

MINUTES OF THE SESSION
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOUSTON, TEXAS
October 17, 2023

The October Stated Meeting of the Session began at 6:00 pm in LC181. Rev. Curtis Bronzan called the meeting to order, with a quorum present. Michael Harada 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, August 15, 2023, be approved.
- Resolved that the submitted Session Meeting Minutes, September 23, 2023, be approved.
- Resolved, that the August and September Membership Reports be approved.
- Resolved, that the Session Dashboard be approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

Advisory Committee/Clerk's Report

Michael Harada

- The Congregational Meeting, being held in the Fellowship Hall with the serving of food, was a positive experience.
- The Vision Team had their first meeting and will continue to meet monthly.
- Neighborhood Connect is meeting this month which is an opportunity for the church members to grow together.

Finance

Keith Cole

- Contributions were above budget however, October is a little less than expected so far.
- As of Saturday, 34 pledge cards have been received.

Community Life Committee

Jane Champion

- Neighborhood Connect is meeting in the month of October. There are a variety of places where groups are meeting - in homes, restaurants etc.

Personnel Committee

Evelyn Smith

- Two part-time people have been hired to work with the youth.
- The staff will have open enrollment for insurance in November.
- The payroll system is being updated.

Governance Committee

Dade Dowdle

- The committee met by zoom.

SNC/ENC

Roby Norvell

- The Elder Class of 2027 was elected at the Congregational Meeting.
- The Standing Nominating Committee 2024 was elected at the Congregational Meeting.

Pastor's Report

Rev. Curtis Bronzan

- The National Gathering of ECO will be January 29 - February 1, 2024, in Greenville, South Carolina. Three elder delegates will be attending with the three pastors.
- A search team will be used to fill the rolls of Discipleship Pastor, Young Adult Pastor, and Youth Director. These applicants will be approved by the Session.
- The Vision Team meets one weekend each month. Some of the subjects they are working through are:
 - What are the unique needs and opportunities for where God has placed us?
 - What is going on with our people?
 - Who are the people God has called to serve at First Presbyterian Church?
 - How to glorify God and make disciples of Jesus Christ.

ACTION ITEMS

- **A motion was made and approved** for communion to be served at the 8:15am and 11:00am worship services. On Sunday, November 12 the congregation will be seated and served. On Sunday, December 3 communion will be served by intinction.
- **A motion was made and approved** to appoint Keith Cole as Secretary of First Presbyterian Church.
- **A motion was made and approved** to approve the following resolution from the Finance Committee:
 - WHEREAS, the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Houston has determined that granting signing authority to current Board Officers and certain staff members on all four cash accounts, and the lock box at Bank of Texas would be beneficial to the efficient operations of the church; and,
 - WHEREAS, Steve Oldham is now Treasurer emeritus, and Keith Cole is now Treasurer.
 - IT IS RESOLVED, The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Houston authorizes the removal of Steve Oldham from all four cash accounts at Bank of Texas,
 - RESOLVED FURTHER, The Session authorizes the removal of access and signing privileges of lockbox # ending in 0444 of Kirk Beaudreaux, Arlene Rogers and Beverly Giacone, as they are no longer employed by the church.
 - RESOLVED FURTHER, The Session authorizes signing privileges for the bank accounts to Curtis Bronzan, Senior Pastor, Keith Cole, Treasurer, and Hunter Johnson, Chief Operating Officer.
 - RESOLVED FURTHER, The Session of First Presbyterian Church authorizes signing privileges on the safety deposit box for Hunter Johnson, Chief Operating Officer, and Lisa Belus, Director of Human Resources.
- **A motion was made and approved** to approve the Resolution for Contractual Obligation Signing Privileges authorizing these privileges to Curtis Bronzan, Senior Pastor and to Hunter Johnson, Chief Operating Officer.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

Following corporate prayer, and a Homily Reflection by Rev. Curtis Bronzan, communion was served by intinction by Rev. Emmanuel Paulpeter and elder Kristen Foxley.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm with a prayer by Rev. Jon Crantz, and the singing of the doxology.

Rev. Curtis Bronzan, Moderator

Michael Harada, Clerk