

Stained Glass Gazette

First Presbyterian Church, Moultrie, GA

September 25, 2025

Report on Stated Session Meeting September 16, 2025

The session met on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, for a Stated Meeting at 5:15 in the Vereen Parlor. The following elders were present: Laura Hall, Melody Jenkins, Dan Jeter, Aileen McNair, Joan White, Laura Johnson, Marshall McCranie, and Brooks Sheldon. Kevin Blanton attended via ZOOM. Visitors present were Jim Soos, David Zeanah, Patty June, and Austin Pounds. Rev. Dr. Hugh Ward (the appointed moderator) called the meeting to order, and Laura Hall opened the meeting with prayer. The minutes of August 19, 2025, Stated Meeting and September 7, 2025, Called Meeting were approved as submitted. The following items of business and reports were presented, discussed, and acted upon as needed:

- Clerk Melody Jenkins noted the deaths of Frances Gay Beard and Frances Benson. They were not members but had been close to our church family.
- Michelle and Talmadge Williams have been added to the membership roll following action at the September 7th Called Meeting.
- Laura Johnson presented the financial report and the 2026 Preliminary Budget from the Finance Committee. The committee is investigating alternative funding if pledges do not meet expectations. The preliminary passed unanimously.
- Dan Jeter reported on activities of the Christian Service committee, including the card ministry, bereavement/grief classes, planning for vesper services, and support for one of the missionaries who is moving to the Netherlands from Türkiye. The Missions dinner netted \$4,000. Average worship attendance has been increasing since the start of the school year.
- Rev. Ward reported that he is continuing visitation and contact with members as needed or requested. He performed funerals for Frances Benson and Frances Beard. Joyce Laabs, Bob Norris, Jerry Vereen, and Betty Stallings are all facing health challenges and need prayer.
- New Business
 - Melody Jenkins reported on the Interim Pastor search. The committee has identified a candidate and will be hosting him and his wife for an interview in Moultrie by the end of September. The goal is to secure employment for an interim by January 1, 2026.
 - Rev. Ward requested to be away from the pulpit on Sunday, October 5th. Melody Jenkins asked David Carter, TRE from Valdosta, to preach that Sunday and officiate at Communion. She asked the Session to approve this action. A motion was made by Aileen McNair and seconded by Laura Hall to approve. The motion passed unanimously.
- Unfinished Business –Laura Johnson presented a report from the small group meeting committee outlining their proposed format and topics. Discussion centered on topics to be discussed, volunteers for facilitators and secretaries, reporting, and scheduling of meetings. The report was approved unanimously by the session. The committee will formulate a letter to be sent to the congregation explaining the process and encouraging them to register to attend a meeting. Final arrangements will be shared with the elders by email. A called meeting will be announced when plans are complete to train facilitators and secretaries.

The next Stated Meeting will be on October 21, 2025, at 5:15 PM. Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Rev. Ward.

Respectfully submitted,
Melody S. Jenkins, Clerk of Session

See inside for special congregational meetings scheduled in October.

Please sign up to attend a meeting most convenient for your schedule. The information from all meetings will be shared.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

501 First Street, S.E., Moultrie, Georgia 31768

Email us at firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com

Sunday Worship at 11 a.m.

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9-5 and Friday 9-4

To all who are weary and need rest, to all who mourn and need comfort, to all who are lonely and need friendship, to all who are glad and would serve others, to all who are complacent and need disturbing, to all who sin and need a Savior, this Church opens wide its door in the name of Christ, and bids you welcome.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, September 30 from 5 to 7 p.m.—small group training, only for elders on Session

Wednesday, October 1 NEED SOUP KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS (contact Rexanne at 229-891-1617)

Wednesday, October 1 at 4 p.m. PRAYER SHAWL (Vereen parlor)

Wednesday, October 1 at 5:30 p.m. WATCH SUPPER

Thursday, October 2 at 1 p.m. Card Playing

Sunday, October 5 at 8:30 a.m. MEN'S BREAKFAST at FMC

Sunday, October 5 at 2 p.m. RISE AGAINST HUNGER—at Valdosta's Trinity Presbyterian

SIGN UP FOR A MEETING TO DISCUSS THE CHURCH

We have scheduled eight (8) congregational meetings during the month of October to discuss current issues at our church.

The schedule is as follows:

1.	Thursday	October 2	1:00 – 2:30 PM
2.	Sunday	October 5	2:00 – 4:30 PM
3.	Tuesday	October 7	12:00 – 1:30 PM
4.	Tuesday	October 7	6:00 – 7:30 PM
5.	Tuesday	October 21	3:00 – 4:30 PM
6.	Wednesday	October 22	2:00 – 3:30 PM
7.	Thursday	October 23	9:30 – 11:00 AM
8.	Saturday	October 25	9:00 – 10:30 AM
Alt 1	Wednesday	October 22	10:00 – 11:30 AM
Alt 2	Thursday	October 23	1:00 – 2:30 PM

There will be a maximum of 20 slots for each meeting and the sign-up sheets will be in a notebook in the Fellowship Hall or you can call or email the church office to ask them to sign you up at your preferred time. Each meeting will last a maximum of 1 ½ hours.

Following these meetings, the information gathered will be summarized and circulated back out to the congregation. At that point, we will call a congregational meeting to have a formal vote from the membership on whether or not to enter into discernment.

MUSIC

IN MOULTRIE

THIS SATURDAY!

JOIN US FOR FOOD, LIVE MUSIC, GAMES & A SERVICE PROJECT!

Bring your favorite side or dessert or donate to our love offering toward the cost of the food.

Bring your old T-shirts & linens to help us make no-sew throws for our friends at the animal shelter. Pet food also appreciated.

Team up with others and test your trivia skills or play some poker!

Saturday, September 27th from 12-3 pm

First Presbyterian Church, 501 1st St SE, Moultrie, GA 31768

MFPC TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR THE MONTH: AUGUST 2025

	ACTUAL \$	BUDGET \$	VARIANCE \$
Income	27,262	39,938	-12,676
Expenses	55,945	47,854	8,091
Net	-28,683	-7,916	-20,767

YTD: JAN-AUG 2025

	ACTUAL \$	BUDGET \$	VARIANCE \$
	331,291	319,508	11,783
	387,521	387,915	-394
	-56,230	-68,407	12,177



Spot the Scots

To add some levity to preparations for *Scottish & Family Heritage Sunday on Reformation Sunday, October 26*, our Scottish mascots will be hidden in various locations throughout the church campus every Sunday. If you "Spot the Scot," return it to Austin's office along with your name and the location where you found it. Winners will be announced each week and prizes will be award during the covered dish lunch following worship on October 26.



Presbyterian Points of Pride



Jackson Lasseter, Wyatt Lasseter, and Sadie-Laurel Cato have helped the Middle School Cross Country team have an exciting season! On September 20th, both the boys and girls teams got 1st place in the Ram Run Invitational, and Sadie-Laurel received a medal for placing 5th overall for the girls. (Pictured at left.)

Ford Bates and his 11U farm team won the gold bracket championship baseball tournament in Thomasville on September 20th. **Walt Bates** and the 8U team won the Silver Bracket Championship! Both teams went undefeated for the day. This was Walt's second tournament and second win! (The Bates family pictured at right.)



Trey Davis and his travel baseball team, DSKA Elite 11U, went 4-0 on September 13th to win the Gold Bracket Championship in Valdosta, GA! (Pictured at right with his family).



Jackson Lasseter and his 14U Pines baseball team won the gold championship in Dublin, GA on September 21st. (Pictured at left with his team.)

Frances Bius, CCHS senior, was recently named a Big Future Ambassador by the College Board. She was recognized for this accomplishment on the scoreboard at the homecoming game! (Pictured at right)

Sadie-Laurel Cato was recognized as the Williams Middle School Star Student at the School Board meeting on September 22nd.



Moultrie First Presbyterian is blessed to have many talented and accomplished individuals in our church family! The Spiritual Growth Committee would like to recognize children, youth, and adults for all of their academic or professional accomplishments/awards, sports participation/achievements, performance/visual arts activities, etc. Our goal is to share opportunities to support and celebrate these individuals! Please email or text Katie Cato with any points of pride.

(katiercato@gmail.com or 706-202-0145)

First Presbyterian Church

501 First Street SE

Moultrie, Georgia 31768

229-985-3158

Email: firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com

www.moultriefirstpres.com

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W.A.T.C.H. SUPPER

Wednesday Nights at the Church

JOIN US WEDNESDAY AT 5:30 P.M.

MENU: Wednesday, October 1

Regular/Children: Baked Parmesan Chicken & Alfredo Noodles, Garlic Bread, Buttery Niblet Corn, Sweet Peas, Salad Bar

Diet: Baked Chicken, Steamed Vegetables, Salad Bar

Dessert: Banana Pudding, Cookies & Ice Cream

MENU: Wednesday, October 8

Everyone: Taco Bar

Dessert: Fruit Tray, Strawberry Cake, Cookies, Ice Cream

NO WATCH SUPPER ON OCT. 15!!

RESERVATIONS

Remember to let Penny know if you need to change or cancel your reservation.

229-985-3158 or firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com