

**MINUTES OF THE SESSION**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOUSTON, TEXAS**  
**February 21, 2023**

The February Stated Meeting of the Session began at 6:05pm in the Fellowship Hall. Rev. Jim Birchfield called the meeting to order, with a quorum present. Martha Barnes gave the opening prayer.

OMNIBUS MOTIONS

The following omnibus motions, provided to Session in advance of the meeting, were duly adopted:

- Resolved, that the submitted Session Meeting Minutes, January 17, 2023, be approved.
- Resolved that the following motion from the Finance and Governance Committee be approved. “It is moved by the Finance Committee and the Governance Committee, acting jointly, that the position description attached hereto, describing the responsibilities and qualifications for the position of Treasurer of the church, be approved by the Session for incorporation into the governing documents of the church.”
- Resolved, that the January Membership Report be approved.
- Resolved that the Session Dashboard be approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

Finance

Steve Oldham

Contributions for January were \$289,000, well below and approximately half our \$580,000 budget. The Finance Committee continues to monitor the contributions trend closely. At this time, we do not recommend adjustments to the budget nor Church expenditure plans.

Sara Robertson

- The Finance Committee has been in communication with the Texas Presbytery Foundation in regard to their Annual Report.
- The audit is nearing completion.
- The DRAFT Policy for Designated Gifts will be presented to the Session for its review prior to requesting approval at the March meeting.

## Community Life

Melaney Derden

- Neighborhood Connects program is going well. Several elders shared some experiences from their meetings.

## Advisory Committee/Clerk's Report

Martha Barnes

- The elders were encouraged to watch the videos from the ECO Conference.
- The Elders were asked to sign-up for the serving of communion for the coming year.
- Cheryl Christie has requested greeters for the All-Church Sunday School Sundays.
- There will be a special sign up for greeters for Easter Sunday.
- It was suggested that there be an elder call for the Memorial Service for Dorothy Anderson as she was the recording secretary for the session for 25 years.

## Personnel Committee

Amy Winstead

- A big welcome to Rev. Curtis Bronzan.
- Stacy Rockwell is leaving to pursue a career change. Many thanks for your commitment to the families and children of First Presbyterian Church.
- Katie Hill will be the interim director for the Children and Families Ministry until a new director is selected.
- Rafael Arambulais is retiring from his position of 25 years of service in the maintenance department. There will be a reception for Rafael in the Underground on Thursday, February 24, at 11:30am.

## Pastor's Report

Rev. Jim Birchfield

- There were no questions regarding Staff/Ministry Progress Reports
- There will be an informal exit discussion with the session around governance.
- The transition with Rev. Bronzan is going marvelously.
- Rev. Bronzan is looking forward to preaching again.
- A motion was made and approved that there will be one worship service at 11:00am in the sanctuary on Sunday, March 26 to celebrate Rev. Birchfield's service at First Presbyterian Church.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Following corporate prayer, communion was served by intinction by Rev. Curtis Bronzan. Session laid hands on Curtis and gave a prayer of thanksgiving and blessings as he transitions to First Presbyterian Church.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm with the singing of the doxology.

Rev. Jim Birchfield, Moderator  
Rev. Curtis Bronzan, Moderator

Martha C. Barnes  
Martha C. Barnes, Clerk

