



*the*  
***Visionary***  
 CHURCH GOVERNMENT

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# The Nomination, Training, & Election of Elders & Deacons

Pastor Carl Robbins

At WRPC, our process for choosing church officers is very careful, even painstaking. So that you might have a sense of what happens before a man can serve in these offices, below is a timeline and description of the process.

First, during the month of December 2017, the congregation was invited to nominate men who are eligible for office.

Then, Pastor Robbins meets with all nominees and their wives on Wednesday, January 10 at 7:30 PM (after the prayer meeting) to distribute copies of *The Westminster Confession of Faith* and *Book of Church Order*. All nominees must carefully read and mark these constitutional documents. Also distributed is a questionnaire asking personal details about the nominee's Lord's Day practice, pornography, tithing, confessional exceptions, personal piety, and much more.

For many weeks after (also on Wednesday nights) the Pastors and Elders will lead training sessions on The Constitutional Documents:

- ◆ The Devotional Life of the Elder/Deacon
- ◆ Covenant Theology
- ◆ Peacemaking for Leaders
- ◆ Calvinism
- ◆ Presbyterian Ecclesiology: The Local Church
- ◆ Presbyterian Ecclesiology: The Higher Courts
- ◆ Church Discipline
- ◆ Collegiality
- ◆ The Practical Realities of Serving as an Officer at WRPC
- ◆ Presbyterian Worship
- ◆ Baptism

- ◆ The Lord's Supper
- ◆ Shepherding the Flock
- ◆ A Unified Philosophy of Ministry

Then, on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, all nominees for Elder and Deacon will meet with the Session to be examined. After the slate of nominees has been approved, notice will be given (for a month: from mid-May until mid-June) for a Congregational Meeting. During this waiting period, biographies of each Candidate will be published and available.

On Sunday, June 17, 2018, a Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following the morning worship service to elect new elders and deacons. All communing members of WRPC may vote in this election if they are physically present. (Our *Book of Church Order* does not allow for absentee ballots.) Results of the Office Election will be announced during that evening's service.

The process ends on Sunday, June 24, 2018 with the Ordination & Installation of Elders & Deacons in the evening worship service.

If you have any questions about our process, please email me at [pastor@woodruffroad.com](mailto:pastor@woodruffroad.com).

Your servant in Christ,

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Pastor Carl Robbins  
[pastor@woodruffroad.com](mailto:pastor@woodruffroad.com)



# CALL FOR A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## When

Sunday, January 21, 2018 immediately following the morning Worship Service

## Why

To vote on changing the call of both Pastor Scotty Anderson and Pastor Dan Dodds from Assistant Pastor to Associate Pastor

## Rationale

Changing their calls to Associate Pastors would mean they have been elected by the Congregation (aka “more Presbyterian”) and they would have a voice/vote on the Session. There would be no change in the duties or compensation of either Pastor Anderson or Pastor Dodds.

*If you have questions, please speak to Pastor Robbins or Elder Fredric Marcinak (Clerk of Session).*

## WRPC INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY



WRPC holds morning and evening worship services 52 weeks a year, regardless of weather conditions. However, please use your judgment to determine whether or not you can safely navigate the roads during inclement weather.

Also, keep in mind that if you are unable to attend either service, you can watch online via the WRPC website. Simply go to [www.woodruffroad.com](http://www.woodruffroad.com) and click on the **WEBCAST** tab at the top of the page. The Sunday bulletin is also available on the homepage of the website. Just look for the  tab on the right side of the home page.

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# What Deacons Do

Pastor Dan Dodds

The offices of elder and deacon are the two offices God ordained for the governing of the church. These two offices are described in Scripture, each having a particular role in the life of the church. The elders are primarily concerned with the spiritual life of the church, the teaching and preaching as well as the personal piety of the members (see Pastor Anderson's article). The deacons, on the other hand, are tasked with oversight of the physical needs of the church, whether it is in the physical plant (the church building) or the physical needs of the members.

The office of deacon originated in Acts 6:1-7 when disunity erupted in the church body – certain Hellenistic Jewish widows were not being treated fairly in the food distribution. So, the apostles, not wanting to neglect or dilute their calling to minister to the body spiritually, allowed the church to pick out some men to carry out the task of overseeing the distribution of food. Thus, the Diaconate was formed.

Following are some of the specific roles of the deacons:

**The Church Building:** The deacons make sure that the church building is well maintained. This is no small task when you consider all the activity that takes place. Their work is both reactive (fixing things that are broken and keeping the facility clean and safe) and proactive (anticipating forthcoming maintenance needs). Of course, it is not just the building itself but all the tables, chairs, computers, and electronic equipment that need regular attention. If you are particularly skilled in construction, maintenance, electricity, plumbing, painting, etc., please let the deacons know, as they often rely on church members for assistance in their work.

**Finances and Reporting:** The deacons also oversee the finances of the church. Yearly, the deacons prepare a budget and present it to the

elders and together these two groups work out a plan for the next year. The deacons also oversee the collection of the tithes and offerings of the people – the deposits, disbursements, bookkeeping, and reporting. Encouraging the members to give liberally is another function of the diaconate, though never through manipulation, guilt trips, or fundraisers. If you are trained and skilled in computers or finances, please tell the deacons; perhaps there is a way you can help.

**Worship:** Each Sunday morning and night (as well as for weddings, funerals, and other special occasions) the deacons oversee the ushers of the church who assist in welcoming visitors, handing out bulletins, providing security at our entrances, and taking up the offering. The deacons make sure the temperature is agreeable (to most of the congregation!) and that someone is running the sound board and camera. Wednesday night dinner collections and oversight of the kitchen are also under their purview.

**Members' Needs:** As members of the WRPC congregation have physical or financial needs, the deacons are there to lend a hand; there is a deacons' fund for such occasions. Each situation is carefully considered and scripturally evaluated. We recently had a workday organized by the deacons where deacons and members went to other members' homes to assist them with basic chores or routine maintenance. These workdays occur once or twice a year; keep your ears open for announcements about future opportunities.

**Other:** Finally (though not exhaustively) the deacons will assist those outside the congregation of WRPC. Numerous times we have had visitors come to our doors in need. The deacons are ready to meet with them and to provide help, discriminately. Though the deacons' role is

primarily with physical needs, there is predictably an overlap of spiritual and physical issues that always needs to be considered and our men are careful to do so; needs are not met apart from counseling and a plan for oversight and accountability.

Let me say personally, that I cannot be more thankful for the deacons that God has called to serve at WRPC. He has blessed us with a group of men who abound with integrity, skills, and a love for the people of this church. Please pray for our deacons - they have a lot on their plates all the time; and if you can provide them assistance, please let them know!

Pastor Dan Dodds  
dan@woodruffroad.com



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## *Preparing for the Worship of God*

*You must have a fertile heart Sunday morning. Sunday morning is the time when you should especially be with the Lord in a quiet time before coming to church.*

**Spend time alone with the Lord Sunday morning before coming to church (Psalm 5:3).**

*“Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless.*

*Likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.”*

1 TIMOTHY 3:8-13

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# What Elders Do

Pastor Scotty Anderson

Throughout the New Testament (and, for that matter, the Old Testament) we have both, directions and indications, of an office of elder in the church. Although the word has a connotation of age, it's much clearer that it is an office of men selected from those who are gifted, competent, and respectable. But what then are these men to be doing? The Scriptures make that clear as well.

The name alone tells you plenty. The "elder" historically denoted the men who made religious, social, and leadership decisions for their communities (Gen 50:7; Ex 3:16-18). They possessed the superiority of age which chiefly meant wisdom and so together they guided their communities both in daily affairs and in strategic decisions. The other name for the office of elder in the church is "bishop" or, more literally, from the Greek, "overseer" (1 Tim 3:2). That, in and of itself, makes it clear what elders are to be doing. He is also called a "shepherd" (1 Pet 5:1-5; Eph 4:11) after the model of our Savior (John 10:14). That name is also instructive because in ancient times the shepherd carried two implements: a staff for guiding the sheep and a club for protecting against wild animals that would hurt the sheep. As you pour over the New Testament scriptures you find important details that fill out what in particular the elder of the church does. Consider the duties the Scriptures highlight for elders:

In the first place, elders are **workers**. The expectation is they are not mere figureheads but are active and even busy men involved in the affairs of the church (1 Tim 3:1; 1 Thess 5:13). They keep church members **accountable**. Hebrews 13:17 says they will give an account for the people they watch over. They are also **rulers**, making policy for the church (1 Tim 5:17; Heb 13:17; Acts 15), determining the boundaries of fellowship and means for advancing the Gospel

and the Kingdom. They provide **judgment** on important matters (Acts 15:6) which is seen in particular as they exercise the keys of the kingdom (Matt 16:19, 18:18) when they examine a testimony of saving faith for communing membership or when they are compelled to act in cases of church discipline. They are also responsible in their office to **teach** the word to members (Eph 4:11; 1 Tim 3:2; Titus 1:9) whether as a pastor or Sunday school teacher or, more particular, in home visits or as a counselor. His office also demands he set a godly **example** for the church (1 Pet 5:3) in his own daily life, his relationships, his family, and even his very own worship. He provides regular **care** and sometimes triage for those he shepherds (1 Tim 3:5; Heb 13:17) by considering their spiritual well-being and intervening when needed. He will **pray** regularly for those in his care and offer special joint prayer for those in particular trials (James 5:14). He will **exhort** with God's word so as to encourage faithfulness (Rom 12:8) and when necessary, **admonish** with the word of God (Acts 20:31). He will act as a guard to protect his sheep (Acts 20:28-31; Heb 13:17) as any good shepherd would (John 10:11-15). And many times his work will include serving the larger church (Acts 15) by coming together with elders from other local churches and other regions to act in concert for the larger body of Christ and the greater good of the Kingdom.

You will see your elders working: When you pass by the parlor on Sunday nights, you will find them examining, comforting, or praying for members; when they stand in the pulpit on Sundays, you will hear them thoughtfully pray on behalf of the congregation or proclaiming the word of God; when they visit your home or come to you in the hospital, you will hear them give a word of comfort and prayer for your family;

when you look at the church calendar, you will understand their foresight and intentionality as they plan ministry, worship, teaching, and fellowship for your benefit; when you have a question about how the church works and you pick up a *Book of Church Order* or *WRPC's Policies, Procedures, and Organization Manual*, you'll understand that they have been exercising their wisdom on how all things can be done decently and in order; when they come and find you on a Sunday morning, you will know that they care about your work, your health, your family, and, most importantly, your immortal soul. You will watch them arrive early and stay late for Lord's Day worship, morning and evening, as they make their own regular sacrifices to God. And many times, you won't see them at all, but you can know this: Christ's church weighs heavy on their hearts, as does your soul. So remember the reminder from Hebrews 13:17,

*"Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you."*

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Pastor Scotty Anderson  
scotty@woodruffroad.com



*"The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed:  
Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away."*

1 PETER 5:1-4

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# What They're Reading

Reading recommendations from the pastoral staff

## Pastor Robbins

American evangelicals may be unaware that an earthquake of seismic proportions is happening now and the ground is shifting beneath their feet! The center of world Christianity is shifting away from places like Dallas and Edinburgh and shifting to Manila and Nairobi. Need proof? Last Sunday:

- ◆ More evangelicals worshiped in China than did so in all the nations of Europe combined
- ◆ More Presbyterians worshiped in Ghana than in Scotland
- ◆ The largest congregations in England and France were black congregations made up of African immigrants
- ◆ 15,000 missionaries from Africa and Asia were busy evangelizing communities in Great Britain!

In his carefully researched book, *The New Shape of World Christianity: How American Experience Reflects Global Faith*, Mark Noll carefully documents how the church developed in the United States over the last 300 years and how the church in The Majority World (an important term!) is developing very differently. Noll analyzes how differently the church in the 3<sup>rd</sup> World is taking shape since it is usually desperately poor and the ministers uneducated. This book should be read as a sequel to Philip Jenkins monumental work *The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity*.

Many Baby Boomers (my generation) are faced with tough decisions in the care of their parents. A new and helpful guide has just been released: *Departing in Peace: Biblical Decision Making at the End of Life* by Bill Davis. Dr. Davis addresses all kinds of ethical issues from advance directives, to

finances and many more. He does all this while saturating the whole process in scripture and Reformed Theology. If you have elderly parents OR you ARE elderly, you need to carefully read this book.

## Pastor Dodds

*The Confession of Brother Haluin*, Ellis Peters. Book 15 in the Cadfael Chronicles, this fun read is about a monk from the 1100's who solves mysteries.

*Amazing Grace: William Wilberforce and the Heroic Campaign to End Slavery*, Eric Metaxas. The "Men @ the Gates" just finished this fascinating read about the life of William Wilberforce. I highly recommend it.

*Time for the Talk*, Steve Zollos. Just what it says, the author suggests having this talk with your kids around the ages of 10-12.

In anticipation of my J-Term class on Fear, Anxiety, and Worry, I also read the following: *When I Am Afraid*, Edward Welch; *Anxiety Attacked*, John MacArthur Jr; *The Fear Factor*, Wayne and Joshua Mack; and *Trusting God*, Jerry Bridges.

## Pastor Anderson

It's been a while, and I may be forgetting some of what I've read of late, but first: *Holiness* by J.C. Ryle. It never gets old, never stops convicting. Second, and the most fun, another Eric Metaxas biography. Pastor Dodds' men's group has been reading *Amazing Grace*, a biography of William Wilberforce. But I've been reading Metaxas' latest, *Martin Luther: The Man Who Rediscovered God and Changed the World*. It has wonderful insights into Luther's origins, work, and relationships. He keeps it earthy (as Luther would have appreciated) and doesn't pull punches where Luther was off base. My seminary

history professor (Dr. James McGoldrick) was quite the Luther scholar and this comports with his teaching while adding the Metaxas flare. It might shatter a few of the images we have of momentous events (were his 95 Theses pinned on the castle church door at Wittenberg or did a church custodian “paste it” on two weeks later?) but it’s not at all iconoclastic (unless you’re Roman Catholic - you won’t feel good about this one at all).

If you’re feeling guilty about a good year in the stock market or don’t have a good apologetic for dealing with hippies who say the Bible teaches communism, try *Money, Greed, and God: Why Capitalism Is the Solution and Not the Problem* by Jay Richards. He gives enough autobiography to understand this is a man who wrestled deeply with the issues, and wisdom drove him to his view. Very profitable.

Most forgettable and ‘un-recommended’ among my latest books (recommended by an acquaintance) was what I discovered to be, at times, a very crass look at public downfalls. Jon Ronson’s *So You've Been Publicly Shamed* is written in a style called gonzo journalism (Ronson un-objectively includes himself in his own reporting). I was hoping it would more systematically deal with its topic; it seemed to start but degenerated. In large it was stories about how unconverted people attempt to deal with guilt and shame when the culture has piled on. It was a good reminder of how graceless the world is and reason to be thankful for the doctrine of repentance.

***Practical tip:***

*Where do you get the finest books for the best price? At the WRPC Library, or on the web at [www.heritagebooks.org](http://www.heritagebooks.org)*

# *New Members & Baptists*



**Halle Joy Perkins**

*Sacrament of Baptism*

November 5, 2017

Covenant child of

Brad & Shelly Perkins

**Julia, Sydney & Natalie Witbeck**

*Membership Vows*

November 19, 2017



# *tyed, Covenant Children*

## **Brad & Shelly Perkins**

*Membership Vows*

November 5, 2017

With children

Addie, Carlie, Gabriel & Halle



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# Child Protection Policy

Pastor Scotty Anderson

The protection of children is something that every Christian should be concerned about. It's among the most basic and natural of moral imperatives to protect the weak, innocent, and vulnerable and takes no convincing of your average church member. What does take convincing is forming the right kind of culture to foster that protection. Surprisingly, some of the characteristics that make churches such enjoyable places to be are also those which can make them most dangerous. Welcoming all comers, volunteerism, second chances, not being overly critical or too nose-y, and believing the best, are common characteristics of most churches and most church members. That's the kind of polite society people enjoy. But unfortunately, that is also the reason that far too frequently, good churches, with good ministries, which are good places to be, find themselves having allowed terrible things to take place on their watch.

When churches don't get to know people before placing them in positions of responsibility, when they don't ask hard questions, check public records, and give reasonable accountability, those churches contribute to a dangerous environment for their members, visitors, and especially for children. To avoid that, WRPC has implemented a child protection policy using industry standards in conjunction with wisdom suited to our local implementation. The aim of the WRPC child protection policy is to give practical direction to our efforts to protect children while they are among us. We're committed to providing childcare, Christian education, and opportunities for fellowship and service which point both, our church's children and our guests, toward Christ while taking all reasonable measures to keep them safe and protected from harm or abuse. As we state in our policy, we recognize children as "a precious stewardship

and a blessing" (Gen 33:5; Ps 127:3-5) who enjoy the Lord's special favor (Matt 18:10). Therefore our duty is to "care for, educate, nurture, and protect them in the church as a means of bringing them to salvation." We know that few things could be more detrimental to that effort than allowing them to be a victim of abuse. So, to that end, the Session's policy can be found in the *Policy, Procedure, and Organization Manual* which was adopted in 2015. The policy has directions and procedures for ensuring our children and workers are in position to be protected both from harm and unnecessary accusations. To simplify, we can boil it down to seven simple elements that guide the actions of all child and youth workers as well as the church leadership as a whole:

- 1) **No children unattended** - Elementary age children must be supervised at all times on church property and with WRPC ministry functions. If you discover unattended children bring them to an appropriately supervised location.
- 2) **Two adult rule** - Two responsible adults (one over the age of 21, one over 16) must be present in every area with children present. Make yourself visible and accountable in emergency situations.
- 3) **No physical discipline** - Child workers may never use physical discipline on a child in their care. Always notify a parent when a child's behavior is unrestrained.
- 4) **Visibility and accountability** - All child care and children's ministry programs must be observable by others at all times. That means view panels will not be

covered and when necessary doors will be opened.

- 5) **Protect from all forms of harm** - Sexual abuse can be physical, verbal, and visual, and can come from adults, teenagers, or other children. No forms are acceptable.
- 6) **Confrontation and reporting** - If you see something, say something. Report to a ministry leader if something doesn't seem right. The leadership will sort it out.
- 7) **Full Cooperation** - We will give full cooperation to law enforcement or government agencies related to injury, abuse, or molestation of a child in connection with activities at WRPC.

Our desire and confidence is that if we are mindful and cooperative with these standards of conduct, we will greatly bless our children in their Christian nurture, give confidence to those who entrust their children to us for brief periods of time, and prevent the vast majority of situations that could be harmful to children.

*“This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.”*

1 TIMOTHY 3:1-13

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# Let the Redeemed of the Lord, Say So! (Psalm 107:2)

A personal testimony from Dee Garrett

I was born December 15, 1936 in Iowa during a cold, snowy blizzard and was raised on a rural farm with my two older brothers. My mother was a Christian, but I am not sure about my father's faith. Mother would take my brothers and me to a little country Methodist church of about 50 believers. As a little girl, I remember the ringing of the old church bell before the service knowing this was a sacred time. At the age of thirteen, I accepted Lord Jesus as my Savior. I clearly remember that day when the church members shook my hand and welcomed me into God's Kingdom. The little book the church handed me that day with the date of my profession of faith is still very dear to me.

I graduated from high school in 1955 with a total of eighteen in my class. After graduating, I went to work for JC Penny. One of my co-workers was a wonderful Christian woman who, I did not know at the time, would become my future mother-in-law. Skip (my husband) was on furlough from the Marines, and we met when he came to take his mother out for lunch. Through a courtship of letters, our relationship developed and in August 1959 we were married by Skip's grandfather who was a Methodist minister. God blessed us with two wonderful daughters and later with three precious grandchildren.

Skip was in retail management which often required us to move for job opportunities. I have lived in eight states. After several moves and job disappointments, I became discouraged - life seemed hard and difficult. Skip's brother encouraged us to move to Greenville, South Carolina to work with him and put the girls in Bob Jones University. Believing in Deuteronomy 31:8, "*It is the Lord who goes before you; do not fear or be dismayed*", we took a leap of faith and moved to Greenville and enrolled the girls in school. God led us to Mitchell Road Presbyterian



which became our family church. It was there that our family grew in God's love, word, and biblical teachings. I began to realize how I needed to trust more in God's promises, read His Word every day, and thank Him for His many blessings, His grace and His forgiveness.

The girls graduated from college and got married. God opened the door for Skip and me to move to Atlanta, and we lived there for almost 10 years. Shortly after retirement, we started seeing health changes in Skip. The diagnosis was Alzheimer's. After prayerful consideration, we made the decision to move back to Greenville. Skip had Alzheimer's for almost 10 years. Through God's grace and strength, I cared for him in our home until his last four days. We were blessed with 53 years together.

After Skip's passing, I felt lonely, sad, and empty. I knew I needed to hear God's word, and I also needed to move to a church closer to where

I lived. One Sunday morning, I got the courage and walked through the doors of WRPC. As I was leaving the service, I was warmly greeted by Bill and Luanne Teague, Betty and Leonard Reece, and Lynda and Maurice Speakman, old friends from Mitchell Road. I felt that I had found my new church home. I had found peace, and I knew at that moment this is where God wanted me to be.

The Lord has blessed my life, and I give him all the glory.

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## *Preparing for the Worship of God*

*You cannot prepare adequately just before worship if you are late in arriving. At Woodruff Road Presbyterian Church we start our worship service at 9:30 AM, so if you are parking the car at that time you'll miss the beginning of worship.*

**Plan to be in your seat, preparing your heart and mind, at least five minutes before the worship starts.**

*“My grace is  
sufficient for you for  
my power is made  
perfect in weakness.  
Therefore, I will boast  
all the more gladly  
about my weaknesses,  
that Christ’s power  
may rest on me.”*

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9

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# Pulpit Planner for January-February 2018

## AM Sermons

- Jan 7** Pastor Robbins continues the verse-by-verse study of 2 Timothy by examining Chapter 3, "Wise for Salvation"
- Jan 14** 2 Timothy 3:16-4:5 is one of the most important texts in the Bible, both for our Doctrine of Scripture and our view of preaching. Pastor Robbins seeks to make this clear with "The Profitability of Scripture & the Solemnity of Preaching It"
- Jan 21** "Persevering to the End" is the focus of Pastor Robbins' sermon on 2 Timothy 4
- Jan 28** Pastor Robbins expounds 2 Timothy 4, "Bring the Books"
- Feb 4** 2 Timothy 4 is in view as Pastor Robbins preaches "The Believer Forsaken by Men, but Preserved by God"
- Feb 11** Pastor Robbins' final sermon in this series looks at 2 Timothy 4, "The Communion of Saints to the Very End." We will celebrate The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
- Feb 18** Pastor Anderson expounds and applies Ecclesiastes 7, "Moderation in Everything"
- Feb 25** Spring Bible Conference, Dr. Liam Goligher, Pastor of Tenth Pres. Church, Philadelphia, PA

## PM Sermons

- Jan 7** Pastor Robbins continues an examination of the Book of Judges by looking at Chapter 3, "Othniel the First Judge"
- Jan 14** "Ehud and Eglon" will be the focus of Pastor Robbins' exposition of Judges 3. We will celebrate The Sacrament of Holy Communion
- Jan 21** Judges 3 is the text for Pastor Robbins' sermon, "Shamgar the Judge"
- Jan 28** Pastor Robbins expounds Judges 4, focusing on "Strong Women"
- Feb 4** Judges 5 is in view as Pastor Robbins preaches "The Song of Deborah & Barak"
- Feb 11** "The Call of Gideon" is the subject of Pastor Robbins' sermon on Judges 6
- Feb 18** Pastoral Intern Tony Rogers will be preaching John 1:1-3, "The Eternal Word"
- Feb 25** Dr. Liam Goligher will be concluding our Bible Conference

# WRPC MEN'S MINISTRY 2018

## ONGOING

**Men at the Gates:** meets weekly to discuss books. Meetings are held on Tuesdays at 6:30 AM in the church library or Thursdays at 12:15 PM at IHOP (Woodruff Rd and I-385). We have been meeting for 12 years and read two to four books each year. We will begin 2018 with a book by Jerry Bridges entitled *Trusting God*. This is a must-read book – you will benefit from it and will find that others in your life will benefit from it as well.

**Men's Prayer:** meets on Fridays at 6:30 AM in the church office

## FATHER/SON CONFERENCE AT RIDGE HAVEN

This is for all men and their sons (you don't need a son to attend). Our speaker this year will be Paul Sanders (a dynamic speaker). Mark your calendars for February 9-11. We will arrive on Friday night and return Sunday afternoon – worship Sunday AM will be at Ridge Haven.

## SERVICE

**Ridge Haven:** We are booked to go to Ridge Haven on May 2-5 to build another cabin. Please plan accordingly. We will provide more information on this as the date approaches.

## FELLOWSHIP

**Camping:** On October 12-13 we will host a father/son campout at Lake Hartwell. We have reserved the whole peninsula for our group for tent camping. There are also RV sites for those who would like to camp near electricity.

**Meat and Greet:** Men's gathering and dinner from 6-8 PM on October 18<sup>th</sup> – details to follow.

## OTHER

**Committee Members:** If you would like to be on the Men's Committee please see Dan Dodds. Help is always appreciated.

*Please put these dates on your calendar. If you have questions, contact Dan Dodds.*

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# Minutes and Actions of the Session

C.F. Marcinak, Clerk of Session

## Administration

Received regular reports from the Treasurer on church finances. The Lord continues to bless WRPC with revenues in excess of budgeted amounts and expenses below budgeted amounts.

Affirmed the call to ministry of Zack Groff and Justin Salinas and endorsed them to presbytery as candidates for the ministry. Endorsed Justin Salinas as a tuition waiver student at Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Approved calling a congregational meeting on January 21, 2018 for the purpose of considering calling TE Dodds and TE Anderson as associate pastors and approved terms of call for presentation to the congregation.

Approved a new policy allowing organ and piano instruction by church staff musicians subject to certain provisions.

Approved amendments to existing policies on administration, worship, and Catekids.

Approved development of a master plan for the WRPC site as part of long range planning.

Approved payment of additional principal on the current promissory note when the note is refinanced at year end.

## Christian Education

Approved Judith Campbell as a substitute teacher for junior high girls' class.

## Membership

Received Mr. and Mrs. Brad Perkins as communing members by profession of faith along with non-communing children Addie, Carlie, Gabriel, and Halle.

Received Mr. and Mrs. Ron Hoyle and children Emily and Jacob as communing members by letter of transfer from Second Indianapolis RP Church along with non-communing child Lucas.

Received Miss Julia Witbeck, Miss Sydney Witbeck, and Miss Natalie Witbeck as communing members by profession of faith.

## Missions

Approved providing support to Matthew Patrick, RUF pastor at Wofford.

## Presbytery and General Assembly

Received a report on business conducted at the fall meeting of Calvary Presbytery.

Elected RE Marcinak, RE Scott, and RE Dickerson as commissioners to the 46<sup>th</sup> PCA General Assembly in 2018. TE Robbins, TE Dodds, TE Anderson, and TE Kona will attend as commissioners as well.

Recommended to Calvary Presbytery that a multi-church diaconate be formed to coordinate large scale benevolence projects. DE Zettler agreed to lead the effort.

## Shepherding Matters

Suspended a member from the sacraments based on contumacy.

Continued to shepherd the flock and to visit and pray for the sick.

# Treasurer's Report

WRPC uses a fiscal year for budgeting purposes that runs April through March. Our budgeted revenues and expenses for 2017/2018 are \$1,200,947. Our current total cash on hand is \$467,000 (four months of operating expenses) and our renovation loan balance is \$642,000.

If you have any questions about our finances, please contact Eddie Roberts or Will Zettler.

Below is the financial report through November 2017.

WOODRUFF ROAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH					
November 2017					
Accounts	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Budget Remaining	Fav / Unfav	Total Year Budget
<b>Total Revenues</b>	\$ 971,354	\$ 800,000	\$ (171,354)	Fav	\$ 1,200,000
Total PERSONNEL	\$ 396,995	\$ 400,024	\$ 3,029	Fav	\$ 600,037
Total IN HOUSE MINISTRIES	\$ 31,433	\$ 47,223	\$ 15,790	Fav	\$ 70,835
Total FACILITY AND OPERATIONS	\$ 197,596	\$ 184,933	\$ (12,663)	Unfav	\$ 277,400
Total MISSIONS	\$ 160,549	\$ 168,658	\$ 8,110	Fav	\$ 252,675
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$ 786,574	\$ 800,839	\$ 14,265	Fav	\$ 1,200,947
<b>Net Total</b>	\$ 184,780	\$ (839)	\$ (185,619)	Fav	\$ (947)

The deacons have several ongoing and upcoming building projects and are always open to designated giving. Some of these projects and needed items are listed below:

- ◆ Professional mulch for playground
- ◆ New paint throughout all hallways (JUST COMPLETED!)
- ◆ All lights being upgraded to LED
- ◆ Security cameras being upgraded to HD

If you are looking to serve and want to find a place to plug-in and help with our facilities, please ask a deacon and we can get you involved.

Eddie Roberts  
Treasurer

*“Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, ‘It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.’”*

## ACTS 6:1-4



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You can reach us at 2519 Woodruff Road, Simpsonville, SC 29681

Phone: (864) 297-5257 | Email: [office@woodruffroad.com](mailto:office@woodruffroad.com)

and our website address is [www.woodruffroad.com](http://www.woodruffroad.com).

The radio program *The Presbyterian Pulpit* airs at 9:00 AM every Sunday on 106.3 FM and 1330 or 950 AM.