

**Minutes of the Session—Called Meeting**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
**October 30, 2024, 8 p.m., Covenant Hall**  
**Approved November 11, 2024**

Elders present: All except for Tyler Burnett and Mike Charlton. Present via Zoom: Lynn Thompson.

Pastors present: Rev. Dr. Bob Fuller. Present via Zoom: Rev. Becky Prichard and Rev. Scott Simpson.

The meeting was called to order at 8:09 p.m.

The session entered an extended period of prayer, which was one of the expressed purposes of the meeting.

After concluding the prayer time, the session considered the other purpose of the meeting: communication with the congregation.

A draft letter was provided to the session from the Personnel Committee. A team of three had prepared the letter, the Personnel Committee had edited it further, and it was offered to the session. After extended discussion on the letter, with several suggested edits, **the letter was unanimously approved**, with a referral back to Martha Maynard and Nancy Cross to incorporate the session's desires. The letter was to be sent to the session for information only, and then sent to our communications department for distribution to the covenant partners. The letter, as edited per the session's instructions, is attached and made a part of these minutes.

The meeting was concluded with prayer and dismissed at 9:14.

Respectfully submitted,

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Nancy Scott Cross  
Clerk of Session

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Rev. Dr. Bob Fuller  
Senior Pastor

Attachment: Letter to the Covenant Partners of FPCSA from the session dated October 31, 2024

Dear Covenant Partners of FPC,

This letter is an update regarding several important staff-related matters in the life of our church. Becky Prichard has resigned from her position of Associate Pastor for Children, Youth and Family Discipleship, which will take effect December 12, 2024. Becky committed ten years of her life to FPC with rich Christ-centered preaching and teaching and planted many seeds with our children and youth. She believes the Lord is calling her in a new direction for ministry and service. We are immensely grateful for all she has done for us and for The Kingdom.

Wendy Garcia also resigned as Connections Ministry Coordinator. Wendy reinvigorated the Connections Ministry and leaves a wonderful footprint for us to follow going forward. Wendy intends to remain a Covenant Partner and is an Elder on rotation; she looks forward to continuing to serve God and our church.

On October 26<sup>th</sup> Mitchell Moore notified us that he will no longer continue in his role as Associate Pastor for Young Adults and Missions. His resignation will take effect on December 31<sup>st</sup>. As Mitchell said in his resignation letter, “The next season of ministry for the Moore family will include church planting and a ministry of hospitality for restoration and renewal.” We are so grateful for Mitchell’s commitment to spread the Gospel and his community outreach. He leaves in place many initiatives that need our continued commitment.

These three resignations leave us with heavy hearts. We are not only regretful, but we take seriously the need to address issues as we move forward. We want you to know we are giving it our full attention. One priority is to communicate clearly with you about what is (and what is not) at issue.

Regarding Mitchell, there appears to be some misinformation amongst the congregation about his sabbatical. First, we want to assure you that Mitchell is in good health. We are grateful that after his serious illnesses several years ago, God has blessed him with good health. Secondly, while Mitchell and some of the staff had conflict issues, we want to be clear that Mitchell requested the sabbatical and it was in no way a disciplinary action. There is no legal or moral issue of any kind. His sabbatical may have seemed sudden, but the sabbatical policy was under review for about a year. After it was approved by the Session, Mitchell submitted a proposal for how he would use that time, and it was approved.

Your Session met on October 14 and heard from Senior Pastor Bob Fuller and Becky Prichard regarding current intra-staff issues. We also reviewed correspondence received from Covenant Partners and staff. Upon reviewing this information and discussion, the Session unanimously agreed to support Bob, Mitchell, and Becky as Pastors of First Presbyterian Church San Antonio. This resolution was the result of much discussion, prayer, and discernment.

As it turns out, our support for Mitchell and Becky will be played out in the larger Kingdom of God rather than with our FPC family, but our prayerful care for them remains steadfast—as it does for Bob. In light of these staff changes we are looking at both short- and long-term ways to support

all our staff and congregational ministries. We are committed to listening, praying, and seeking scriptural guidance to address any issues that may arise.

Navigating issues regarding personnel, including personality conflicts between staff members, is not uncommon in any large organization. Unfortunately, big churches such as ours are not immune to these pressures. We are dealing with these issues—and will do so with great resolve moving forward.

These are our priorities:

- Maintain a Christ-centered focus on preaching and teaching.
- Boldly claim the power of Jesus's name over any adversity and division.
- Humbly pray, seek scriptural guidance, and discern God's will for His church.
- Protect and grow the missional efforts in our church and community.
- Secure faith-based, third-party professional counsel when needed.
- Meet as often needed to address concerns as they arise, acting with courage and urgency.
- Enhance communication.
- Most importantly, make decisions that best support our service to Jesus, our church, and our community.

We serve The Mighty God, Prince of Peace and Great Physician. We lean hard on His promise to work all things for good as we seek to build His Kingdom, and we trust that God is, even now, preparing the people He will call to ministry with and among us. Please join us in praying for them.

Our church has experienced the overwhelming presence of the Holy Spirit and spiritual blessings these past few years. By God's grace, we are flourishing, and we are planning for our future ministry in His service. In fact, soon we will be sharing with you a 10-year plan for our church focusing on discipleship and mission that we have been working on for two years. This exciting plan will need *you!*

We give thanks to God for your continued participation in the life of this church. We also give thanks to our pastors and staff for their dedication to this congregation. Please continue to pray for our congregation, Becky, Mitchell, Wendy, all our staff, their families, and the vital mission to which God has entrusted us.

We serve a Sovereign God and trust that He will equip us to build His kingdom if we humbly seek His will. He has work for us to do! And as Dr. Louis Zbinden was fond of saying, "The best is yet to come!"

On behalf of the session, with gratitude for God's many blessings,

Rev. Dr. Bob Fuller  
Senior Pastor

Nancy Scott Cross  
Clerk of Session