

Gap Minutes
Oct 17, 2016 @ 7:00pm
Lowell

207 East 1st St., Lowell

Vision: Gaston Area Presbyterian Congregations working together to serve God

Mission: The mission is to support and facilitate the efforts of congregations in Gaston County in their work to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our hope in doing so is that we transform churches so that their members may find new life and new energy to respond to God's call and others will be attracted to them and their work.

Sue Johnson	Belmont	Jean Faires	Robinson
Marsha Ferrell	Cherryville First Presbyterian	John Pea	Robinson
Beth Bolin	Gastonia First Presbyterian	Jackson Mott	Southminster
Charles Davenport	Long Creek & Presbytery	Gayla Woody	Southminster
Sue Unnaschs	Long Creek	Eddie Deas	Third Street
Ken Unnaschs	Long Creek	Jeraline Truesdale	Third Street
Cora Slade	Love's Chapel	Charles Sellers	West Avenue
Joseph Taber	Lowell First Presbyterian	Sylvia Sellers	West Avenue
Donna Love	Mt Holly First Presbyterian	Paula Wallace	West Avenue
Libby Sigmon	Olney		

I. Welcome and Introductions:

Joseph Tabor, Minister at Lowell, welcomed everyone and gave a brief history of the Presbyterian Church of Lowell. Introductions were made. Reverend Tabor opened the meeting with prayer.

- Minutes: It was noted that Love's Chapel is celebrating 150 years not 100 years. Libby Sigmon made the motion to approve the minutes with the correction. The motion was approved.
- Comments from secretary: Gayla Woody reminded everyone to pick up handouts and to sign in for the attendance.

II. Presbytery News

- Charles Davenport reported that Billy Robinson will be recommended as the new Associate Presbyter at the next Presbytery meeting. Maria, the Guatemala Partnership Coordinator, is doing well and Presbytery staff will have a baby shower for her on Thursday.
- The next Presbytery meeting will be October 25 at Brevard Davidson River Presbyterian Church.
- The Hope Campaign is in the "mocking up" stages and you will hear more about it at the next Presbytery meeting. The mobile ambulance and some funds for Guatemala and Camp Grier have already been distributed.

III. Other reports and items

- Camp Grier promotion – Beth Bolin reported that after a presentation to First Presbyterian of Gastonia, it was suggested that GAP host an event to encourage participation. Two years ago there was an event such as this to encourage participation at First Gastonia. It was suggested that the event be held on a Sunday afternoon and that children/youth who had attended Camp Grier last summer be on the program. After some discussion it was agreed that GAP was interested in participating and we would like to have it at First Gastonia. It was suggested that First Gastonia would need to choose a date and January or February seemed to be the best time. Gap requested that Beth finalize more details with First Gastonia and bring them to the next meeting before final vote on the project. February 12 is Camp and Conference Sunday which might be a great date to do the Camp Grier promotion event. First Gastonia may have problems with that date so everyone is asked to discuss the project to see if some other location would be feasible. This will be discussed again at the November meeting.
- Operation Christmas Child – Jackson Mott reported that 50 volunteer slots have been reserved for GAP for Fri Dec 9 from 6-10pm. Jackson distributed a handout with details about how to register. Anyone interested should email Jackson. The deadline for registration is the Saturday after Thanksgiving. You must be 13 years old to participate and an adult is needed for every four youth between 13 and 18 years of age.
- Habitat Update – Sue Johnson reported the siding is finished up to the windows and the interior was complete for inspection. Insulation goes in tomorrow, inspections Wednesday, and drywall on Thursday. GAP will be able to go back to work on October 29. An updated schedule will be revised again because the date for interior doors installation will have to be rescheduled. The contractor resigned a couple of weeks ago so things have been a little chaotic. We will be back on schedule on October 29. There are additional volunteers available if a church does not have enough help. Sue just needs to be notified ahead of time. Ken Unnasch reported that some students from Belmont Abbey came last Saturday and all went well. The group was finished in the early afternoon. The Habitat family to receive the home is very hard working and a wonderful family.
- Guatemala – Beth Bolin reported that the November 6 event has been cancelled. The event will be rescheduled after Christmas closer to the date to recruit volunteers. If your church has not sent in your partnership and scholarship money, please do so as soon as possible because it is due.
- Several ministers from Guatemala and Taiwan visited for a pastor retreat at Presbytery on August 22-23. It was a very positive event.

IV. Announcements

- West Avenue is hosting ChristTrek on November 19-20. The first one was finished yesterday with 37 youth and it went great. Usually there will be 16 youth but since Robin Russell, DCE at Belmont, is director, all the Belmont youth were included. They went to the garden area at Webb Street School on Saturday afternoon and to Open Arms Ministry on Saturday night to participate in the nightly service and feeding. They attended worship at West Avenue on Sunday morning. They also went to a Haunted Trail Saturday night in Mt. Holly after the other activities. Lowell, Dallas and Union have scheduled to attend in November. GAP Youth is a great opportunity for smaller churches to participate in the connectional church. It is \$15 for the weekend and each church is responsible for providing chaperones for their youth. John Pea has a website on line. The Address is christtrekwncpresby.org
- Jackson reported that the Presbytery Mission Team in Columbia, SC is busy working and having a great time rehabbing houses.
- Eddie Deas reported that the 9th Annual Third Street Community Thanksgiving Meal is scheduled for November 24 from 11:30 – 2:00 pm at Third Street Presbyterian. No reservations are required and the meal is complimentary. The day before is very busy and volunteers are appreciated. The last day for contribution of nonperishable food items for the Thanksgiving meal is the Sunday prior. Please notify Eddie Deas at eddiedeas3@yahoo.com if you have perishable food items to contribute.
- Eddie Deas reported that “Caring for Others”, non-food pantry was started at Third Street in May. The next date is October 19 from 10:00 am – noon and is regularly scheduled the third Wednesday of each month. This includes items like laundry detergent, toilet paper, trash bags, etc., and personal care like shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, etc. Any contributions can also be brought at the same time. You can also send Eddie a text if you have contributions.
- Third Street Lunch and Learn is held the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30 am. The next speaker will be a police detective. Call 704-263-2551 to make reservations but the lunch is free.
- Robinson Bake Sale is this Saturday October 22 at 8:00 am and there will be fried apple pies made on site.

Next Meeting - Mt Holly First at 7pm - Monday, Nov 21, 2016.

Reverend Tabor adjourned the meeting and Libby Sigmon closed the meeting with prayer.

To: Church Administrative Assistants

RE: GAP Information for Church Bulletin or Newsletter



In an effort to keep churches aware of how they can become involved in a service project, please include the following information in your church communication at the appropriate time and as you have room to include. In order for GAP announcements to be easily recognized, please include the GAP logo. Suggested times to include the information are noted in red. Thanks!

Announcement for anytime in October/November:

Interested in volunteering where the Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child are assembled? 50 volunteer slots available with GAP for Fri Dec 9 from 6-10pm. Email fjacksonmott@gmail.com and Jackson will send you forms. Deadline for registration is Sat. Nov 26. Volunteers must be 13 years old and an adult is needed for every four youth between 13 and 18 years of age.

Announcement for anytime in November prior to 3rd Wednesday

“Caring for Others”, a non-food pantry held at Third Street from 10:00 am – noon on the third Wednesday of each month. Donation items needed include laundry detergent, toilet paper, trash bags, etc., and personal care like shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, etc. Drop any contributions at the church.