

Highlights of the May 6, 2017 Stated Meeting of Trinity Presbytery

- The meeting was held at **Congaree Presbyterian Church** in Cayce with 124 people in attendance. Presbytery was welcomed and greeted warmly by the **Rev. John White**, volunteers, and twelve dozen hot and fresh *Krispy Kreme* doughnuts!
- **Mr. Asher Din**, Candidate under care of Trinity Presbytery brought a inspiring message entitled ***The Power of Words*** during worship. A total of **\$936** was collected during the offering, with proceeds to be divided between two food banks in the presbytery.
- The **Reverend David Jones** presented a proposal for the August meeting of Presbytery in which Teaching Elders and Elder Commissioners would meet in cluster groups within the five geographical regions of Trinity Presbytery: East-Columbia, North-Clinton, West-Greenwood, Northeast- Winnsboro and South- Aiken. The focus would be on attendees getting to know the other churches in their region and engaging in discussion of similar concerns and dreams as well as cooperative mission opportunities. The attendees took 30 minutes to gather into their groups to engage in a “dip your toe in the water” experience for the August meeting.
- **Marcia Bacon, Moderator of the Division of Education and Nurture**, reported that the Division has planned an outstanding Trinityfest2017, to be held Saturday, August 12th at Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church. Fliers with registration information were distributed and will be available online soon.
- Presbytery received informative and encouraging reports from two of our related institutions:
Presbyterian College, **President Bob Staton**
The Board of Pensions, **Mr. Clark Simmons**.
- The following items were approved on motions presented from **The Presbytery Coordinating Team (PCT)**:
Our Downtown Church (Columbia) was granted permission to (a). accept Hughes Development's gift of the building formerly known as the Central Energy Facility at Bull Street, inclusive of 1.75 acres for the purpose of establishing a new church home and (b). to place a mortgage on the property for the purpose of renovating the existing structure.
- **Inquirers Miss Megan McMillan** (Lake Murray) and **Mr. Brad Christie** (First Greenwood) were moved to Candidate status on a motion from the **Committee on Preparation for Ministry**.
- The **Reverend Lawrence Peebles**, on behalf of the **Bills and Overtures sub-committee of the Division of Church Councils Operations and Institutional Support (DOCC)**, presented the proposed amendments to *The Book of Order* (approved by the 222nd General Assembly and recommended to the presbyteries for their vote), which were approved by Presbytery on recommendation from the DOCC sub-committee.
- The **Reverend Dr. Franklin Fant**, DOCC member, updated Presbytery on the financial status of the Presbytery. The audit is almost complete. More information will be available at a later date.
- **Ruling Elder Larry Huckabee, the Reverend Dr. Ellen Skidmore, Elder Trey Harrell, members of the Camp Fellowship Transition Team**, presented the motion to allow our Fellowship Camp & Conference Center permission to take the necessary steps to establish a 501c3 organization, “Camping Ministries of the Carolinas” (hereafter CMC). The motion was carried on an 82-1 vote. **Dr. Skidmore** reminded Presbytery of the importance of the commitment of all the congregations of Trinity Presbytery to support CMC in their on-going ministry so that the Christian camp experience will continue to be available to everyone.

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- The **Reverend Robert Brozina** was welcomed (back) into membership of Trinity Presbytery , where he has been called to serve as Pastor of our **Rocky Springs Church** in Laurens, beginning in June. Robert previously served in our presbytery as Chaplain of the Presbyterian Communities of South Carolina (Clinton Village). We extend our prayers and best wishes to Robert and the folks at Rocky Springs as they continue in ministry together.
- Celebrations were shared:
 - Lake Murray Presbyterian Church** has installed a beautiful new bell tower, The Honor Tower. Plans for a dedication service are underway.
 - Calvary Presbyterian Church** is celebrating their 150th year.
- The meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Trinity Presbytery would like to thank the staff and volunteers at Congaree Presbyterian Church in Cayce for their wonderful hospitality in hosting the 125th Meeting of Trinity Presbytery.