

Gap Minutes

Monday, Oct 16, 2017 @ 7:00pm

Location First Gastonia

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.

Attending were:

Sue Johnson	First Belmont	Bill Glover	Southminster
Beth Bolin	First Gastonia	Jackson Mott	Southminster
Lauren Vanacore	First Gastonia	Joanne Mitchell	Southminster
Henry Massey	Mt Holly	Charles Whitesides	Third Street
Janet DeWater	Mt Holly	Elizabeth Littlejohn	Third Street
Charles Davenport	Long Creek/Presbytery	Starla Littlejohn	Third Street
Ken Unnasch	Long Creek	Jan McAbee	Union
Libby Sigmon	Olney	Sue Lewis	Union
John Pea	Robinson	Paula Wallace	West Ave
Jean Faires	Robinson		

I. Welcome and Introductions:

- Lauren Vanacore, Associate Pastor of First Gastonia, called meeting to order with prayer at 7:02 pm. The minutes of the Sept 18, 2017 meeting were approved with motion by Jackson Mott and 2nd by Sue Lewis. Passed.

II. Presbytery News – Charles Davenport

- HOPE Campaign recognition – Beth Bolin
 - i. Beth passed out plaques in appreciation to the GAP churches who participated in the HOPE Campaign.
- Continue to pray for Eddie Deas who has pancreatic cancer
 - i. Presbytery is covering Eddie's duties thru end of year
- Fall Festival at Black Mountain Home was successful. Thanks to GAP members who participated.
- Presbytery meeting Oct 24 in Asheville.
- Over 80% of HOPE Campaign goal was raised. 57 churches participated out of 110. Monies already been used by recipients.

III. Other reports and items

- Habitat Update – Bill Glover & Sue Johnson
 - House is back on schedule. Windows are in. Siding this Saturday. Good homeowner. Good crowd of volunteers each week.
 - Gap needs to concentrate on fund raising next year. GAP will build a house next year, but recommend that each church have funds allocated in their budget for Habitat for 2018. House is being less labor intensive for volunteers & using more specialized contractors to build house.

- Carpenter's Ball – missed opportunity this year for GAP to advertise to our churches about this fund raiser. Sue Johnson indicated that Habitat was experiencing change in staff, which was due to lack of advertising.
- Charles Davenport commended First Gastonia for the seed money that they give each year to Habitat.
- Operation Christmas Child – Jackson Mott
 - 50 volunteer slots reserved for GAP for Fri Dec 1 from 7-10pm. Jackson needs a list of names & email addresses of anyone that wants to attend. Email him at fjacksonmott@gmail.com. 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.
 - To access Frequently Asked questions, select this link: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/frequently-asked-questions/>
- Malawi Support Opportunity – Jackson Mott
 - Maralise Potgieter from South Africa, has been a missionary in Malawi working in the prison ministry and with wives' of seminary students. Our Presbytery Mission Teams to Malawi have worked with her for a number of years. At 65, she has "aged out" of funds she received in the past. Presbytery is trying to raise \$6000 to support her during 2018. Please consider adding her to your 2018 budget.
- GAP – Past & Future
 - Please seek feedback from your Session about the future of GAP and bring to November meeting.
 - Suggestions from committee are attached with the minutes.
- Results of Pulpit Exchange on Sept 24
 - Comments from pastors present at the meeting were very favorable and pastors were well received.
- PDA Mission Trip Results – Joanne Mitchell
 - 12 people went to Kinston with 4 from Gaston County.
 - House had been flash flooded during 2016 as a result of Matthew
 - Team worked to hang sheetrock, muck, & sand.
 - Homeowners worked beside the team, a first for team members.
- Camp Grier Day – Lauren Vanacore
 - Camp Grier Staff willing to come to Gastonia and hold meeting with potential campers & their families.
 - Past few years meeting held at First Gastonia with limited participation.
 - Southminster is willing to host. January 21 could be a tentative date.

- Another suggestion would be transport a group to Camp Grier on Sat. May 5 or 12 Maybe use Lowell bus?
- John Pea asked did the event last year produce the intended results? At least one kid from West Ave enrolled.
- Decision tabled until next meeting. Please ask your Session & parents of children if there is interest in either suggestion.
- Christmas Ad in Gazette– John Pea
 - For past few years, GAP has purchased a quarter page ad in Gazette 3 times which would list each churches services during the Holiday Season.
 - Cost is split among participating churches, which makes this an economical way to advertise.
 - If churches want to participate in Gazette ad, need to know by November 20 meeting. If GAP representative will not be present, please email John Pea at jpsmail1@bellsouth.net.
- New Sign ordinance passed by city of Gastonia in January 2017. Churches that use banners & signs on their property should be aware of this ordinance. Only 1 banner allowed, even on private property. For more information go to <http://www.cityofgastonia.com/doing-business/planning.html> and select Temporary Sign Regulations on the right side.
- Guatemala Partnership – Beth Bolin reported that pledge is due now (before Nov 1) for Scholarship & book fee. Please ensure your church’s financial person is aware.

IV. Announcements

- 2018 NEXT Church National Gathering for information click link: [2018NextChurch](#)
- David Lytle (West Ave) had to have another emergency eye surgery (detached retina)
- John Frye (First Gastonia) to have hip replacement (out for 6 weeks)
- Be aware of people coming to your church asking for money. Do not give your bulletin which contains resource numbers of church staff or members. Direct people to Gateway Resource Connection at this link [GateWay](#) who are equipped to help.
- Robinson Sat. Nov 4 Bake Sale 8am until Free hot dogs available 11 – 1.
- Southminster Yard Sale Sat Nov 18 for hurricane relief. Pickup available by calling Bill Glover at 704-650-5892.

Next Meeting – Monday Nov 20 7pm - Long Creek – Charles Davenport, presiding

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm with prayer by Lauren Vanacore.

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 now until Nov 1

- Robinson Presbyterian Church is hosting a Bake Sale Sat. Nov 4 from 8am until everything is sold. Free hot dogs available from 11 till 1.

Announcement for now until Nov 16

- Southminster Presbyterian Church is having a Yard Sale Sat Nov 18 for hurricane relief. Pickup available by calling Bill Glover at 704-650-5892.

Announcement for now until Dec 10

- GAP Habitat schedule to finish this build.
We will need GAP volunteers from all churches each Saturday.
Work day starts at 8am and ends by early afternoon
Please come for the Habitat experience and the fellowship of the GAP volunteers.
Call Bill Glover at 704 650 5892 for more information.
 - 10/21 1st Siding day/Build shed - Long Creek - Lead Church - Southminster Host
 - Interior doors will be in place before the 10/28 work day- Volunteers needed
 - 10/28 Interior Trim/2nd siding day First Belmont - Lead Church and host
 - 11/4 1st paint day St Marks - Lead Church and host
 - 11/18 2nd paint day Lowell – Lead Church and host
 - 12/2 Hardware/shelving/mirrors/landscape Third Street – Host
 - 12/10 Dedication