

Highlights of the November 14, 2017 Stated Meeting of Trinity Presbytery

- The meeting was held at **Northminster Presbyterian Church** in Columbia with 122 people in attendance. Presbytery was welcomed and greeted warmly by the Pastor, **Rev. Kimani Wright**, volunteers, and delicious refreshments.
- The meeting was called to order by **Rev. Alice Odell, Moderator**, who opened the meeting with prayer.
- **Rev. Wright**, brought a inspiring message entitled ***The Bridegroom is Coming*** during worship. A total of **\$758** was collected during the offering for Committee on Preparation Ministry (CPM) scholarships.
- **Rev. Brad Smith, Moderator of the Nominating Committee**, presented a slate for adoption. He explained that the new streamlined structure of Presbytery has fewer mandated slots, which increases the importance of the involvement of every minister member and all of our congregations in the ministries listed. The elected moderators of each of the Teams need working groups/teams (volunteers) in each of these ministries, using their gifts, whether they be in the area of administration, personnel, mission and evangelism, finance, discipleship, etc., to carry out the work of each of these teams.
- **Ruling Elder Larry Huckabee, Moderator of the Administrative Enabling Team (AET)**, recounted three of the AET's accomplishments for the year 2017: completion of financial audit for the previous year, the implementation of the Presbytery Vision Team's recommendations for Presbytery re-structure as reflected in the new [organizational chart](#) and updating of Presbytery staff position descriptions, and the transition of Camp Fellowship to a 501© 3 organization, **Camping Ministries of the Carolinas (CMC)**.
- A [Letter of Intent](#) drafted by the Camp Transition Team of the Presbytery regarding **CMC** was read and adopted in hopes of capturing the spirit of what all hope will be a long and expanding mission partnership between Trinity Presbytery and **CMC**.
- **Rev. Franklin Fant, Moderator of the Budget & Finance Committee**, reported that the Presbytery had a loss of \$127,000 for the first nine months of 2017 due to churches not being current with their giving to Presbytery as well as excess expenses over revenues of Camp Fellowship. Rev. Fant encouraged folks to check with their sessions and treasurers to be sure their churches are up to date on their giving to Presbytery.
- The **Proposed 2018 Unified Budget** was adopted as the **2018 Unified Budget for Trinity Presbytery**.
- A [Resolution of Thanks](#) recognizing **Rev. Kevin Cartee, Executive Director of CMC**, and **Miss Emily Kienker, Assistant Director of CMC**, for their service to Trinity Presbytery in the areas of Christian camping and outdoor ministries was read and presented. A prayer for the new organization, Trinity Presbytery and the future of Christian camping was offered by **Rev. Ellen Skidmore**.
- **Ruling Elder Diane Hamrick, Presbyterian Women (PW) Moderator**, reminded Presbytery of two important ministries which are supported solely by PW of the Synod of the South Atlantic and the Synod of Living Waters: **Mission Haven** and the **Friendship Circle at Columbia Seminary**. Mission Haven is in its 65th year and currently undergoing some renovations. The Columbia Friendship Circle just awarded three \$12,000 scholarships to seminary students with children.

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- **Rev. Blaine Hill, Moderator of the Mission and Evangelism Team (MET)**, reminded Presbytery of the dire situation and plight of our Christian brothers and sisters in South Sudan. In the wake of the recent church shootings in Texas, the **Trinity South Sudan Ministry (TSSM)** received word from the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan that they are praying for the United States of America. Rev. Hill reminded Presbytery that we need to be in prayer for them as well.
- **Rev. John Cook, Campus Minister UKIRK (USC)**, presented a video report on the May, 2017 mission trip that **UKIRK** and our **Shandon** congregation made to Mwandi, Zambia.
- Two new ministers were welcomed into Trinity Presbytery:
Rev. Vikki Brogdon, who is currently serving as Stated Supply for our Upper Long Cane Church, and **Rev. Rob Cely**, husband of **Rev. Liz Cely** from our Cherokee Church.
- The COM [2018 Minimum Salary Standards](#) of Trinity Presbytery were approved.
- Presbytery heard from **Ruling Elder Len Bornemann** on the progress of our Westminster Church in Greenwood. He expressed gratitude, on behalf of the church, for all the support and prayers of the Presbytery which have enabled them to grow and have a successful year. They now have a session with seven new members (in three classes), who were ordained and installed earlier this month.
- **Inquirer Eliza Smith**, was received as a Candidate under care of Trinity Presbytery.
- The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m. with a prayer offered by **Rev. Alice Odell**.

Trinity Presbytery would like to thank the staff and volunteers of
Northminster Presbyterian Church in Columbia
for their gracious hospitality in hosting
the 127th Meeting of Trinity Presbytery.