, shall elect a ruling elder to serve as clerk of session (this person does not have to be an active ruling elder). The term shall last one year and the clerk of session may be re-elected to that term indefinitely.

The minutes of the meetings shall be recorded by the clerk in the minute book of the session and the minutes shall be readily available in the church office and on the church website. Each session shall maintain the following roll and registers: membership roll, registers and finances.

IX. Treasurer (G-3.0205)

The session annually, at its last meeting in December or its first meeting in January, shall elect a treasurer. The term shall last one year and the treasurer may be re-elected to that term indefinitely.

X. Dissolution of Relationship or Release from Ministry

Should an officer be unable to fulfill the duties of the office there are specific provisions and conditions in the Book of Order under which the exercise of office may be terminated.

1) A ruling elder may resign from the session for good cause. The letter should be directed to the session, and the session acts on the resignation. The perpetual nature of ordination would still be effective in accordance with the Book of Order. (G-2.0405)

2) A ruling elder may be released from the exercise of ordained office. There can be no inquiry against the officer, and no charges can have been filed, in order for the session to grant such release. Should the officer desire to be restored to office at a later date, that officer must make application to the session that granted such release. That session may then restore that officer to the exercise of ordained office without re-ordination. (G-2.0406)

Vacancies on the session may be filled at a special meeting of the congregation or at the annual meeting, as the session may determine.

XI. Amendments

These bylaws may be amended subject to the Articles of Incorporation, the laws of North Carolina and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) by a two-thirds vote of the voters present, providing that the proposed changes in printed and/or electronic form have been distributed at the same time as the call of the meeting at which the changes are voted upon.