

What's In Session?

January 2026 Report

Rev. Harrington called the meeting to order and called on Julian March, who offered a devotion and opened the meeting with prayer.

Ends Education: Elders regularly receive education about our “ends,” or guiding principles of our church, to ensure alignment with our long-term strategic plans. Rich Duncan, director of development for Cape Fear Habitat for Humanity, spoke about the organization and housing needs. Rich thanked SACPC for supporting Habitat for 19 years and giving \$416,300 in support of affordable housing and providing hundreds of hours of volunteering. New Hanover County is projected to grow by tens of thousands of new residents, and the price of housing is increasing. In New Hanover County, Habitat serves residents earning between 30 and 80 percent of area median income who may be living in crowded, unhealthy or unsafe conditions. Churches and organizations wanting to get involved can contribute by fundraising/donating and volunteering to support house builds, even for those with no experience.

New officer introductions: This was the first meeting including the new Class of 2028 elders, so everyone introduced themselves and shared stories about someone who impacted their lives.

Donor plaque request: A donor plaque was approved.

2026 Budget: Finance chair Rosalind Barker recommended approval of the 2026 budget for \$1.625 million, down from an initial proposed budget of \$1.8 million. The 2025 budget was \$1.7 million, and the actual revenue received was \$1.56 million. Rosalind noted we had a very successful capital campaign, and the finance noted there could be a reduction in pledges for the operational campaign. The 2026 budget was approved, and will be reported at the upcoming annual meeting on Feb. 15 at 10 a.m.

Sanctuary dedication: SACPC has scheduled a sanctuary dedication service at 10:15 a.m. on March 15, 2026, which is based on progressing on our current timeline.

Katie Harrington report: Rev. Harrington shared:

- We are planning to return to the sanctuary in March.
- A goal for 2026 includes evaluating whether SACPC has the right committee structure for our current congregational needs.

Rev. Harrington adjourned the meeting with prayer.