

**STATED SESSION MEETING MINUTES
TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
April 18, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER & DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Rebekah LeMon

The stated Session meeting for Trinity Presbyterian Church on April 18, 2023, was called to order in Old Fellowship Hall at 7:05 PM by the moderator, Rebekah LeMon. The clerk, David Carr, confirmed the presence of a quorum.

DEVOTION

Trey Reese

Trey Reese shared reflections on the disconnect that often exists between our intentions and our actions. He described how difficult it can be to live in accordance with our stated values, and he noted that it's not necessarily in our nature to "be the change [we] want to see in the world." Ultimately, however, our faith charges us to follow the teachings of Jesus, and—thankfully--our community at Trinity supports us along the way and reminds us to keep trying.

OMNIBUS MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Rebekah LeMon directed session members to the omnibus motion in the meeting packet which included the meeting agenda, the minutes from the Stated Session Meeting on March 21, the minutes from the Annual Congregational Meeting on March 26, the financial report, and the statistical report for March 2023.

The motion to approve the consent agenda as amended was unanimously approved.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Rebekah LeMon

Rebekah LeMon began by celebrating the many worship experiences that took place during her first Lenton season at Trinity. Easter was a beautiful and joyful day for the entire congregation.

Next, Rebekah gave special thanks to Mary Elizabeth Jackson and Jennifer Kahn for cleaning the many, many church spaces being used for storage. They filled 6 dumpsters and arranged for several loads of donated goods to be delivered to various charitable organizations.

Rebekah also noted that a mini-retreat for session members is scheduled for May 20th, during which the incoming elder class will share their faith statements and take elder examinations. The new class of elders will be installed on Sunday, May 21st.

In personnel news, Rebekah announced that the new Director of Finance and Administration (Heather Edmiston) started part-time at Trinity last week. She will assume her full-time role in June. Additionally, the new Ministry Assistant and Receptionist (Jesse Fron) also started last week. Two additional new hires (the Trinity Pre-School Program Director and the Digital Media Specialist) will start in May.

Lastly, Rebekah reminded session members to submit suggested uses for the Love Fund within the next two months.

CLERK'S REPORT

David Carr

David Carr began by thanking Emily Beaver and Amy Krause for their help compiling the 2022 annual report. He also thanked church staff for all the time and effort they dedicated to making sure Trinity's Lenton and Easter events ran smoothly. Lastly, he recognized Rebekah for everything she's accomplished over the last year and noted the rapid approach of her one-year anniversary at Trinity.

Next, David directed session members to the key dates listed on p. 4 of the session packet, the worship attendance data on p. 12 of the session packet (all of which shows positive trends), and the increase in membership as reflected on p. 16 in the statistical report. In short, March was a big month. New confirmands and baptisms were added to increase our net membership total by 30.

Lastly, David announced that Drew Timmons will take over as Assistant Clerk in June 2023, and he highlighted the successful execution of detail work that's been happening at Trinity over the last few months—including caring for each other and for the church in times of need.

SPECIAL ORDERS & REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE - ENGAGEMENT FAIR PLANNING Janet Edwards & Chris Betts

Janet Edwards announced that this year's engagement fair will take place on Sunday, August 27th in Williams Hall. Committee chairs will receive communication ahead of the fair regarding the information they need to submit.

Chris Betts reminded session of the importance of encouraging connection and engagement amongst all Trinity members, and she charged session members to conduct continually outreach in order to attract as many people as possible to the engagement fair (and all other church activities and events).

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT: ADULT EDUCATION Velma Tilley

Velma Tilley explained that adult education is divided into five sessions each year, and she reviewed current class offerings. She noted that the committee intentionally aligned adult education programming with the theme of the Kittrell speaker series speaker in the weeks leading up to the Bryan Stevenson lecture, and she signaled an intent to do similar alignment work this fall. Velma also announced that Allen Spetnagel will take over as chair of the Adult Education Committee in June.

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT: MISSION Julie Hope

Julie explained the process by which Trinity awards Impact Grants, and she outlined the organizations currently receiving grant funding. All grant recipients represent at least one of Trinity's areas of mission focus: advocacy, education, and addressing Hunger. Jim Stokes will take over as chair of the Mission Committee in June.

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT: CONGREGATIONAL LIFE Bess George

Bess George highlighted a few of the activities Congregational Life covers throughout the year. She noted that Congregational Life coordinates the food for the various events (including barbeque lunches and the engagement fair), organizes the advent devotional, coordinates Christmas decorations, and hosts congregation-wide events like the talent show (Trinity's Got Talent) and Swing and Stroll (Jazz and Art in the Courtyard). Nancy Calhoun will take over as chair of Congregational Life in June.

FINANCE Richard O'Donnell

Richard O'Donnell began his update with a year-to-date summary, and he highlighted positive revenue for March. He also recounted the Committee's review of Trinity's current banking relationship with SouthState bank and balances held there to determine the minimum level of balances required to maintain and then redeploy any excess to a higher yielding money market at Schwab. An analysis is underway.

Following Richard's comments, Rebekah introduced a motion that was seconded by Cindy Stancil to add Heather Edmiston as a check signer to the account.

MOTION: Approve Heather Edmiston (new Director of Finance and Administration) as a check signer at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

There was no discussion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

OPEN FORUM


A few session members shared positive feedback from their ‘congregational calls’, and all elders were reminded to complete calls by the end of the month.

CLOSING PRAYER AND DEPARTING BLESSINGS

Lucy Strong

A motion was made and affirmed to adjourn the meeting. Lucy Strong closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



David Carr
Clerk



Bonnie Holliday
Assistant Clerk

Trinity Presbyterian Church Session In-person Attendance (In Bold), April 18, 2023:

Name	Name	Name
Adams Jr., Tom	Roxanna Erwin	Reid Willingham
Bynum, Laura	Ginny Hobbs	Kenny Kraft
Carr, David – Clerk	Bonnie Holiday – Asst. Clerk	Kristin Hunter
George, Bess	Richard O’Donnell	Tom Owens
Guerry, Bill	Trey Reese	Martha Craft
Hope, Julie	Lane Rhoden	Drew Timmons
Jackson, Mary Elizabeth	Allen Spetnagel	Tanner Adams (youth)
Lewis, Dale	Cindy Stancil	Duskin Balch (youth)
Shepard, John	Adair White	Meredith Daniel
Tilley, Velma	Neal Williams	Allen Moseley
		Chris Suh
		Lindsey Greene
Staff Attendees:	Other Attendees:	Guests
Rebekah LeMon-Moderator		Janet Edwards
Elizabeth Davis		Chris Betts
Andrew Esqueda		
Lucy Strong		

UPCOMING DATES

Officer Training	April 23, and 30, and May 7.	
Lucy Strong installation service	April 23, 11:00 a.m. (one service)	
Presbytery Meeting	May 2, 2023	
Communion	May 7, 2023	
Celebration of Paige Keller as Director of TPP	May 7 after 11:00 worship	
New Member Dinner and Session Meeting	May 16, 2023 (6:00 p.m.)	
Session Mini-retreat	May 20, 2023 (4-8 p.m.)	
Ordination and Installation of elders	May 21, 2023	
Session Meeting	June 20, 2023	