

SESSION PACKET

Stated Session Meeting

August 15, 2023



_____ Approved
_____ Approved with Amendment

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**STATED SESSION MEETING AGENDA
TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

August 15, 2023

7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER & DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Rebekah LeMon

DEVOTION

Allen Spetnagel

MOTION to approve Consent Agenda

Rebekah LeMon

- Agenda
- Stated Session Meeting Minutes from June 20, 2023
- Called Session Meeting Minutes from August 8, 2023 (Zoom)
- Financial Report
- Statistical Reports for June and July 2023

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Rebekah LeMon

CLERK'S REPORT

Bonnie Holliday

SPECIAL ORDERS & REPORTS

Rebekah LeMon

APPROVAL OF SESSION MEETING CALENDAR

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT SIGNING AUTHORITY

Motion: Expand signatory authority to bind Trinity Presbyterian Church to include Heather Edmiston and Rebekah LeMon for routine needs or contracts with monetary liability up to \$20,000.

REQUEST FROM TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL

TPP's Request: Allow TPP to serve wine and beer at the Sip N Shop event on Thursday, October 26 from 4-8 pm in the Loft. Sip N Shop is a gift show that is the main fundraising event for the TPP Parents Council. Various vendors come in to sell their products and TPP receives a portion of the proceeds. TPP has a teacher who is a licensed bartender, but if required, TPP will hire a separate company.

PRESBYTERY MEETING - AUGUST 15

Jay Harris and Roxanna Erwin

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHTS

Lucy Strong

Membership & Engagement: Engagement Fair and Call Results

FINANCE

Richard O'Donnell

OPEN FORUM

LAYING ON OF HANDS & DEPARTING BLESSINGS FOR ANDREW ESQUEDA

Rebekah LeMon

UPCOMING DATES		
Communion	September 3	
Called Congregational Meeting	September 17 after 11:00 worship	
Session Meeting	Sept 19, 2023	
Guest preacher	September 24, 2023	Rev. Aisha Brooks-Johnson, Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta
Presbytery Meeting	Nov. 4, 2023	Attending commissioners: Richard O'Donnell, Trey Reese, Chris Suh, Dean Cleaveland, Rebekah Groover, Helen Slawson, Catherine Quillian.
Baptisms	September 10: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oliver Owens Szyperski, son of Bobby and Heather Heinz Szyperski• Benjamin Ellis Lukens, son of Catherine and Davis Lukens October 8: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abigail Lucille Hughes, daughter of Patrick and Lauren Stair Hughes• Tye Christopher Johnson, son of Matthew and Erin Johnson	

Stated Meetings for 2023-2024 Session Year
August 15
September 19
October 17
November 21
January 16
February 20
March 19
April 16
May 21
June 18

STATED SESSION MEETING MINUTES
TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
June 20, 2023
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER & DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Rebekah LeMon

The stated Session meeting for Trinity Presbyterian Church on **June 20, 2023**, was called to order in Old Fellowship Hall at 7:05 PM by the moderator, Rebekah LeMon. The clerk, Bonnie Holliday, confirmed the presence of a quorum.

DEVOTION

Allen Spetnagel

Unfortunately, Allen was feeling sick and could not make the meeting. Rebekah graciously spared the remaining session members from a spontaneous devotion. We look forward to hearing Allen's devotion in a future meeting.

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 May 16, 2023, the minutes from the Called Session Meeting (Elder Examinations and Session Retreat) on May 20, 2023, the financial report, and the statistical report for May 2023. The motion to approve the consent agenda as amended was unanimously approved.

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Rebekah LeMon

Rebekah LeMon began by expressing her excitement for the many new members welcomed recently into the Trinity congregation. She reminded us how much the church is growing with members of all ages and how meaningful this is for our mission moving forward.

Next, Rebekah discussed the session mini retreat/workshop which took place on Saturday, May 20, 2023 and was organized to help explore our goals for the new year and transition between the outgoing and incoming elders. She noted that there was interesting and good feedback from those who attended, and she intends to categorize the points of emphasis and distribute to the session.

Rebekah then gave a special thanks to all the holy smokers for their wonderful efforts to feed the congregation with what she referred to as the "best BBQ around." She noted that it was a joyful occasion, especially since it came directly after the receipt of many new members into the church, and the ordination and installation of the new elder class. She also thanked all who took photographs of the events to assist Trinity in spreading word to our community of our fellowship events.

In media news, Rebekah also mentioned that we should celebrate the development and launch of the official Trinity YouTube channel/page, which will allow for recording and replay of sermons and other live events.

In personnel news, Rebekah announced the hiring of Phil Hawkins as the new digital media specialist for Trinity. She also thanked the session for its warm welcome of Heather Edmiston and urged the members to continue to help her feel at home in her new position as Director of Finance and Administration. She also noted the hiring of a new director to the preschool in Erin Carey.

Rebekah gave thanks to all those who volunteered their time to assist with Vacation Bible School in June – it was a “smash hit” and required a large contingency of the congregation to operate smoothly. Along the same lines, Rebekah expressed her excitement for the energy and efficiency of Emily Beaver and Jean Lapitan in their efforts with Trinity’s children’s ministries.

Rebekah also gave thanks for those who were involved in the “Speaking of Faith” program for adult education, which was very meaningful for those who were able to attend one or more of the summer classes.

Rebekah and Lucy reminded the session of the ongoing call-a-thon to Trinity members to update contact information and ensure all members are being contacted and engaged.

Rebekah made mention of the need for ideas and proposals for distribution of the Love fund. She noted that the fund provides significant money and is intended for a broad range of activities, and encouraged thoughts as to how best to utilize it for the coming year.

Finally, Rebekah announced the appointment of Melissa Mosely and Stan Tilley as the co-chairs for Trinity’s annual giving campaign for 2023.

CLERK’S REPORT

Bonnie Holliday

Bonnie began by congratulating Trinity on a hugely successful Vacation Bible School program in June, and expressing her gratitude for the 45 adult volunteers and 38 youth volunteers from Trinity who helped entertain and watch over the 80-90 kids every day. She also noted that nearly half of the children were from non-member families, which is exciting and emphasizes what a great program it was. She noted that there was a great deal of interest in the Church from non-members who attended the events. She gave a special “shout out” to the middle school boys for their joke sessions and the middle school girls for their dance moves.

Next, Bonnie directed session members to the key upcoming dates listed in the session packet, including the upcoming Presbytery meeting on August 15th, the need for session members to sign up to assist with Communion at least 3 Sundays each year, and sign-ups for devotions for upcoming session meetings. She also reminded the new session members of the schedule for our session meetings, which are held the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

SPECIAL ORDERS & REPORTS:

TRUSTEES

Rebekah LeMon

Rebekah informed the session that the Trustees unanimously resolved to approve a distribution of \$26,764 from the Kittrell Memorial Lectureship Fund to the Trinity Church operating account for Kittrell Lectureship expenses for 2023, subject to session approval. This was approved unanimously on motion.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Rebekah LeMon

Rebekah reminded the attendees that although we had already selected specific officers for the current session, the session is required to elect them by name. Upon a motion, Bonnie Holliday was unanimously approved as President, and Drew Timmons was unanimously approved as Secretary. Walt Gilliam was approved at a prior meeting as Treasurer.

PRESBYTERY UPDATES

Rebekah LeMon

Rebekah provided the session with an overview of updates to the Book of Order, which included the required adoption of policies around sexual misconduct, child sexual abuse, child and youth protection, and racism. These required policies include boundaries training for everyone who serves in office and everyone who volunteers with children, an anti-racism policy (Trinity does not have one currently, but we are working on one), and an additional layer to ministry safe training. Additional approved required policies include 12 weeks of paid family medical leave on terms of call for all pastors, and adoption of rules of order and standard rules to govern electronic meetings. Finally, the Rules of Discipline has new section entitled church discipline to clarify and address wrongdoing in the life of the church.

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHTS

• WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Roxanna Erwin

Roxanna Erwin provided an update on and overview of the Worship and Music Committee. She explained that the committee is there to support Sunday worship services, including with usher and greeter teams, volunteers for communion table, arrangements with the flower guild, coordinating the choir and handbell choir programs. Roxanna highlighted the various subcommittees enveloped in this committee, including those for weddings, memorial services, the memorial garden, and fine arts and special events. This committee focuses on vision and new ideas for worship and music, including ways to integrate the strengths of our 9 am and 11 am services.

Roxanna also gave an update on worship attendance, noting that on “average” Sundays, we typically have around 320 people in person and 80 online, i.e., 400+ on any given Sunday.

She reminded the session of upcoming events in worship and engagement, including the August 6th hymn sing worship service, and the upcoming engagement fair taking place on Sunday August 27th.

Roxanna closed by reminding the session of Trinity's stated value to "worship creatively."

• PROPERTY

Allen Moseley

Allen Moseley, chairman of the property committee, updated the session as to recent activities and events pertaining to the Property of the church. He noted that we are on budget for the year and also have some reserves available which the session will need to determine how to use. As to current projects, he mentioned the maintenance and replacement of HVAC units throughout the property, the installation of a new security system, the potential uses for our new audio/visual equipment, and the recent replacement of elevators for the Trinity Early Learning Center. Allen also brought up the recent construction and clear cutting of trees on the property next door which has impacted the views and privacy of the Memorial Garden. The Property committee is working to plant holly bushes to return some of the privacy to the area.

Allen indicated that the committee is currently laying out long term capital needs so we can plan for where our future capital will come from. Martha Craft inquired as the timeline for installation of pew racks for hymnals and books in the chancel choir loft, as well as the need for foundation work on the pews on the lectern side.

• FINANCE

Richard O'Donnell

Richard O'Donnell began his update with a year-to-date summary. Year-to-date we have total income of 2 million and we are favorable relative to budget for the year through May. As of May, our expenses are under budget for the year. Richard highlighted the positive revenue for May. He also recounted the Committee's review of Trinity's good and strong financial position. Richard also spoke on the need to decide how best to use our excess budget at the end of the year. Rebekah noted that the past practice has been to split any surplus between mission and property. However, this year, we intend to look at any available surplus and determine the areas of greatest need, without making any commitment on how to distribute.

OPEN FORUM

Lucy Strong spoke on the upcoming record restriction summit for the Mission of Faith in Action which will take place on September 23rd between 9 -3. It will also include a job and resource fair, and voter registration. Session members were encouraged to participate if available, especially those with a professional background in law. There is also a Faith in Action Sunday School program taking place on August 20th at 9 am which is an intergenerational learning opportunity to find out more about this mission partner.

Jay Harris invited perspective on the recent action taken by Southern Baptist Convention to expel congregations that have women in any pastoral role. Rebekah provided a rather moving explanation as to women's role in speaking the gospel and proclaiming the Word of the Lord, and Lucy also made additional comments as to the necessary role of women in worship.

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 8:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Holliday

Drew Timmons

Clerk

Assistant Clerk

Trinity Presbyterian Church Session In-person Attendance (In Bold), June 20, 2023:

Name	Name	Name
Roxanna Erwin	Reid Willingham	Karen Bain
Ginny Hobbs	Kenny Kraft	Jon Balch
Bonnie Holiday –Clerk	Kristin Hunter	Dean Cleaveland
Richard O'Donnell	Tom Owens	Rebekah Groover
Trey Reese	Martha Craft	Jay Harris
Lane Rhoden	Drew Timmons -Asst. Clerk	Paige Keller
Allen Spetnagel	Meredith Daniel	Nick Leet
Cindy Stancil	Allen Moseley	Jon McRae
Adair White	Chris Suh	Mary Kelly Speed
Neal Williams	Lindsey Greene	Catherine Warren
		Catherine Quillian (youth)
		Helen Slawson (youth)

Staff Attendees:	Other Attendees:	Guests
Rebekah LeMon-Moderator		
Elizabeth Davis		
Andrew Esqueda		
Lucy Strong		
Heather Edmiston		

UPCOMING DATES	
Communion	July 3, 2023, August 6, 2023
Session Meeting	August 15, 2023
Presbytery Meeting	August 15, 2023
Baptisms	September 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benjamin Ellis Lukens, son of Catherine and Davis Lukens • Abigail Lucille Hughes, daughter of Patrick and Lauren Stair Hughes • Oliver Owens Szyperski, son of Heather and Bobby Szyperski

**CALLED SESSION MEETING MINUTES
TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
August 8, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER & DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Rebekah LeMon

The called Session meeting for Trinity Presbyterian Church on August 8, 2023, was called to order via Zoom at 7:31 PM by the moderator, Rebekah LeMon. The clerk, Bonnie Holliday, confirmed the presence of a quorum.

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rebekah LeMon

Rebekah thanked the session members for being available for the called meeting on short notice and during busy nighttime routines. She then asked Associate Pastor Andrew Esqueda to make an announcement to the Session.

Andrew announced that he has accepted a call to serve as the Senior Pastor of The First Presbyterian Church of West Chester, Pennsylvania, and as such, he will be leaving Trinity. He expressed his deep gratitude for the members of the church, and his sadness in leaving a place which he has called home for eight years.

Rebekah informed the session that Andrew's last Sunday with Trinity would be on September 17th, and that the session would need to call for a congressional meeting to take place after the 11 am service to dissolve Andrew's pastoral call at Trinity. The session unanimously voted to hold a congregational meeting at that date and time.

Rebekah informed the session of the discussions during the personnel committee meeting to move Emily Beaver into a director of family ministries role, and the need to start a formal search with the nominating committee for a new associate pastor for family ministries. She also noted that Emily Beaver will be eligible to be ordained in the Fall and could be the strongest candidate to fill this role for Trinity.

CLOSING

Rebekah LeMon

A motion was made by Mary Kelly Speed, and Martha Craft seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Rebekah closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Holliday

Drew Timmons

Clerk

Assistant Clerk

Trinity Presbyterian Church Session In-person Attendance (In Bold), August 8, 2023:

Name	Name	Name
Roxanna Erwin	Reid Willingham	Karen Bain
Ginny Hobbs	Kenny Kraft	Jon Balch
Bonnie Holiday –Clerk	Kristin Hunter	Dean Cleaveland
Richard O'Donnell	Tom Owens	Rebekah Groover
Trey Reese	Martha Craft	Jay Harris
Lane Rhoden	Drew Timmons -Asst. Clerk	Paige Keller
Allen Spetnagel	Meredith Daniel	Nick Leet
Cindy Stancil	Allen Moseley	Jon McRae
Adair White	Chris Suh	Mary Kelly Speed
Neal Williams	Lindsey Greene	Catherine Warren
		Catherine Quillian (youth)
		Helen Slawson (youth)
Staff Attendees:	Other Attendees:	Guests
Rebekah LeMon-Moderator		
Elizabeth Davis		
Andrew Esqueda		
Lucy Strong		

Serving of Wine Policy

Book of Order: F-1.0404

Core Values(s): Worship Creatively

Beginning in May 2014, Session approved a motion from the Worship and Music Committee to allow wine, including sparkling, to be served at wedding receptions held at Trinity Presbyterian Church, subject to review after a two-year period ending April 30, 2016. Evening receptions shall end no later than 10:00. Wine must be served by a catering company licensed to serve wine.

After the two-year period of successful implementation, additional committees began to approach Session to approve the serving of wine, including sparkling, by a licensed third party for Trinity sponsored events.

In October 2016 and in keeping with the wine policy established by the Session in 2014, Session approved a motion from the Congregational Activities and Events Committee to allow wine (including sparkling) to be served at the reception prior to the Madrigal Feast to be held at Trinity Presbyterian Church on Thursday December 7, 2017.

80

A. Requirements:

1. **Weddings:** As of February 2018, Session approved the serving of wine, including sparkling, for wedding receptions. If alcohol is being served on the Trinity campus, a service or caterer that can provide a Certificate of Insurance (COI) with Trinity as a named insured is required. The caterer's proof of liability insurance must be presented to the church at least 10 days in advance of the event. This documentation must include the insurance agent's name, company name, policy number, contact telephone number, and must list Trinity Presbyterian Church as *An Additional Insured*, not just a Certificate Holder.
2. **Trinity Events:** As of May 13, 2019 Session approved the serving of wine, including sparkling, at Trinity sponsored events other than wedding receptions such as Jazz in the Courtyard, Madrigal Feast, etc.. If alcohol is being served on the Trinity campus at a Trinity sponsored event, a licensed bartender and a liquor liability insurance rider to Trinity's policy are required. Drink tickets are pre-sold and limited to two per person.

Revised: 10/16/17; 2/19/2018; 2/11/21

Adopted: April 28, 2014

Budget: Unified Budget and Gift Guidelines

Book of Order:

Core Values(s):

2023 Member Call Campaign

Objective: Reach out to every Trinity household to let them know that the church is energized and back in full swing, to encourage renewed involvement, and to simply say hello and can the church help you with any needs that are not being met.

Results: Objective was met with the help of many church volunteers.

Comments/suggestions from members and possible actions to be taken:

Worship

- Return acolytes to services on Sunday.
- How to set up for a funeral at Trinity.
- How to set up baptisms.
- Hold church in chapel sometimes. Miss that space.
- Put Bibles back in balcony.
- No politics from the pulpit. Just want to hear Gods word.
- Don't like passing of the peace.
- Hear Rebekah more from the pulpit.
- Still have childcare for 5-year-olds at 11:00 service on Sundays.
- Church bags for kids are not complete.

Mission

- More in-house mission projects.
- What has happened to habitat for humanity? Is missed.
- Need on-site mission opportunities.
- Come up with a new mission commitment that members can get excited about.
- Provide information on all mission support from trinity not just Haiti, Cuba, agape, and refugee.
- More emphasis on and support of sex trafficking initiatives particularly of children.

CFM / YFM

- Church bags for kids are not complete.

Adult Education

- Need a variety of church school topics not just ones on justice.
- Need a theologian in residence like we used to have.

Pastoral Care

- Set up church streaming in a room at Canterbury court and lenbrook each Sunday so members (and any others) can worship together at these locations.
- Put birth announcements in church bulletins.
- As was done once, ministers should call a group. Maybe alphabetically each week before staff meetings to see if prayers are needed and even if not, they will be prayed for.
- Lots dealing with caregiving of parents, spouses, and other family members. Provide more church support maybe through church school and small groups.

Communications

- My Trinity needs a tutorial.
- Members need to be able to update their own information on church records.
- Video technology for church school and services needs to be made and kept straight.
- All church members need to get church emails. Some are not getting them and want them.
- Maybe in Around Trinity include all things going on like staff changes.
- Church website architecture is not logical. Simple searches take too long and are difficult.

Engagement

- More activities at night for professional women.
- More activities at church for seniors like shooting hoops, horseshoes, etc., not just trips.
- Resurrect Boomers parties and start church dinner groups.
- Congregational lunch after church periodically.
- Zip code gatherings to know who lives in area for help including transportation.
- More small inclusive groups.
- Lots dealing with caregiving of parents, spouses, and other family members. Provide more church support maybe through church school and small groups.
- Don't like being videotaped at church on Sunday mornings.

Buildings and Grounds

- Need bus for prime timers.

Staff

- Need a theologian in residence like we used to have.
- How will any additional general funds be used Need periodic staffing updates.
- Need a full time minister devoted to pastoral care. Tom Farmer is overloaded.
- Praises for Rebekah and trinity ministerial staff.

Other

- Love emphasis on children in services.
- Lots of fiction books donated to library. What happened to them.
- Some comments on the conflict around Pam's tenure
- Several returning to church having attended elsewhere.

Call Campaign by the Numbers

- 34 volunteers
- 818 households were contacted out of 852 (34 members not contacted)
- 196 requested information changes in church files
- 19 requested to be removed from church rolls (mostly have moved out of town.)
- 9 requested to go inactive
- 13 requested help with involvement
- 301 unable to reach (we know some of these are happy and did not respond for that reason. Know of at least 31 who fit this profile) (270 or less are truly no responders)

Summary:

Out of 852 church households, 818 households were contacted, 34 were not contacted and at least 529 happy camper households.

Trinity Presbyterian Church
Worship Attendance 2023

online views calculated by IP address, multiply each IP address by 1.5 to get a more accurate count of people viewing

	9am Livestream Views	9am Video Views	Total 9 am online	9am Livestream Views	9am Video Views	Total 9 am online	9am In-Person	Total In-Person	Total Attendance	NOTES
January 1, 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a	72	57	129	n/a	116	245	Communion / one service / New Year's Day
January 8, 2023	12	55	67	64	52	116	62	250	495	
January 15, 2023	n/a	n/a	0	125	140	265	n/a	468	733	ROL Installation
January 22, 2023	11	30	41	95	60	155	68	276	540	
January 29, 2023	10	45	55	87	98	185	85	246	571	
February 5, 2023	10	52	62	69	78	147	147	225	581	
February 12, 2023	13	21	34	60	42	102	80	198	414	
February 19, 2023	11	30	41	68	60	128	70	241	480	
February 26, 2023	6	26	32	59	57	116	88	205	441	
March 5, 2023	15	34	49	66	55	121	68	270	508	Communion / New members
March 12, 2023	5	41	46	65	64	129	35	212	422	Baptism / Daylight Saving Time
March 19, 2023	16	57	73	64	98	162	101	351	687	Youth Sunday
March 26, 2023	15	36	51	128	127	255	75	467	848	Music Sunday
April 2, 2023	11	60	71	78	91	169	67	353	660	Psalm Sunday / Communion
April 9, 2023	n/a	n/a	0	111	118	229	326	714	1269	Easter Sunday (all in Sanctuary)
April 16, 2023	12	35	47	54	54	108	113	145	413	
April 23, 2023	n/a	n/a	0	86	94	180	n/a	320	500	LCS Installation
April 30, 2023	11	56	67	69	63	132	85	277	561	Choir Sunday
May 7, 2023	20	48	68	79	48	127	97	276	568	Communion
May 14, 2023	3	47	50	51	53	104	102	305	561	Baptisms
May 21, 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a	74	68	142	n/a	416	558	Elder ordination, new members, Church BBQ
May 28, 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a	61	44	105	n/a	124	229	Memorial Day / One Service
June 4, 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a	77	29	106	n/a	286	392	One Service - 10am
June 11, 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a	85	103	128	n/a	276	304	One Service - 10am
June 18, 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a	72	18	90	n/a	218	308	One Service - 10am
June 25, 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a	96	126	216	n/a	297	513	One Service - 10am
July 2, 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	44	0	n/a	145	145	One Service - 10am
July 9, 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a	42	27	69	n/a	180	249	One Service - 10am
July 16, 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a	52	17	69	n/a	151	220	One Service - 10am
July 23, 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a	87	17	104	n/a	214	318	One Service - 10am
July 30, 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a	87	9	96	n/a	184	280	One Service - 10am

Trinity Presbyterian Church
Monthly Financial Statement Summary
YTD Actuals to Budget Analysis
As of July 31, 2023

A		B		C		D		E		F		G	
YTD - 7.31.2023		2023 Actual		2023 YTD Budget		Favorable		Relative To BUDGET		Net F/(U)		Comments	
						+		Unfavorable	=				
1	Income												
2	Pledged Income	\$	2,168,210.35	\$	2,268,826.46								
3	Non-Pledged Income		43,636.08		39,681.62								
4	Trust Fund Income		76,889.46		75,726.00								
5	Other Income		95,510.21		22,666.38								
6	Activities and Recreation		0.00		25,000.00								
7	Stock Gain/Loss		2,144.05		(875.00)								
8	Total Income	\$	2,386,390.15	\$	2,431,025.46								
9													
10	Expenses												
11													
12	Congregation	\$	17,525.79	\$	21,058.31								
13	Children & Families		12,570.76		12,275.00								
14	Youth & Families		15,404.34		35,887.39								
15	Adults		5,542.14		19,562.06								
16	Worship and Music		31,662.03		45,295.88								
17	Mission		249,483.95		282,374.61								
18	Commitment		49.17		5,250.00								
19	Finance & Administration		297,961.82		323,058.56								
20	Property		329,633.96		367,142.86								
21	Personnel		849,905.04		1,141,354.76								
22	Childcare		7,409.91		9,333.31								
23													
24													
25	Total Expenses	\$	1,817,148.91	\$	2,262,592.74								
26													
27													
28													
29													
30	Net Y-T-D Total	\$	569,241.24	\$	168,432.72								
31													
32													
33	Prior Month	\$	924,663.38	\$	\$310,221.82								
34													
35													
36													
37													
38													
39													
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Trinity Presbyterian Church
Summary Analysis - Operations
General Fund
January to July 2023

Accounts	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	MTD Budget Variance	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Budget Variance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
Revenues								
Pledged Income								
11.40000 - Current Year Pledges	\$143,281.98	\$193,202.43	(\$49,920.45)	\$1,997,947.94	\$2,188,444.40	(\$190,496.46)	\$3,504,000.00	\$1,506,052.06
11.40001 - Additional Pledge	\$6,123.00	\$0.00	\$6,123.00	\$21,903.00	\$0.00	\$21,903.00	\$0.00	(\$21,903.00)
11.40010 - Pledges - Prior Years	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$152,522.12	\$84,465.37	\$68,056.75	\$85,000.00	\$67,522.12)
11.40025 - Online Gift Processing Fees	(\$363.23)	(\$583.33)	\$220.10	(\$4,162.71)	(\$4,083.31)	(\$79.40)	(\$7,000.00)	(\$2,837.29)
Total Pledged Income	\$149,041.75	\$192,619.10	(\$43,577.35)	\$2,168,210.35	\$2,268,826.46	(\$100,616.11)	\$3,582,000.00	\$1,413,789.65
Non-Pledged Income								
11.41000 - Non-pledged Contributions	\$3,312.00	\$3,746.68	(\$434.68)	\$43,636.08	\$39,681.62	\$3,954.46	\$100,000.00	\$56,363.92
Total Non-Pledged Income	\$3,312.00	\$3,746.68	(\$434.68)	\$43,636.08	\$39,681.62	\$3,954.46	\$100,000.00	\$56,363.92
Trust Fund Income								
Other Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$76,889.46	\$75,726.00	\$1,163.46	\$151,452.00	\$74,562.54
Activities & Recreation	\$13,370.09	\$3,333.34	\$10,036.75	\$95,510.21	\$22,666.38	\$72,843.83	\$40,000.00	(\$55,510.21)
Stock Gain/Loss	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	(\$25,000.00)	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Total Revenues	\$165,723.84	\$199,574.12	(\$33,850.28)	\$2,386,390.15	\$2,431,025.46	(\$44,635.31)	\$3,896,952.00	\$1,510,561.85
Expenses								
Ministry to the Congregation								
Ministry - Children & Families	\$508.08	\$3,008.33	(\$2,500.25)	\$17,525.79	\$21,058.31	(\$3,532.52)	\$36,100.00	\$18,574.21
Ministry - Youth & Families	\$6,217.45	\$1,325.00	\$4,892.45	\$12,570.76	\$12,275.00	\$295.76	\$27,400.00	\$14,829.24
Ministry to Adults	(\$443.95)	\$5,126.77	(\$5,570.72)	\$15,404.34	\$35,887.39	(\$20,483.05)	\$61,521.00	\$46,116.66
Worship & Music	\$322.72	\$2,794.58	(\$2,471.86)	\$5,542.14	\$19,562.06	(\$14,019.92)	\$33,535.00	\$27,992.86
Mission	\$2,697.65	\$6,470.84	(\$3,773.19)	\$31,662.03	\$45,295.88	(\$13,633.85)	\$77,650.00	\$45,987.97
Commitment	\$157,915.00	\$40,339.23	\$117,575.77	\$249,483.95	\$282,374.61	(\$32,890.66)	\$484,071.00	\$234,587.05
Finance & Administration	\$0.00	\$750.00	(\$750.00)	\$49.17	\$5,250.00	(\$5,200.83)	\$9,000.00	\$8,950.83
Property	\$58,844.70	\$45,794.08	\$13,050.62	\$297,961.82	\$323,058.56	(\$25,096.74)	\$553,029.00	\$255,067.18
Personnel	\$41,846.22	\$51,948.98	(\$10,102.76)	\$329,633.96	\$367,142.86	(\$37,508.90)	\$642,038.00	\$312,404.04
Childcare	\$125,436.18	\$163,050.68	(\$37,614.50)	\$849,905.04	\$1,141,354.76	(\$291,449.72)	\$1,956,608.00	\$1,106,702.96
Total Expenses	\$394,016.01	\$321,941.82	\$72,074.19	\$1,817,148.91	\$2,262,592.74	(\$445,443.83)	\$3,896,952.00	\$2,079,803.09
Net Operating Total	(\$228,292.17)	(\$122,367.70)	(\$105,924.47)	\$569,241.24	\$168,432.72	\$400,808.52	\$0.00	(\$569,241.24)

Trinity Presbyterian Church
June & July 2023
Monthly Statistical Report to Session
Submitted 8/15/2023

1,635 total active members at Trinity as of 5/31/23

Member additions this month/period: 0

Member subtractions this month/period: 3

- Linda Bath, died June 16th
- Emma Pegues and Matthew Smith (and non-confirmed children, Reed and Calhoun Smith), moved to New Orleans and transferred membership to St. Charles Presbyterian.

1,632 total active members at Trinity as of 7/31/23

Other membership notes for June and July 2023:

Births: 0

Baptisms: 1

- Genevieve Alison Love, baptized June 11th

Non-confirmed children added: N/A

Pastor Affiliates added: N/A

Requested move to Inactive member list: N/A

Trinity Adult Education Committee Report – August 8th, 2023

Vision Statement: Making God's love visible

Committee Purpose: Trinity's Adult Education Committee believes lifelong learning to be at the heart of the Christian life; to be a disciple is to be a student. To promote individual growth in community, we encourage intellectual inquiry and spiritual curiosity at every age, knowing that Christian unity does not require uniformity. Understanding that learning is holistic, the committee promotes engagement with the world all around us and active development of spiritual practices that connect us to God and one another, so we may more faithfully follow in the way of Jesus.

Committee Membership: Eleanor Baughman (Trinity Librarian), Jim Henderson '24, Mike Hobbs '24, Nick Leet '26, Betsy Oliver '26, Brian Reed '24, Allen Spetnagel (chair) '24, Velma Tilley '24, John Tirrill '25, Rebekah Close LeMon (pastoral advisor)

Current Activity Report

The Candler Foundry will offer a new church school class at Trinity beginning 10 a.m. on Sunday, September 17th. Dr. Joel Kemp of Candler School of Theology will lead us in "The Bible and Race in America," which will explore ways that the Bible has been used to construct, support, and also challenge America's racial caste systems. Please help us encourage members to register in advance using the free promo code "TrinityC" at checkout on the following website: <https://bit.ly/bibleandrace23>.

The Trinity Library no longer accepts donations. Please spread the word that members can donate books to AAUW Bookfair, which has several drop-off locations around the metro area. Visit <https://bookfairaauw.org/donate-books> for more information.

Foundations will sponsor a mini-series of classes entitled "Presbyterianism 101" to discuss the distinguishing characteristics of our denomination.

Rebekah LeMon's Book Study for Arthur Brooks' "Love Your Enemies" begins Sunday, October, 29th during the church school hour. The class will lead up to the third annual Kittrell lecture on Thursday, November 16th. Participants will then discuss what was learned from the lecture on Sunday, November 19th.

Adult Education Videos are becoming available on Trinity's YouTube channel thanks to the efforts of Phil Hawkins. Please watch them and share them with your networks:

<https://www.youtube.com/@TrinityAtlanta/playlists>

II. Upcoming and New Project Report

Class on Trinity's Cuba Mission begins on December 3rd with *The History of Cuba* led by Mac Irvin, followed by *Challenges and Celebrations of Contemporary Cuba* led by Janet Edwards and Alex Erwin on December 10th, and concluding on December 17th with *Reflections on the Cuba Mission Trip* by Trinity members. Volunteers are still needed to speak at the final class.

Advent Bible Study Class will also meet beginning December 3rd, following the lectionary and connecting with Advent sermon series.

Mission Council will present two classes on January 7th, 2024 and January 14th, respectively. These classes will highlight some of the mission projects being done by Trinity members and encourage volunteerism.

More exciting courses are in the works! Please **invite** people at Trinity and beyond to attend worship AND Sunday morning church school classes either in person or on Zoom.

III. Motions for Session: None at this time.

Congregational Life

Committee Report for August 2023

VISION STATEMENT: We are engaged in a concerted effort to both implement and support intergenerational activities and events in the life of Trinity.

COMMITTEE CHAIR: Nancy Calhoun

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: Emily Avant, Laura Bynum, Nancy Calhoun, Meade Conley, Bess George, Molly Jamison, Catherine Kraft, Seale Lindsay, Tom Owens, Natalie Solomon, Ellie Sullivan, Adrienne Trainor, Olivia Wall, Elizabeth Wickland, Dede Woodring, and Youth Elders: Catherine Quillian and Helen Slawson.

CURRENT ACTIVITY REPORT:

The committee meeting opened with a prayer from Lucy Strong. We jumped straight into business as many had time restraints.

Welcome Back BBQ and Bluegrass: Dede Woodring will head up the decorations set up and take down on September 10th. Adrienne, Seale, Laura and Catherine (Kraft) will help as well.

Advent Devotional: Molly Jamison updated us on the progress. All entries are due Sept. 10th. None received as of yet. Weekly reminder emails have begun. Once submitted, Ellie Sullivan will edit and work on layout.

Church Decorations: Seale Lindsay has begun purchasing updated holiday decorations. We will begin decorating the church campus the week of November 27th.

Trinity's Got Talent: Due to the huge success from last year's show we would like to have it again in February 2024 (need to get an exact date on the calendar). From then on we will have it every two years.

Swing and Stroll: Spring 2025

Thursday Night Suppers: We are bringing them back!! We will start with having them quarterly and will coordinate with choir practice. Hoping to have it 5:30-7:00. We will keep it easy with Moe's one time, pizza the next and hopefully by Spring we will have a big enough following to have food trucks for our final dinner.

Hospitality: We will continue with the monthly snack and drinks drop off for the hospitality team who works so hard to help this committee and the church.

New Business:

Bess brought up for all to keep an ear out for new projects and events that other churches do in effort to keep our involvement fresh and inviting.

Closing:

Nancy and Lucy thanked everyone for being involved and especially the Youth Elders who chose to branch out and join our committee!

Pastors' Aid June 2023 Report

Vision Statement: Making God's Love Visible

Committee Purpose:

The Pastor's Aid Committee is a subcommittee of Congregational Care and provides support to the families of Trinity, especially when they are ill, homebound, bereaved or marking life's milestones.

Committee Co-Chair(s):

Elsie Henderson, Chair and Anne Snyder assisting.

Committee Membership:

There are currently forty+ members on the committee, with varying degrees of participation. The Pastor who leads Congregational Care participates in the meetings.

I. Current Activity Report:

Receptions:

June 22, 2023: A reception was held for Linda Bath.

19 birthday cards were sent to members 80 and older.

4 bereavement notes were sent.

11 Notes of Get Well and Encouragement.

Flowers were delivered to: Sally Montgomery, David Word, Betsy Daugherty, Phyliss Sommer (donor), Lewis Wilson, Sally Hawkins, Ron Turbayne, Betts Love, Bettye Sue Wright, Janie and Buddy Ennis and Bill Bath.

Upcoming & New Project Report:

- The Silver polishing event was postponed until fall when more volunteers are available.
- A notice is being published in the Friday Trinity Times requesting assistance with flower deliveries on Sundays after church.

II. Motions for Session Vote: none

STEPHEN MINISTRY

COMMITTEE REPORT for August 2023

VISION STATEMENT: Making God's Love Visible

Stephen Ministry seeks to follow Christ by preparing lay ministers who commit to one-on-one relationships with members of our congregation who have asked for help during a difficult time.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Scott Calhoun, Paul Marston, Cindy Stancil

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

There are **28** active Stephen Ministers with several Stephen Ministers on Sabbatical or designated as being inactive.

I. CURRENT ACTIVITY REPORT

At our July meetings, we continued our discussion of the new resource book from Stephen Ministry titled *The Gift of Empathy*, having discussed the first half at our June meetings. The book focuses on how to practice empathy when engaged in a relationship with other people. The second half of the book focuses on practicing empathy within a number of specified relationships, such as spouses, children, other family members, and work relationships. As in June, we had robust discussions and many of us recognized the value of having this book among our regular resources.

Also in July, the Stephen Leaders held their annual planning session for the upcoming year. Carlton and Miranda Segrest have had to step back from leadership due to a number of personal complications in their lives, but they have offered to remain involved in the ministry and to provide special assistance to the leaders on specific projects as they are able. Tom Farmer also attended the Leader meeting and the group discussed ways of increasing communications and finding more opportunities to coordinate with the other caring ministries at Trinity. We also discussed the possibility of conducting training classes for a new class of Stephen Ministers in 2024. This is still under consideration.

At our August meetings, we discussed the impacts still being felt from the Covid-19 pandemic and how we as Stephen Ministers might find ways to provide care and comfort for those particular issues. Subsequently, the leaders met with Rebekah and discussed numerous ideas for increasing the visibility and utility of Stephen Ministry within the

Trinity congregation. In August we will also be sending out our annual covenants calling for our Stephen Ministers to commit to a year of involvement with the ministry.

Seven Stephen Ministers now have confidential care receivers. Several relationships have reached closure over the past several months and others are on the verge of closing. A number of Stephen Ministers remain active in the Visitation Ministry as well.

II. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

We have a full schedule planned for the upcoming church year, with continuing education, outside speakers, and internal discussions being central to the format of upcoming meetings. Our biggest challenge remains finding enough appropriate care receivers to match up with our talented Stephen Ministers so that we can provide the kind of one-on-one, confidential, Christian caregiving we have been trained to share. Information about the ministry is readily available and mentioned in church-wide communications, and a dedicated email address allows congregation members to reach out directly to request a Stephen Minister. The Leaders continue to work with staff to develop strategies for creating greater awareness and opportunities to provide caring ministry. We continue to be grateful for the support and guidance from the pastoral staff, especially from Rebekah and most notably, Tom Farmer.

III. MOTIONS FOR SESSION VOTE – None

Trinity Membership Committee Meeting

Minutes - Thursday Aug 3, 2023

Vision Statement: Welcome Intentionally and Gather Joyfully

Purpose/Mission

The Membership Committee's purpose is to

- Create welcoming spaces for visitors and guests to Trinity
- Engage new members fully in the life and work of Trinity
- Strengthen the relationships between Trinity members, and
- Engage members in the full congregational life of Trinity Church.

Members: **Wardlyn Bassler, Saralyn Bell, Chris Betts**, Miles Cline, Shirley Davis, **Janet Edwards, Ginny Hobbs, Amanda Jackson**, Bill Jaynes, Elizabeth Scholz, **Mary Kelly Speed, Lucy Strong** – highlighted committee members met via zoom on Thursday Aug 3 to restart a new year in membership.

Meeting Highlights:

Intro & Meeting Structure

We reviewed dates for the year ahead – 1st Thurs from 4-5 PM via Zoom. And caught up with our current committee members.

Discover Trinity Dates & Plan

We reviewed the rhythm and expectations for the Discover Trinity classes in the year ahead. Our team will save dates for 2 of us to attend the “Welcome & Explore” class after church. We will continue to track new members and help connect and welcome them. We will continue to evaluate the mentor matching process and consider restructuring to more of a group invitation to church events. And an annual welcome dinner.

DISCOVER TRINITY – 2023-2024

WELCOME & EXPLORE:

Sunday, October 1, 12:30am-2:30pm in Old Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 4, 12:30-2:30pm in Old Fellowship Hall

Sunday, June 2, 11:30pm-1:30pm in Old Fellowship Hall

Gather for lunch following worship to meet clergy and staff. We will explore Trinity's history, theology, worship life, and begin conversations about where you can connect more deeply at Trinity. This session will highlight how to connect in this community, answer your questions, and open doors for your involvement while also discussing what it means to be a member of Trinity.

COMMIT:

Tuesday, October 17, 6:00pm-7:00pm in Old Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, February 20, 6:00pm-7:00pm in Old Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, June 18, 6:00pm-7:00pm in Old Fellowship Hall

For those interested in joining Trinity as a member of the community of faith, come and share a meal and conversation with Trinity Session (leadership) as you formally join Trinity.

JOINING SUNDAY:

October 22, 11:00am in the Sanctuary during worship

February 15, 11:00 am in the Sanctuary during worship

June 23, 10:00am in the Sanctuary during worship

Join us in worship as we welcome you into our church family and introduce you to the congregation.

Engagement Fair – 8/27

Janet & Chris have done a magnificent job coordinating logistics and preparation for the Engagement Fair on SUNDAY AUGUST 27. Everyone should mark their calendar to help either as a committee member and/or with clean up after the event. Committees have received Signup Genius links to coordinate and assign folks to greet and explain group purpose and collect volunteer interest lists before and after church on Aug 27. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EA9AF2DAAFB6-trinity> Trinity "groups" will have table, flyer and runners to identify them in Williams Hall. The event is poised to be a special celebration of Trinity and an invitation to those who are looking to further "engage"!

Calling Campaign

Wardlyn gave final update to the team on the results and stats of our calling campaign. These will be shared at the August session meeting and shared with the Membership Committee by category. MANY contacts were updated and the results from the effort will help connect and unite our congregation in countless ways. Thank you Wardlyn for your idea, leadership and elbow grease to make this happen.

Next Time: Subcommittee Structure – we will work to form subcommittees for regular report out at Membership meetings so the work is done before the meeting and we hear the results. More to come.

Submitted by Reid Willingham

Mission Council Report to Session – June, 2023

Vision Statement: Making God's Love Visible

Committee Purpose:

Mission Council serves as the formal body of representatives for TPC's Mission Ministries and, through regular review of all activities determines the vision and course for this ministry. Its goal is to strengthen and support local, global, and denominational communities, particularly in the areas of advocacy, education, hunger. As a church, we believe in serving the common good by reaching out beyond ourselves, caring for God's creation, and boldly addressing human needs through social action and advocacy. We serve wholeheartedly as an expression of our faith, remembering that Jesus "came not to be served but to serve."

Committee Chair(s): Jim Stokes, Chair
Bright K. Wright, Vice-Chair

Committee Membership:

Class of 2024: Julie Hope, John Fenton, Chip Thompson, Catherine Warren
Class of 2025: Kristin Hunter, John Shepard, Jim Stokes, Bright Wright
Class of 2026: Dave Higgins, Paige Keller, Terri Pendergrast, Forrest Speed
Finance Committee Liaison: John Shepard
Staff Liaison: Rev. Lucy Strong

Members attending June 6, 2023 Mission Council Meeting:

Jim Stokes, Bright Wright, John Fenton, Kristin Hunter, Paige Keller, Terri Pendergrast, Chip Thompson, Rev. Lucy Strong

Meeting Report

The June, 2023, Meeting began with self-introductions by both new and current Mission Council members with each giving their connections to Mission at Trinity as well as their history at Trinity. In addition to providing personal background information, each member described for the other Councilmembers his/her reasons/inspiration for currently being involved in Mission at Trinity.

New Business:

Because of member scheduling conflicts before the normal meeting ending time, new business was considered first, and the Committee discussed whether to agree to sponsor adult education classes at the 9:00 adult education hour in August, 2023 (August 6, August 13, and August 20), as requested by the pastoral staff and some children's program leaders who wish to have more children's activities provided in August since school resumes at that time. (In keeping with Trinity's past tradition, however, there will continue to be only the 10 a.m. worship service until after Labor Day.)

The Committee discussed the request in depth, discussing concerns about whether there would be a sufficient critical mass of class attendees in August to warrant asking our mission partners to attend speak. Acknowledging the validity of this request, however, the Council declined to agree to conduct adult education classes on August 6 and 13 because most committee members who would be involved in organizing and leading these classes will be out of town for several weeks in July and early August and cannot commit to the undertaking. The Faith in Action subcommittee of the Mission Council has already agreed to conduct a class on August 20, 2023, however, to encourage more Trinity members to participate in the Georgia's Record Restriction Day on September 23, 2023.

The Mission council is very interested, in organizing "Speaking of Mission" adult education classes at future dates, and it appears from Allen Spetnagel, Adult Ed. Chair, that two Sundays in January, 2024, might be available for those classes.

Ongoing Mission Partner Activity Reports:

Trinity members continue to be involved with Trinity's Mission Partners (those to whom funds are allocated as part of the annual Mission budget and without the need to submit grant requests) but reports of this activity are briefer since most of the meeting was spend discussing possible classes.

Agape Youth & Family Center:

Agape has continued to be busy:

1. Agape offered a number of sessions for its staff focusing on mental wellness during Mental Health Awareness Month. Activities centered around Mindfulness Mondays, Wellness Wednesdays, and Physical Fridays.
2. The Agape Class of 2023 had 11 students who graduated (including the largest group of male graduates in Agape History): 10 graduated from North Atlanta High, and one from Atlanta Classical Academy. Some of the major success stories of this class: 4 students committed to 4-year institutions, 5 students committed to 2-year trade schools (Georgia Tech, Oglethorpe University, Georgia Perimeter College, Kennesaw State University, Gwinnett Tech, West Georgia Tech). 2 graduates are entering the workforce.
3. The Agape afterschool program ended the school year with a week of Agape Spirit, hosting a Luau Party hosted and sponsored by Your 3rd Spot, a "Neon Party" at Agape for elementary students, obstacle courses, and a few pajama jam/movie days for the middle schoolers.
4. Agape hosted its annual Take Flight Ceremony for graduating 8th graders, celebrating their first milestone and transition into high school this fall at North Atlanta High. Ana Bernardino-Flores (Sutton Middle Education Specialist) and Jaslynn Tarver (Agape's Youth Instructor for Middle School) offered inspiring messages to the graduates.
5. Thanks to Agape partner Julie's Dream, Agape was able to take its seniors on an excursion to the GA/FL Coast for outdoor adventures, including a kayak adventure to Cumberland Island, a nature tour of the Okefenokee Swamp, and a beach dinner at Amelia Island.

Buckhead Christian Ministry, Cuba, Haiti: Because of the lengthy earlier discussion, because Steven Darst reported on Cuba at the last meeting, and because there is no new activity with Haiti or BCM, no reports were submitted for these partners.

Faith in Action: FIA continues its enthusiastic activities, planning an adult education class for August 20, 2023, in preparation for the Record Restriction Event on September 23 with the Georgia Justice Project and discussing the Committee's involvement with Metro Re-entry including the

currently scheduled re-entry family day event for men on September 9, 2023. The Committee will also seek support for the federal record restriction and sealing proposed legislation (federal Clean Slate Act and Fresh Start Act) which would provide relief similar to the existing Georgia legislation under which several Trinity attorneys are assisting the Georgia Justice Project.

FIA assisted with packing food provided by the Atlanta Community Food Bank for Grady patients and hopes to participate, again, in the future. FIA also intends to have an “Advocacy 101” evening program in the fall, and another Montgomery trip is scheduled for October 21, 2023. FIA hopes to provide participants on this trip with opportunities for pre-education or post-trip reflection.

Impact Partner Activity Reports:

Meals on Wheels: Trinity has adopted one Saturday meal delivery route, and more than a dozen Trinity members are actively participating in delivering meals to 8 (formerly 10) seniors nearby. Trinity hopes to take on additional routes in the fall months.

Other Business:

The next Mission Council meeting will be held on August 2, 2023.

The remaining meetings for the 2023-2024 church year will be held on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.: September 6, October 4, November 1, and December 6, 2023, January 10 (2nd week), February 7, March 6, April 10 (2nd week), and May 1, and June 5, 2024.

Motions for Session Vote: None.

Mission Council Report to Session – August, 2023

Vision Statement: Making God's Love Visible

Committee Purpose:

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Class of 2026: Dave Higgins, Paige Keller, Terri Pendergrast, Forrest Speed
Finance Committee Liaison: John Shepard
Staff Liaison: Rev. Lucy Strong

Members attending the August 2, 2023 Meeting: Jim Stokes, Bright Wright, John Fenton, Julie Hope, Kristin Hunter, Paige Keller, Terri Pendergrast, Forrest Speed, Chip Thompson, Catherine Warren, Rev. Lucy Strong.

Ongoing Mission Partner and Impact Grant Recipients Activity Reports:

Agape: The Mission Council's August 2, 2023, meeting began with a brief update from Lucy about the Agape "Back to School Bonanza" one week ago (formerly the "Great Backpack Giveaway). This year, Agape provided more than 200 students with not only backpacks and school supplies but also water bottles, lunch boxes, assistance with clothing and shoes, and healthcare resources to help students be more fully prepared to begin the school year and more successful during the school year.

IRC: John Fenton advised that IRC expects to receive a new group of refugees in the near future and hopes that Trinity can, again, furnish apartments for two families once living facilities can be found. IRC will provide some of the furniture needed. A contribution of \$5,000 from Trinity's IRC would be needed and John will present a proposal for such expense in the near future. Additionally, assistance with ESL classes continues to be a great need with which Trinity volunteers can assist.

Haiti: Julie Hope and former Mission Council member Barbara Robertson (also a current La Gonave board member) then gave a more lengthy report on Trinity's 20-year partnership with the Episcopal diocese on the island of La Gonave in Haiti, which partnership initially began as part of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta's existing partnership with La Gonave which partnership continues with several metro churches.

Trinity has three areas of focus on La Gonave: 1) education, 2) healthcare, and 3) economic development. Since the partnership began, Trinity has made regular annual trips to the island until COVID

to assist with medical care, education, and taking medical and other requested supplies, much of which were donated as Gifts for Good at the annual Trinity Christmas Market. Despite Trinity's inability to travel to Haiti since COVID due to the political situation (the assassination of the President), gang, and terrorism issues, Barbara has continued to stay in touch with Trinity's partner school, St. Francis, the medical clinic, and other native helpers. One current effort which Trinity supports is working to resolve the malnutrition problem on the island where there are more than 500 hungry and malnourished children and their families there. A significant part of this effort is the production and provision of Plumpy Nut, a concentrated protein and vitamin-filled "peanut butter-type substance" which is produced on the island.

Trinity also participates in efforts to oversee and assist with the operation of the island's schools which serve 687 children, also provide literacy education for more than 300 adults, and are run by the Episcopal church. Recently, a school computer lab supported by Trinity was set up in a shipping container at St. Francis School. Additionally, native nurses on La Gonave help administer free maternal healthcare and prenatal care. In 2022, the clinic on La Gonave logged more than 10,000 clinic visits.

Meals on Wheels: Bright reported that Meals on Wheels continues to have a regular cadre of 12 – 20 volunteers who help deliver meals on Trinity's Saturday route, and she hopes that Trinity can increase its numbers of regular volunteers and possibly adopt a second route in the near future. To increase Trinity awareness of mission opportunities at Meals on Wheels and with other partners, short videos will be created by Phil Hawkins and posted on Trinity's website.

Home of Hope: Dave Higgins could not be present to describe this new opportunity for Trinity, but Jim advised that Sam Johnson, a native Guinean who graduated from Mercer University and founder of this orphanage in Guinea, will be returning to Atlanta in November and more information will be available.

Central Presbyterian Shelter Breakfasts: Debbie Stair and Mickie Benn are organizing Trinity volunteers (7 per week) to assist with providing and serving breakfast (boiled eggs, fruit, fruit breads, etc.) to approximately 30-40 homeless persons at the Shelter on a regular basis. Trinity youth participated in this effort in July and were very enthusiastic about the program.

Grady Food and Medicines: Shannon Sale, a Trinity member who works at Grady, is helping organize regular food distributions from the Atlanta Food Bank to Grady hungry families, and Trinity will participate in a distribution on Wednesday, September 13 near the Latin American Association on Buford Highway.

Street Grace: Catherine Warren advised that she has been approached by the Festival of Trees Committee which, this year, is going to donate all proceeds from the sale of donated trees to Street Grace. Catherine agreed to head this effort on behalf of Trinity to benefit Street Grace, and she will be head of all volunteers whom she will solicit to prepare the tree to be donated by 11/17/23. Trinity's application to FOT must be submitted by 9/30/23.

Faith in Action (complete minutes attached): Faith in Action continues to address many current issues, attempting to assist with finding solutions to them. FIA is currently planning to conduct an adult education class on August 20 ("Bringing the Beloved Community") which will highlight several of its current efforts, is assisting Peachtree Road UMC with another "Metro Re-Entry Family Day" on September 9 where 20 Trinity volunteers will be needed, and is also organizing a record-restriction event at Trinity on September 23 in conjunction with the Georgia Justice Project.

Trinity Engagement Opportunities

In addition to the items mentioned above, Mission Council will begin planning its two "Speaking of Mission" adult education classes for January 7 and 14, 2024.

At the upcoming Engagement Fair to be held on August 27, Catherine Warren will be in charge of preparing Mission Council's flyer of opportunities to be distributed, and she and Jim Stokes will be present at the Mission table to answer questions and invite volunteer participation.

Upcoming Mission Council Meetings

The next Mission Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The remaining meetings for the 2023-2024 church year will be held on September 6, October 4, November 1, and December 6, 2023, January 10 (2nd week), February 7, March 6, April 10 (2nd week), and May 1, and June 5, 2024.

MOTIONS FOR SESSION VOTE

Mission Council proposes the following special offerings to occur online or in person during worship services be approved by the Session for 2023-2024:

1. **PATH (Presbyterians Answer to Hunger)** **Sunday, October 1, 2023**
 - This offering is intended to fund hunger relief, and the Mission Council decides how to distribute these hunger relief funds.
 - Historically, 100% funds Trinity's St. Luke's Bags given to Clyde's Kitchen at Crossroads Ministries in mid- late December, and also to the Central Outreach and Advocacy Center
 - Offering via pew envelopes TPC creates and TPC online giving link
 - Offering is usually collected during both worship services on World Communion Sunday in October (formerly received the Sunday before Thanksgiving).|
2. **Christmas Joy Offering (PCUSA)** **Sunday, December 17, 2023**
 - 100% goes to Presbyterian Mission Agency (50% Assistance Program Board of Pensions and 50% Racial Ethnic Schools & Colleges)
 - Offering via pew envelopes PCUSA provides and TPC online giving link
 - Offering during both worship services, usually the 4th Sunday of Advent.
3. **One Great Hour of Sharing (PCUSA)** **Sunday, March 31, 2024**
 - 100% to Presbyterian Mission Agency (36% Hunger Program, 32% Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, 32% Self-Development of People)
 - Offering via pew envelopes PCUSA provides and TPC online giving link
 - Offering during all worship services on Easter Sunday.
4. **Presbyterian Homes of Georgia - Caring Hands Fund** **Sunday May 12, 2024**
 - 100% goes to Caring Hands Fund for financially vulnerable residents in Presbyterian Homes of Georgia
 - Offering via pew envelopes provided by Presbyterian Homes and TPC online giving link
 - Offering during both worship services, usually on Mother's Day.

**Faith in Action
Minutes
May 24, 2023**

Vision Statement: Making God's Love Visible

Purpose/Mission: The Faith in Action Committee responds to the call in Micah to “do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with your God,” and Jesus’ directions to care for the stranger, the poor, the excluded, the imprisoned, and indeed, all of God’s creation. We strive to provide education about the pressing needs of our time and to present effective ways to address them. We seek through advocacy, reformation of public policy, and pursuit of justice, to impact the longstanding societal, legal and ecological issues that perpetuate suffering.

Committee Membership: Kelly Basler, **Anne Blitch**, Margaret Bond, Miles Cline, **Donna Draughon**, Norma Driebe, **Janet Edwards**, **Lasley Gober**, **Larry Gentry**, **Ginny Hobbs**, **John Jones**, **Paige Keller**, Jean Lapitan, **Sally Montgomery**, **Gina Nana**, **Esther Stokes** (chair), **Velma Tilley**, Carianne Tucker, Juanita Watson, Christie Woodfin; pastoral staff: Lucy Strong and senior pastor Rebekah LeMon. Guests: Teed Poe, **Lucy Crosswell**, Shannon Sale

Velma opened the meeting with PRAYER in the absence of Lucy Strong, who is on a much-deserved vacation.

Updates:

End Mass Incarceration (EMI) work:

Record Restriction Event September 23

- Esther summarized info learned from Deputy DA Ramona Toole. A key point: it is important for us to reach out to the community to bring them in, as much as it is for the DA’s office to do this work.
- Jim Gober will work on recruiting lawyers to assist the Georgia Justice Project lawyers. Anne Blitch will assist with the effort with our lawyers.
- Ginny Hobbs, Donna Draughon, Gina Nana and Paige Keller will be in charge of the job and resource fair. They plan to work off the list of entities derived from the Solicitor-General’s Record Restriction Event job fair in April, plus suggestions of the Tommy Nobis Center, NAPA Auto Parts, the City of Refuge, and the National Restaurant Association. Anyone with suggestions of entities for this fair should send them to these four organizers.
- Velma Tilley will be in charge of all greeters—outdoor, including parking directions, and indoor.
- Anne Blitch will work with Lucy Strong on set-up and food (we anticipate providing water and snacks, not meals).
- Lasley Gober will continue to work on the communication with the congregation document, along with Esther and Jim Gober. The goal is to produce something for Lucy

Strong to review on her return. Lucy Crosswell volunteered later in our meeting to help review this as well.

- Lucy Crosswell volunteered to communicate with The Temple to learn how they handled communication with the community/prospective clients/outreach/PR, and she suggested inviting the relevant communications person from The Temple to our next FIA meeting.
- How will we pay for any financial needs for this event? **Velma moved to commit \$1000 from FIA funds toward this event. It was seconded and approved by the committee.**

Special Sunday School event on August 20: Lasley (and someone) will present the Record Restriction Event and also our EMI work at Metro Re-entry in Sunday School August 20 at 9am. Anne Blitch cannot be there but the committee urged her to ask Doug Amarr to talk about this involvement of Trinity folks with GJP. This is an opportunity to promote these events to people who want to become more involved at Trinity.

In the future:

- It was decided that we do want to volunteer at the men's Metro re-entry family day on September 9. This date is earlier this year, and we will recruit from the social justice list that Ginny built last year, to Theology on Tap, and then to the whole congregation.
- We do not know a date for the Metro re-entry family day for women so this is on hold.
- Metro re-entry interviews with returning citizens? We have not heard anything.

Advocacy work:

Esther brought to the attention of the group two federal bills regarding record restriction that, if passed, would create federal record sealing and incentivize clean slates. GJP is supporting and asked us to vocalize our support with federal and state elected officials for the Clean Slate Act and the Fresh Start Act. Anne Blitch pointed out that these bills deal with federal offenses and will have no impact on Georgia law offenses.

Afghan Adjustment Act: John Fenton will provide info to our next meeting on June 28 at 6pm.

Lasley said we will have an Advocacy 101 evening in the fall. Details to come.

Hunger work:

Velma and Esther reported briefly on the very affirming experience packing food for Grady patients at Grady downtown, organized by Shannon Sale, who could not be with us at this FIA meeting. Grady patients receive a prescription for healthy food, and there are opportunities to provide this food (supplied by the Atlanta Community Food Bank) in Brookhaven and at Grady downtown. We will discuss with Shannon how we can continue this work in the future.

Racial Justice work:

Lucy Crosswell recounted the avenues we had discussed following the engagement fair last Fall when we collected names of those expressing interest in racial justice/anti-racist engagement. Opportunities included learning (Adult Ed, Rebekah's Sermon Series, Bryan Stevenson, EMI Conference), action/service

(FIA, GJP, Metro Entry), and Opportunities for personal work (Small group). To further look into Personal Work we explored Kaleid, Be the Bridge and Seeing Whiteness for Anti-Racist Action as potential entities to help continue Trinity's interpersonal work to promote continued growth in anti-racist practices, allyship and understanding. All three used different avenues from small groups to blended groups led by black voices, to both small group and field trip/ immersion experiences. Paige Keller participated in Be the Bridge and did not find it a good fit for Trinity at this time. We discussed how current interest might again be initiated (engagement fair?), budgeted, tended consistently, and whether to consider the offer of a consultant to remain wholeheartedly engaged.

With the next Montgomery trip coming on October 21, we also discussed an annual effort to incorporate pre-learning, contemplation and active pre and post engagement around the trip to Montgomery. Should we hire a pre-facilitator and/or someone to travel with us on the bus? Should we provide this trip every fall, maybe every spring? We could create content for those attending, or we could have Montgomery be the culmination of several weeks of work. Should we use a consultant? Should we do a survey after people go to Montgomery? We can continue this conversation when Lucy Strong is back.

Velma closed our meeting with a BLESSING.

Important dates:

FIA meetings: June 28 6:00pm, no meeting in July

EMI committee meeting will be virtual (not at St. Luke's this time): June 4 1:30 on zoom

Present Record Restriction Event and EMI work in Sunday School: August 20 9am

Record Restriction Event September 23 9am-2pm, the event itself 10am-1pm

Montgomery trip October 21

Personnel Committee Session Report

August 2023

Vision Statement Making God's Love Visible

Committee Purpose:

The Personnel Committee is charged with stewardship of the human resources of Trinity Presbyterian Church. It is responsible for maintaining a non-discriminatory work environment where the Clergy and Staff called to Trinity can do their jobs in a way that glorifies God and meets the needs of a vibrant and growing faith community. The committee reviews and assures, annually, in consultation with the Head of Staff and Finance Committee, that the organization and staffing model is consistent with the balance of the church's missions, fully cost effective, and within our financial capacity.

Committee Chairs: Elizabeth Borland, Chair

Committee Members: Mickey Benn, Elizabeth Borland, Alex Erwin, Bonnie Holliday, Hunt Jackson, Amy Krause, Ann Speer, Drew Timmons

I. Current Activity Report:

- Andrew Esqueda announced his decision to accept a call as the Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, West Chester, PA. The Session has called a Congregational Meeting after worship on September 17 to dissolve Andrew's pastoral relationship with Trinity. A celebratory reception will follow the Congregational Meeting to celebrate his almost 8-year ministry at Trinity .
- Work has begun to transition Andrew's responsibilities to existing staff; the Committee approved promoting Emily Beaver to the position of Director of Family Ministries which will include a significant amount of Andrew's current responsibilities; she will relinquish her communication and Trinity Fellows responsibilities in this transition.
- Given the proposed transition of Emily Beaver to Family Ministries, filling the vacant coordinator positions for Communications and Program Ministries have become an immediate priority. Efforts are underway to also backfill the vacated Trinity Fellow position.

II. Upcoming and New Projects Report:

- Conducting performance reviews for all staff and clergy by October 1, 2023.
- Evaluating coverage of tactical and strategic responsibilities of Communications.

III. Motions for Session Vote: None.

Property Committee

June 7, 2023

Vision Statement: Making God's Love Visible

Purpose/Mission: Property works closely with Trinity staff to oversee the operation and maintenance of all physical aspects of the Trinity property—its buildings, campus landscapes, and playgrounds. The goal of excellent property management exists to ensure the church property is well-maintained, well-planned, and operated efficiently in order to support the work of all the other committees at Trinity.

Committee Chair: Allen Moseley (Via Zoom)

Committee Membership: Attendance in Person- David Caldwell, Anne Weaver, Jane Harrison, Jay Harris, David Merritt, Jennifer Kahn

Attendance (via Zoom)- Trey Reese, George Parson

Absent- Lea Holliday, Cannon Reynolds

Staff in attendance: Rev. Rebekah Close LeMon, Karen Simmons, TreVarius Worthy and Heather Edmiston.

Allen Moseley called the meeting to order at 8:05am.

Rebekah then opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved.

Budget Review: Karen Simmons led a review of the budget/financials for January through July. The reopening of the church and the additional expense associated with that, as well as higher energy costs, are expected to cause higher operating expenses in 2023 than in the past. There have been some variances but by and large the church is performing well financially and on budget in 2023.

Next, we turned to infrastructure.

Infrastructure projects:

Security- the upgrade in the Security system is close to completion. Will soon finalize security procedures and will train the staff on the new procedures. Next steps are a communication plan to the congregation.

Two elevators: David Quillian reported over the spring that we have gone through a significant RFP process. The contracts have been finalized and installation will soon begin. TreVarius is also working on the phones for the elevators with King-3.

New furniture orders- Anne Weaver and Jennifer Kahn have been working on the new furniture plans and orders. **Jay Harris recommended a \$10,000 request from the operating reserves to fund the new furniture orders. This recommendation was approved by consensus with the property committee.**

“Walls and Halls” work- With Esther now departing the committee it was recommended that “walls and halls” work be combined with Anne and Jennifer the work they are doing with new furniture and decorations.

Drain in Chapel Courtyard- No update.

Memorial Garden- In June, Esther reported that the hollies have been installed and do provide a good screen. Furthermore, a person from Oakland cemetery has been engaged as a gardener for the Memorial Garden. The scope of work will be defined so that the regular landscapers and the new gardener do not cross over in their duties.

New Business:

Phase 1 Building D- In June there was a general discussion of Building D and its need for a refresh- new carpet (no more chicken feet) and paint. Via email consent in July the committee approved \$156K for paint and carpet updates to the preschool in Building D with the goal of completion in mid August. That project is proceeding on plan with excellent results. **David Caldwell recommended \$8,000 to be approved for change orders found during the Building D project from the property operating reserves. This recommendation was approved by consensus with the property committee.**

Phase 2, Building D – There a number of other identified needs in Building D for various paint and flooring projects including hallways and stairs, the Rotunda, the Parlor room, the Bride and Groom rooms, etc. The total bid for this work including some additional hardware purchases will be \$85-100K. David assured the committee he got the best pricing available, and the committee also decided not to update the gym walls with new paint as a part of this project. **David Caldwell recommended up to \$100,000 to be approved for Phase 2 of the Building D project to be funded from the property operating reserves. This recommendation was approved by consensus with the property committee.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00am.

Worship and Music Committee Report – August 2023

(No meetings were held in July and August 2023)

Worship and Music Ministry Mission Statement

The Worship and Music Ministry assists the Session and staff in providing and supporting worship which glorifies God by challenging the mind, nourishing the spirit, honoring tradition, demonstrating liturgical depth, exercising creativity in its use of music and the arts, and addressing the needs of individuals and families. (2016)

Committee Chair:

Roxanna Erwin (Session)

Committee Membership:

Caroline Brown, Carol Comstock, Meredith Daniel (Session), Dorsey Farr, Susan Foxworth Hamilton, Rebekah Groover (Session), Jim Hinkle, Jan Irvin, Rebekah LeMon (Staff), Norman Mackenzie (Staff), Ruth Marston, Mary Fleming Riley, Cissy Smith, Debbie Stair

I. Current Activity Report

Susan Foxworth Hamilton has agreed to serve as a member-at-large on the Worship & Music Ministry Committee. Welcome Susan!!

Worship Updates

- On July 22nd Rebekah introduced a sermon series on counter-cultural practices of faith. The first two sermons in this series were wonderful – very thought provoking and we’ve heard some good feedback. We will break from the series on August 6th and then have three more weeks in this series during the remaining Sundays in August.
- Rebekah will be meeting with Steven Darst and Brooke Chaplain to talk about restarting the acolyte program; hopefully restarting by the time we go back to having two morning worship services in September. We will be looking to recruit families (children/youth) for both services.
- Rebekah has ordered samples of pew reserved signs and ropes so we can check the size and color before we order the number we need.
- Elizabeth Davis has done initial research for bookshelves for the Narthex and front entrance to the Sanctuary. She is doing some further research to see if she can find moveable shelves vs. stationary shelves. She hopes to have the shelves along with refreshed children’s worship bags for the Sanctuary by the Fall Kickoff.
- Thanks to Lucy and Rebekah for their pulpit announcements about the need for ushers, particularly for 1st and 4th Sunday teams! And good news - we have three new usher volunteers!

Music Updates

- On August 6th we will have a hymn sing during the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Members were asked to submit their favorite hymn requests. Norman and Rebekah will be selecting hymns from those requested along with liturgy to go with the hymns.
- Music for a Summer Evening will be held Sunday, August 13th in Dobbs Chapel. This will be a unique evening of music for voice, piano and guitar presented by Trinity's own Katherine Murray, Jonathan Pilkington and Norman Mackenzie in the acoustically superlative and intimate environment of Dobbs Chapel. The 45-minute program will include works of Brahms, Hahn and Samuel Barber and feature the beautiful and rarely heard *Canticle of*

Abraham and Isaac by English composer Benjamin Britten. Admission is free and open to the wider community.

- Choir Program: Choir Registration for the fall is going well and all choirs from 4-year-old through adult will begin weekly rehearsals immediately after Labor Day. The Westminster Ringers will return this fall as well. Go to the Trinity website under Get Involved to register.

II. Upcoming & New Project Report:

Engagement Fair

The Trinity Engagement Fair will be on Sunday August 27 at 8:45-9:45 and 10:45-Noon. Meredith Daniel will be reaching out to subcommittee/group leads in the next couple of weeks to confirm volunteer assignments and confirm any last minute details.

Upcoming Schedule/Events:

August 6 – Communion and Hymn Sing - 10:00 a.m. worship

August 13 – Baptism - 10:00 a.m. worship

August 13 – Music for a Summer Evening - 7:00 p.m. in Dobbs Chapel

August 27 – One service @ 10:00 a.m.; Engagement Fair from 8:45 – 9:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. – noon

September 3 – Communion – 10:00 a.m. worship

September 6 - Worship & Music Ministry Committee Meeting 6:00 p.m. B-108

September 10 – Baptism – 11:00 a.m. worship (BBQ & Blue Grass to follow worship)

September 17 – Return to both services; 9:00 a.m. (The Loft) and 11:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

III. Motions for Session Vote: None

YFM Committee Report – August 2023

It's been a busy and fun summer for the youth members of Trinity Presbyterian Church. For the middle schoolers, nothing beat Wonderful Wednesdays at Main Event, Top Golf and several escape rooms. But the fun didn't just happen on Wednesdays. Our Trinity kids volunteered around Atlanta and Charleston, South Carolina and then rounded out their summers with trips to Montreat, North Carolina and the Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.

Emily Beaver, Jean Lapitan, Andrew Esqueda and Laura Balch met the second week of August to discuss the upcoming fall to include Trinity's Fall Fest on Aug 20, Trinity's Engagement Fair on Aug 27, and planning for Small Groups – a new initiative with the Trinity youth program.

The Youth and Families Committee will meet on the following Sundays this fall:

Sunday, September 17

Sunday, October 15

Sunday, November 19

Laura Balch

Chair of YFM Committee