

Stated Session Meeting

North Decatur Presbyterian Church

August 12, 2017

The Session of NDPC met for a stated meeting on **Saturday, August 12, 2017, at approximately 9:00 a.m.** in the Church Parlor.

Elders present: Charles Bonner, Ginny Bowen, Genia Cayce, Heid Gleason, Annie Godfrey, Mike Johnson, David Markham, Martha Osborne, Sallie Owens, Braden Sandifer, Kathryn Sandifer, Martha Shepherd, Bob Way, Holly Williams

Elders excused: Pam Joyce, Mary Nevil, Marion Reeves

Elders absent: Carol Tveit

Pastors and Staff present: Co-pastors David Lewicki and Beth Waltemath, Amanda Osenga

Guests: Penny Cannon, Clarke Hair, Carol Morgan, Cassandra Morrow

The meeting was called to order in the Church Parlor by the moderator, Rev. David Lewicki; a quorum was declared present by the Clerk and the agenda adopted as submitted.

Devotional: Mike Johnson led the Session in an opening devotional and prayer.

Approval of June Session Minutes: Minutes from the prior June Session meeting were approved unanimously.

Strategic Planning Discussion: The primary purpose of this Stated Session Meeting was to discuss action planning ideas and timelines for the new, updated NDPC strategic plan. David Markham, as chair of the planning committee, began the discussion by reminding the Session of the activities completed to date such as the congregational survey and series of listening sessions. He summarized the top four strategic objectives that are derived from those efforts (listed below) and Rev. David Lewicki reminded the group that our primary purpose for this meeting is to fill in the bulk of the plan.

With that introduction, Cassandra Morrow, with the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, provided an Impressions Report which includes demographic and opinion inclination information for the local community surrounding the Church. She then led a conversation about the planning process for the morning including instructions for breakout group activities. The Session then divided into four groups aligned with the four objectives below to discuss possible action items, timing, and budget implications from identified actions.

The preliminary strategic priorities discussed in the break out groups were:

1. Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.
2. Strengthen the management and support of persons in various ministries so that they are able to do what they do best in work that is meaningful and celebrated.
3. Strengthen the process by which members are called and equipped for ministry and leadership.
4. Work to renew and revitalize the community around the church by building coalitions with partners that share this vision and commitment.

(Note that the above are subject to change and further refinement.)

After this discussion, the breakout groups reconvened with the full Session to report out on their respective discussions. A robust dialogue ensued across all four areas and beyond, which will serve as input for the Strategic Planning Committee as they further refine and build out the plan for additional Session discussion at its next meeting in September. At that time the goal is to finalize and establish accountability and ownership for plan components, complete the action items and define timelines.

Presbytery of Greater Atlanta Meeting Volunteers: Martha Shepherd, Annie Godfrey, and Heidi Gleason previously volunteered to represent NDPC at the next Presbytery of Greater Atlanta meeting scheduled for August 19, from 9 - 12:45 at McDonough Presbyterian Church.

Upcoming Meetings:

The next Stated Session Meeting will be held on **Sunday, September 17, 2017, at 12:30 p.m. in the Church Parlor.**

After a closing prayer from Cassandra Morrow, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Johnson, Clerk of Session