

Church Council Meeting
Trinity Methodist Church
Tuesday, September 10, 2024
Fellowship Hall

Voting Members in Attendance: Kim Alexander, Susan Boothe, Michael Cloud, Doug de Graffenried, Benny Denny, Clint Graham, Trotter Hunt, Jimmy Love, Luke Madden, Bill McIntyre, Melanie Morgan, Melanie Peel, Cleve Stevens

Non-Voting Members in Attendance: Dee & Donna Belcher, Janie Humphries, Sam & Linda Wallace, Jon Barker, Todd Clark

Chair Luke Madden calls the meeting to order and opens with a prayer, thanking God for the gathered servants and asking for guidance in their work.

Jimmy Love motioned to approve the meeting minutes from March and June, it was seconded by Cleve Stevens. Motion carries.

The meeting covered several key points. The air conditioning project has a 20-24 week lead time. The SPR committee conducted a robust annual review of Pastor Doug. The financial report showed strong pledge giving, with a plan to raise \$35,000 for replacement items. The administrative council discussed voting procedures for the November 3rd vote on joining the Global Methodist Church, including early voting and ballot security measures. The meeting concluded with updates on the pavilion project, the Believers Business Forum, and upcoming events.

Committee Reports

- The endowment committee approved \$20,750 for libraries and \$6,400 for family life. Bill McIntyre mentions the approval of \$20,750 for libraries and \$6,400 for family life, with two pending requests for distribution. He also notes the positive 15% return year-to-date and the market's performance, awaiting August figures.
- Clint gives an update on air conditioning equipment and HVAC upgrades, with a 20-24 week lead time for orders. The next steps will be to finalize the equipment order and electrical verification. Preliminary plans and budget for the children's wing are being developed, with a budget presentation expected soon. Sam Wallace provides updates on the building committee's progress on the children's renovation, including feasibility studies and plans being worked on.
- Trotter reports that the SPRC has been meeting and has completed the committee's annual review of Pastor Doug, highlighting his leadership and the congregation's positive feedback. There will be upcoming meetings to review staff reviews and discuss annual reviews, with a focus on budget finalization and salary increases for 2025.
- Jimmy Love reports on the financial health, noting that pledge giving is stronger than in the past 25 years. Extra giving above pledges is performing well, but utilities are out of line, which will be addressed with the new HVAC system. A list of replacement items for the church is being compiled and sent out, with a goal of raising funds through year-end giving.

He finished his report with a discussion on the need for signage in the building to help new members navigate, with a potential capital campaign for funding.

Summary Voting Procedures for November 3rd

- Luke begins by outlining the procedures for the upcoming vote on November 3rd, including the use of printed ballots and a unique color of paper to ensure integrity in the process.
- One ballot will be distributed to each congregation member, with provisions for early voting beginning October 15 and mail-in ballots for those unable to attend in person.
- The vote will be counted by a small committee consisting of Luke Madden, Trotter Hunt, and Clint Graham with results publicized immediately via text and email. No one else will review the ballots without church council approval.
- Additional Q&A sessions and congregational meetings will be held to ensure transparency and address any concerns. The next step will be to disseminate congregation communication plan about affiliation vote process, Schedule informational meetings and distribute vote ballots in October.
- The motion from the committee is as follows: “To hold a vote on November 3rd, with early voting to open up the 15th of October; to authorize Ballot production, collection, distribution to be administered by Kim Alexander and Luke Madden, with counting of the ballots to occur on November 3rd at 2pm by Luke Madden, Clint Graham, & Trotter Hunt; as soon as the result of the vote is tabulated the result will be broadcast to the church via Text, email, and all other means possible; membership roles for the vote closing on October 6, 2024 to enable ballots to be printed in advance of October 15th; ballots that are picked up by a member (or authorized party for that member) will be signed out by that person, and if mailed it will be noted by Kim or someone under her direction.” Trotter Hunt seconded the motion, all were in favor. Motion carries.

New Business

- Dee Belcher provides updates on the pavilion project, which is now ready for use by Trinity affiliated groups. The council thanks him for his diligence and passion to complete this project.
- As a part of his Pastor report, Michael introduces the plan for the Believers Business Forum, an outreach initiative to address business challenges and promote faith integration.
- Doug reports that he will be attending the Global Methodist Church's convention in Costa Rica as an official observer. There will be new Hymnals and Pew Bibles in the Sanctuary beginning October 27. There will be an opportunity for people to pick up those they would like to keep. Doug also reports on the plan for the upcoming capital campaign.

Capital Campaign and New Members

- Doug announces the upcoming capital campaign, with pledge Sunday set for Palm Sunday in April 2025.

- The campaign will follow a biblical formula, including information sessions, leader gift commitments, and a congregational meeting.
- Results of the campaign will be announced on Mother's Day, with a focus on renovating the children's ministry space.
- Doug concludes by highlighting the growth in new members and baptisms, with plans for a baptism service this coming Sunday and on September 29th.

Closing Remarks and Prayer

- The next meeting is scheduled for December 10th, with a focus on finalizing the operating budget and nominations.
- Melanie Peel closes the meeting with a prayer, thanking God for the church, its family, and the opportunity to serve the community.