What's In Session?

October 2026 Report

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

Session committees: The Session approved a reconfiguration of standing Session committees beginning in 2027 at the recommendation of the Strategic Planning Committee. The Policy Task Force first presented the recommendation in August to align with SACPC's new Statement of Purpose. At September's Session retreat, participants further reflected how we can live into our purpose in the year ahead. The committees with descriptions are as follows:

Worship Committee *(Purpose: Worship God)*

This committee will have responsibility for all of our worship services and will be staffed by the senior pastor and director of music.

Faith Formation *(Purpose: Grow in Faith and Discipleship)*

This committee will have responsibility for adult, children, and youth faith formation, including Sunday School classes and other education opportunities, and will be staffed by the associate pastor and director of youth and children's ministries.

Congregational Engagement Committee *(Purpose: Share the Love of God)*

This committee will continue its current responsibilities, which include membership roll review and stewardship, and will also become more engaged in the membership process, from attracting new members to helping all members engage or re-engage in the church. This committee will be staffed by one of the pastors.

Go and Serve *(Purpose: Serve our Community and the World)*

This committee will continue current responsibilities, but with more engagement by the Session, and will be staffed by the parish associate in cooperation with one of the pastors.

Human Resources *(supports all aspects of the Statement of Purpose)*

HR will continue with current responsibilities for staffing and will assist with officer training in partnership with the pastors. The senior pastor will staff this committee.

Finance *(supports all aspects of the Statement of Purpose)*

Finance will continue to oversee the budget and all financial matters of the church, including investments, insurance, the Block, Building and Grounds. This committee will be staffed by the senior pastor and financial administrator.

For additional context, Care for One Another is covered by the ministries of the Diaconate (Fellowship, Connections, and Caregiving Teams). The work of the former Strategic Planning Committee will be done by all committees, setting strategic goals for each year. All Session chairs will meet monthly to oversee strategic planning for the church. The role of the former Officer Education and Government Committee in responsibility for Session policies will be supervised by the clerk of session alongside a team, while officer education will be done by the pastors with support of HR.

Director of Children and Youth Ministries Search Committee Update: Rev. Lucas shared an update that the committee continues its work and will meet this coming week to reassess what they have learned to date.

Katie Harrington report: Rev. Harrington shared:

- Please prayerfully consider 2027 pledges.
- Sunday Nov. 1 will be All Saint's Sunday with candle lighting.
- Excitement about the new committee structure and that we are listening to what the Spirit is calling us to do. There will be a lot of work needed to adjust SACPC policy to fit our new structure.
- Our Session retreat helped prepare us for the new committee structure. Comments from individual tables at the retreat were shared with session members to consider in future goal-setting efforts.

Rev. Harrington accepted prayer requests and adjourned the meeting with prayer.