



**Culpeper Baptist Church
Business Meeting Minutes
6:30 p.m. ~ March 26, 2025 ~ IG Space**

1. The moderator, Karen Parkinson, called the meeting to order and asked the deacon chairman, Denise Smith, to lead in prayer.
2. The minutes and statistical information were approved as printed.
3. The clerk inadvertently omitted a special missions report from the deacons by Beverly Sturm, and that report is attached to these minutes (see Page 2). The remainder of the Committee reports may be viewed on pages 13-20 of the Business Meeting Packet.
4. The following actions were taken by the church:
 - a. Leadership Council Motion #1: Motion to authorize the Leadership Council of Culpeper Baptist Church to negotiate and finalize a lease by Brynmor Early Education & Preschool to occupy and operate the Child Development Center spaces of Culpeper Baptist Church for the purpose of early childhood education. This action would include the one-time approval to authorize a Trustee of the Culpeper Baptist Church to sign the lease on behalf of the Church. ***The motion was approved by voice vote.***
 - b. Leadership Council Motion #2: Motion to redirect, as needed, the \$200,000 from Endowment funds, approved as Action Item 2 at the December 2024 business meeting, to emergency building repairs. ***The motion was approved by voice vote.***
 - c. Leadership Council Motion #3: Motion that Melanie Edwards fill the existing vacancy on the Personnel Committee. ***The motion was approved by voice vote.***
 - d. Trustee Motion #4: Motion that Skip Price serve a second 6-year term as Trustee. ***The motion was approved by voice vote.***
5. There being no further business to discuss, Sally Napier dismissed the gathering with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Beales

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Clerk

**Culpeper Baptist Church
Business Meeting Report
Hurricane Relief Mission Trip
February 2025
Beverly Sturm, Deacon Vice Chair**

I traveled to Damascus, VA in Smyth County, to assist the Baptist General Association of Virginia rebuild homes damaged by high water and/or heavy wind caused by Hurricane Helene in September 2024. Over a period of 7 days, a group of 25 volunteers from all areas of Virginia labored on 10 homes in the town of Damascus and mountain areas nearby. The group helped in removing damaged personal items, tearing out interior floors and walls, spraying remaining wood for mold and mildew, installing flooring and interior sheet rock walls.

Additionally, FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) told BGAV that there were about 90 homes in the Smyth County Mountains that had received no assistance since the hurricane occurred. I partnered with another volunteer to go door-to-door to around 90 homes in the remote mountain regions affected, offering assistance and making plans for future visits to assist them. The homeowners appreciated the visit and shared their stories about the challenges they are facing. All of the families shared a common message, that FEMA has provided no assistance and insurance companies were not responding to calls.

Neighbors are helping each other with basic needs, such as treating injuries, securing safe places to live, food, water, communication to loved ones and helping clear roads and driveways. BGAV plans to stay in the Smyth County area until all of the damaged homes are livable. Culpeper Baptist Church plans to take a team of church member volunteers to Smyth County in early May to provide home reconstruction assistance.