

Your Session at Work

This is a new monthly update from the Session at Trinity Presbyterian Church to keep the congregation more informed about what's going on in our church. The purpose is to help you be more aware of how the church is doing and what issues are being addressed by the Session.

If you have any questions or concerns about anything, please don't hesitate to ask us.

Meeting Date: March 28, 2018

Ministry Teams

The Session is building new Ministry Teams. There is a lot that goes into leading and caring for a church, and we all have been given gifts and abilities to help. With this in mind, we're building teams to help with all of these various functions. Each ministry team will have at least one Elder to help lead and serve as a liaison between that team and Session.

The Teams and their respective Elders are:

- Worship Team: Leland Morris and Liz White
- Learn Team: Carol Hopson and Ben Zurita
- Serve Team: Amanda Chumchal and Meredith Golden
- Fellowship Team: Jay Steele
- Personnel Team: Todd Taber
- Buildings and Grounds Team: Hank Barger
- Stewardship Team: Sarah Gray

Be thinking about what gifts YOU have been given and how YOU may help in one of these areas. And then, talk to one of these Elders!

New Neighbors and a Possible Parking Lot

The owners of the vacant lot to our northwest are working to build a two-story dentist office in that space. However, they need more parking spaces to meet the requirements of the city of Southlake. Initially, they approached us about sharing our northern parking lot, however we use that lot throughout the week.

We do, however, have that "baseball field" to our west, and our master plan has that land becoming a parking lot when we build our sanctuary in the future. And so, we have proposed that they could build out that parking lot, and then we could share (OUR) parking lot with them. We've also proposed that they could buy that extra strip of land north of the access road (about 15 feet of grass) since we are unable to use it and they could put a few more parking spots there (and we wouldn't have any more maintenance costs or liability of that section of land).

We are still in negotiations with them, working out the details. We will let you know more as we know more.

Cleaning the Rolls

Annually we are tasked with "cleaning the rolls" so that we can be more aware of who our members are and care for these members better. When we clean the rolls, we attempt to contact the people we haven't seen in years. If we're unable to contact them or know they have moved away from the area we remove them from our membership. However, if anyone we have contacted wishes to remain a member, they can do so. (We only remove people who don't consider Trinity to be their church anymore).

This was a timely task this year because the Deacons are in the process of buying new name tags for everyone, so we wanted to have an accurate list.

The Future of Student Ministries

Our Director of Student Ministries, Brandon Board, has given notice that he'll be leaving this position on August 1. He has purposefully and helpfully given us LOTS of notice so that we can figure out how to care about our students moving forward.

The Session has initiated a conversation to determine what student ministries will look like in this church in the future.

What we've been finding is that a lot of our students have VERY full schedules (much like their parents), and it is becoming increasingly difficult for some of them to commit to our Student Ministry Program. And so, before we "just go out and hire someone", it's worth examining some questions:

What is the goal/purpose of our student ministries? (Are we seeking to grow the youth as disciples of Jesus? Are we seeking to keep the youth entertained/occupied? Are we seeking to give the youth what many of us grew up with?)

What would it take to have a successful Student Ministries program?

How do we get our youth (and their parents) to buy in and commit to a future program?

Are there BETTER ways to do student ministries?

The reality is that our students aren't just the future of the church, they are an active part of our church TODAY. What's more, we have a responsibility to them to care for them and nurture them just like any other segment in our church. And so it's worth asking: How best can we, as a church family, do that?

Sincerely,

Your Session

Liz White, Sara Gray, Jay Steele, Amanda Chumchal, Carol Hopson, Todd Taber, Ben Zurita, Leland Morris, Hank Barger, and Meredith Golden