

## STATED SESSION MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2021

The session of Trinity Presbyterian Church joined in its stated monthly meeting on March 9, 2021, convening remotely via Zoom. The meeting began with a devotion, and then prayer.

**PRESENT:** Reverend Judith Fulp-Eickstaedt, Pastor (Moderator), Clerk Jim Dykstra, Director of Spiritual Formation Ben Stewart, Diane Allard (2021), Cindy Bare (2022), Randy Benn (2022), Lisa Driskill (2022), Steve Gillard (2021), Jennie Gwin (2021), Gillian McClelland (2023), Diana Paulraj (2022), Troy Schmidt (2023), Troy Schneider (2021), Todd Stievater (2023), and youth elder Lucy Driskill. **EXCUSED:** Michelle Edwards (2023). **ALSO PRESENT:** Finance Ministry Chair Rich Bailey.

The moderator called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. A **QUORUM** was present throughout the meeting. It was **MOVED, SECONDED** and **CARRIED** unanimously to accept the agenda. The Christ candle was lit, and Elder Troy Schmidt led the devotional. He read a prayer thanking God for His great love and favor in our lives.

### OMNIBUS MOTION

A **MOTION** was **MADE, SECONDED**, and **CARRIED** unanimously to approve the omnibus motion:

MINUTES - To approve the minutes of the regular session meeting on Tuesday, February 9, 2021.

**PASTOR'S REPORT** – To receive the following report for information:

LORD'S SUPPER – The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered remotely by Rev. Judith Fulp-Eickstaedt to an unknown number of persons at the remote worship service on Sunday, March 7, 2021.

WEDDINGS – None

BAPTISMS – None

BIRTHS – None

DEATHS – Longtime Trinity member Susan Lowry (#1027) died on February 25, 2021 in Connecticut.

FUNERALS – Rev. Judith Fulp-Eickstaedt officiated at a memorial service for Trinity member Susan Lowry on Wednesday March 3, 2021 and at a graveside service for Ms. Lowry on Sunday, March 7, 2021.

**CLERK'S REPORT** – To receive the following for information:

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE: March 8, 2021 messages from LaJuan Quander, director of communications, National Capital Presbytery, regarding a Global Mission Survey and regarding a job opening at the National Capital Presbytery that may be of interest to Trinity members or others in the presbytery.

OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE: None

	ACTIVE		AFFILIATE	BAPTIZED CHILDREN
<b>Adherents as of 2/9/21</b>	515		2	162
Reaffirmation of Faith				
Transfer In				
Profession of Faith				
Profession + Baptism				

Removed/Reinstated				
Moved to inactive				
Transfer Out				
Death	(1)			
Infant Baptism				
<b>Adherents as of 3/9/21</b>	514		2	162

#### **AUTHORIZATION OF GUEST PASTORS**

After discussion, a **MOTION** was **MADE, SECONDED,** and **CARRIED** unanimously to approve the following guest preachers: on Sunday, April 11, 2021, Rev. Bill Davnie; on Sunday, April 18, 2021, Rev. Katie Strednak-Singer; and on Sunday, May 30, 2021, Trinity member and Princeton Theological Seminary student Luke Bultena.

#### **EDUCATION AND NURTURE MINISTRY MOTIONS**

Elders Cindy Bare and Gillian McClelland presented two motions from the Trinity Preschool Board on behalf of the Education and Nurture Ministry. After discussion, a **MOTION** was **MADE, SECONDED,** and **CARRIED** unanimously to approve the following motions:

Approve the following Trinity members - nominated by the TPP Board - to serve a two-year term on the TPP Board:

- Leslie Bradenham - Will remain on the Board for another two-year term and remain President next year
- Audra Fiebig – Church member moving back from overseas this summer

Give TPP Director Sabrina Brassard a \$750 bonus to recognize her extraordinary efforts to prepare for and facilitate the successful opening and operation of the Preschool during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **EARTH CARE TEAM REPORT**

Elder Steve Gillard reported on behalf of the Earth Care Team that Trinity is still considered an Earth Care church despite challenges presented this past year because of COVID-related restrictions. He will be scheduling a meeting of Trinity members interested in being part of the initiative and will be looking for projects that Trinity members can participate in during the spring before fulltime building use resumes.

#### **NARTHEX ROOF UPDATE**

Elders Steve Gillard and Todd Stievater reported on behalf of the Facilities Management Ministry that work has been completed on the narthex roof project. Seal Engineering did an inspection, and the roof passed the leak test. The narthex is brighter with the new roof panels. Session expressed appreciation to Office Manager Mike Swineford and Facilities Management Chair Skip Stephens for their work on the project.

## **A/V SYSTEM UPDATE**

Rev. Judith Fulp-Eickstaedt reported on behalf of the Worship and Music Ministry that work on the sanctuary audio-visual system continues. A replacement part has been ordered. Formal training has been scheduled for a small group of volunteers.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT**

Finance Ministry Chair Rich Bailey, on behalf of the Financial Review Committee, chaired by Lisa Toews-Daugherty, presented the report of the Committee for Fiscal Year 2020, which concluded that Trinity's financial operations are basically sound and made recommendations for adjustments or continued improvements in certain areas. Session members thanked and commended the committee for its excellent report.

## **MINISTRY CHAIR TERMS**

Rev. Fulp-Eickstaedt led a brief discussion of ministry chair terms, which are limited to no more than two two-year terms. She said there is nothing new to report in the effort now underway to find a chair for the Pastoral Care Ministry. In addition, Worship and Music Ministry co-chairs Jodie King and Drusilla Hufford will be stepping down in May and September respectively, and Fellowship Ministry chair Lisa Overbeek, who has completed her two-year term, has said she plans to step down, rather than serving an additional term.

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

Rev. Judith Fulp-Eickstaedt reported that things are in place for the Trinity annual meeting, which will be held via Zoom on Sunday, March 14, 2021 immediately following the 10 a.m. worship service. Efforts are being undertaken to insure there will be a quorum, 10 percent of the congregational membership, for the meeting.

## **SESSION RETREAT**

Rev. Judith Fulp-Eickstaedt led discussion of plans for a session retreat, including both outgoing and incoming elders, to be held at the church on a Saturday morning in May. Because of COVID restrictions, the retreat will probably be held in the church parking lot, as was done with the fall retreat. Elder Diana Paulraj offered to send a Doodle poll to elders asking which May Saturday works best for them.

## **APPROVAL OF ELDER COMMISSIONERS TO MARCH 23, 2021 PRESBYTERY MEETING**

Following discussion, a **MOTION** was **MADE, SECONDED**, and **CARRIED** unanimously that Elders Gillian McClelland and Troy Schneider be elected as elder commissioners to the March 23, 2021 Presbytery meeting, to be held remotely via Zoom.

## **CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE**

Rev. Judith Fulp-Eickstaedt and Elder Diane Allard led a discussion of the continuing response to the Coronavirus. Zoom services are continuing on the first Sunday of each month, with virtual services on other Sundays. The tentative plan, dependent on adjustments to current COVID restrictions, is to

return to outdoor services on the Trinity lawn in May and June. The Annual Meeting on March 14, 2021 will be a Zoom worship service followed by the meeting. Planning is also underway for the Easter service, which will be prerecorded. There will be a Stations of the Cross-like walking experience for Good Friday.

The Reopening Team will make further recommendations at the April session meeting. The team will meet on Thursday, March 11, 2021. Input will be provided to the Team regarding Vacation Bible School at the meeting.

In a follow up action, following an announcement by Virginia Governor Ralph Northam on March 23, 2021 that COVID-related restrictions will be eased on April 1, 2021, permitting up to 100 individuals to meet outside, dependent on social distancing guidelines, an electronic **MOTION** was **MADE, SECONDED,** and **CARRIED** to approve an Easter sunrise service on the Trinity Presbyterian Church front lawn at 7 a.m. on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021, limited to 75 individuals who have signed up in advance, with masking and social distancing required of attendees.

### **MINISTRY INFORMATION AND CONCERNS**

Education and Nurture – Vacation Bible School planning is underway, and a survey of interesting parents has been completed. VBS will be held the same week as usual, June 21-25, 2021. The survey was to gauge interest, with the focus now on identifying volunteers to support the effort.

**JOYS AND CONCERNS** – Session members shared joys and concerns.

The meeting was closed with prayer, and ADJOURNED at 8:43 p.m.

Next regular session meeting is **April 13, 2021.**

April Gathering Time: Troy Schneider

Devotional: Troy Schneider

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Jim Dykstra, Clerk  
Approved April 13, 2021