

MINUTES OF THE SESSION
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOUSTON, TEXAS
May 21, 2024

The May Stated Meeting of the Session began at 6:00 pm in LC 181. Rev. Curtis Bronzan called the meeting to order, with a quorum present. Michael Harada gave the opening prayer and Dr. Jon Crantz gave a homily. Rev. Emmanuel Paulpeter introduced communion which was served by intinction by Rev. Emmanuel Paulpeter and Alicia Ten Eyck . Rev. Bronzan asked for prayer requests followed by corporate 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, April 16, 2024, be approved.
- Resolved, that the April Membership Report be approved.
- Resolved that the April Session Dashboard be approved.
- The Finance Committee moves to recommend to the Session that a new bank account with Cass Bank be opened.
- The Finance Committee moves to recommend that the Session vote to approve an expenditure of \$10,681.24 from the Music Equipment Fund to reimburse our operating account for music equipment repairs spent during this past fiscal year.
- The Finance Committee moves to recommend to the Session that they vote to approve an expenditure of \$16,000 from the Music Fund to purchase new choir robes.
- The Finance Committee moves to recommend to the Session that they vote to accept the following estate gifts: (a) Shirkey Estate Gift, unrestricted and entirely in cash, \$640,000. Received July 2023. Cornerstone subscriber. (b)Erwin Estate Gift, unrestricted and entirely in cash, \$5000. Received November 2023. Cornerstone subscriber. (c) Anderson Estate Gift, \$12,500, unrestricted, and entirely in cash. Received December 2023. Cornerstone subscriber.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

Advisory Committee/Clerk's Report

Michael Harada

- The session is encouraged to stay connected to the happenings at First Presbyterian Church and to reach out to others.
- The Elder Class of 2027 was ordained and installed at the 11:00am worship service, Sunday May 19, 2024. Ordained and installed: Allison MacMillan, Matt Reed, and Alan Sexton; Installed Chris Derden and Chris Wolfe.

Finance Committee

Keith Cole

- April financial condition: Keith reported that April expenses are under in some areas. \$330k vs \$550k budgeted for the month. Over 1/2 way. Need \$781k to hit budget for the year. Anticipate June attendance to be normally lighter.

Personnel Committee

Evelyn Smith

- Evelyn Smith shared the established objectives of the Senior Pastor role as well as the accomplishments of Rev. Bronzan over his first year as Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church.

Standing Nominating Committee/Elder Nominating Committee

Roby Novell

- The decision to extend the nomination deadline resulted in a great turnout for submissions and a high number of great covenant partner candidates were received to consider for both Elder Class of 2028 and the 2025 Elder Nominating Committee.
- The sixth nominee for the Elder Class of 2027, Jeff Kennedy, is moving to Dubai in August resulting in his inability to serve as an Elder. A **Motion** was made and approved to submit Keith Hickey to fill the sixth position in the Elder Class of 2027, to be voted on by the congregation.

Pastor's Report

Rev. Curtis Bronzan

- There are two strong candidates for Young Adult Pastor and one strong candidate for Discipleship Pastor and two candidates for Youth Pastor, more candidates for youth and young adult should be incoming from the recruiter.
- The next Presbytery Meeting will be in San Antonio September 20-21. Three pastors and three session delegates can be sent to the meeting.
- The Session Retreat will be September 27-28 at the Barnes Ranch.
- Changes in the schedule for worship services are still under discussion.
- The Session speaks with one voice.
- The Session Meetings for the 2024-2025 year will move to the 4th Tuesday of the month with the exception of November and May which will remain the third Tuesday of the month.

TRUEWORKS UPDATE

Doug Meikle presented an update for TrueWorks, how they are doing with fund raising and the number of people going through the program. Memorial Drive Presbyterian is making plans to adopt the program at their church. Doug is accepting a position as CEO at Star of Hope. Rachel Quan will be Executive Director of TrueWorks.

RISK MANGEMENT DASHBOARD UPDATE

Hunter Johnson distributed a handout of the Proposed 2024-2025 budget and the Proposed Capital Expense Budget with expenses year to date.

VISIONING UPDATE

Fred Robertson distributed two handouts, describing "Where are we going?" Outlining the Vision Frame and Horizon Storyline: a description of the Missional Mandate, Missional Motive, Missional Map and Missional Measures; and a 90 Day, 1 Year, 3 Year and 16 Year plan moving forward.

ACTION ITEMS

- A **motion** was made and approved to accept the Proposed Budget for 2024-2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm with a prayer by Rev. Curtis Bronzan and the singing of the doxology.

Rev. Curtis Bronzan, Moderator

Michael Harada, Clerk of Session