

Session Meeting May 20, 2024 Music Room, 5:30 pm

Spiritual Formation

Worship and Prayer

Shepherding the Flock

Call to Order/Omnibus Motion (page 2)

Moderator/ Executive Pastor's Report – Jay Lee

Discernment/Strategic Visioning

Corporate Spiritual Discernment Exercise (35 minutes) – Craig Murray

Family of Churches - David Martin

- ECO Particularization update
- Strategic Church Planting Partner One Way Church

Oversight/Accountability

ECO - John Walsh

• Motion - Savannah Pace

Operations Committee – Anne Compton

- Financials Budget Update
- Hillier School Update Charlie Davis

Governance Coordinating Committee – Jennifer Tollett

Pastor Nominating Committee

Closing Prayer

Next Meeting – June 24, 2024, location forthcoming

Governance Resources -

• hppres.org/governanceresources



Omnibus Motion

Motion to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting, the minutes from the regular Session Meeting on April 22, 2024, the Congregational Meeting on April 28, 2024, the April 2024 Membership Reports, and the list Covenant Partners who took their Vows on April 28, 2024, and May 5, 2024 (pages 3-13).



STATED MEETING OF THE SESSION HIGHLAND PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 22, 2024, 6:00 PM (Music Room)

Quorum	Present
Attendance	Attached
Spiritual Formation	Worship and Prayer Gregg Hobbs started the meeting by singing song 267 in the hymnal, accompanied by Yoonmi Lim on the piano. Calum Lindsay led the Session in prayer for the worship life of our church, followed by reading Hymn 385, which are the words of Psalm 100.
Shepherding the Flock	Call to Order Jay Lee called the business meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.
	A time for training the Session concerning Sexual Abuse was to be led by a facilitator from the Genesis Women's Shelter. However, she had to postpone due to illness. Jay reported that this training would be rescheduled.
	Brett Krause prayed to open our meeting.
	Omnibus Motion A motion was made to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting, the minutes and attendance records of the regular Session meeting of March 25, 2024, and the March 2024 Membership Reports, and the list of Covenant Partners who took their Vows on March 17, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.
	Moderator/Executive Pastor's Report Jay reported that he had hosted a small retreat out of town with a few of the staff on April 11-12. He feels that is was a relaxing time together and the staff are a stronger and more unified body.
	On May 2 there will be an entire staff, all-day, off campus time for team building while having fun.
	There will be an all Elder and active Deacon luncheon, including spouses, in Elliott Hall on May 9. This will give Jay an opportunity to share information on the future of HPPres.
	Next Session meeting will be May 20. NOTE DATE CHANGE



Discernment/Strategic Visioning

Vision Committee:

Jackie Burke reported that the Vision Committee met this month for the final review of the Congregational Survey. Zach House was present to listen and give suggestions, as he will be making the Church Profile with his communications department. The chain of custody will be:

Draft by Communications> Review by VC>Present to Session> PNC

The Vision Committee will be working in tandem with the PNC, as they get up to speed with their search. There are plans to meet and present the Profile to the PNC. The VC can answer any questions they may have. However, the PNC is blessed to have two members of our VC team. We have been sidelined with the survey but have not abandoned our duty to set the vision for the future. Jackie asked Jay Lee to add his ideas regarding the visioning process in this season:

Jay talked about Kevin Ford and Jim Singleton's new book called the <u>Attentive Church Leadership</u>. In this book, they describe our reality and then provide a wealth of wisdom for listening and leading in a fresh, Christcentered way. Jay wants all elders to have a copy when it comes out.

In late January, at the ECO National Gathering, Jay had an opportunity to spend an hour together with other ECO pastors. Jay asked if HPPres should wait or go ahead and start preparation on our new Vision before a new pastor comes. There was a strong reply to start HPPres's new Vision now. These pastors shared that a churches Vision is not based on one person. It takes 2-3 years for a new pastor to get established with the staff and congregation. It would be helpful to consider a pre-Vision process to get the vision going before the new pastor comes. Vision 100 ends in 2026.

Jay then gave some ideas that would help get our house in order:

- 1. Facility Updates and Safety & Security assessment
- 2. Classroom usage post-Hillier School closure
- 3. Staffing realignments
- 4. Strengthening student ministry
- 5. Cultivating a season of generosity
- 6. Strengthening our commitment to local and global outreach
- 7. Reevaluating ministries based on "lower room upper room" from <u>Future</u> Church
- 8. Finalizing the process for a church plant to become "particular" or independent church in ECO

John Rain and Angie Vaughan made comments concerning HOW to prepare new members to grow. Jay stated that it is hoped to get the core things in place and then let the Session gather and talk about ideas for each topic. This will be the beginning of our Spiritual Preparation.

One final question was asked about the church chimes. Calum reported that there had been some technical problems and they are being repaired.

Highland Park

Oversight/ Accountability

ECO

John Walsh reminded the Session of the upcoming Presbytery meeting. He made a motion to approve elder commissioners to the ECO Texas Presbytery Meeting and said there were still spaces available.

Motion:

It is moved to approve the following individuals - Neil Rambin, Alisa Sell, John Walsh, and Angie Vaughn - to represent HPPres as Elder Commissioners at the next ECO Texas Presbytery Meeting which will be held as a virtual meeting on Friday, April 26; 2024, and to delegate authority to the SLT and John Walsh to select additional elders to be Commissioners for the meeting up to the allotted 13 elders allowed to represent us under ECO polity.

For information purposes the following was added:

The Texas Presbytery will gather via Zoom on Friday, April 26, 2024, from 10 to 11a.m. The agenda will be largely composed of a vote to ratify the constitutional amendments that were approved at the Synod meeting earlier this year along with a report from our ministry partnership team and updates from the churches in our presbytery.

For matters that require approval by the Presbytery, only pastor and elder commissioners will be eligible to vote. A church's pastor commissioners are the ECO pastors in service to that congregation. Additionally, each church may select elder commissioners from its covenant partners that have been elected as elders in a number equal to the number of its pastor commissioners. For example, If a church has a lead pastor and an associate pastor, they may select two elder commissioners, one for each pastor commissioner. If a church does not currently have a pastor, they are entitled to one elder commissioner.

The motion carried.

Secondly, John asked Dr. Ryan Tompkins to come forward to share with the Session about himself. Ryan started in pastoral ministry, first at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City with Tim Keller and then at Rockwall Presbyterian Church in Rockwall, Texas. During this time, he realized that, for him, there are few things as rewarding as sharing life with someone and helping someone to move in a better direction. Ryan is also a licensed professional counselor. Ryan is presently a pastor in the PCUSA and now wanting to move to ECO. Ryan will be a Pastoral Fellow on the HPPres staff.

John then asked Ryan to leave the room before he made his second motion:

Motion:

It is moved to call Ryan Tompkins to serve Highland Park Presbyterian Church as an Assistant Pastor serving as Pastoral Fellow in the Care Department. This call will be effective upon the final approval of the



	PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
	transfer of Ryan's ordination from the Presbyterian Church of America to ECO.
	The motion carried and Ryan was called back to the Session meeting with a rousing hand of applause.
	Operations Committee Anne Compton reported the General Fund Giving through March 2024 was \$7.948M, which is \$23k over Budget, and is \$219k MORE than YTD Giving thru March 2023. Anne also commented that usually when a church loses its pastor, giving and attendance is down. That is not the case with HPPres. This is a now a time when Operations spending is up which is not unusual. It would be helpful if giving were steady throughout the year.
	A Security Consultant will be coming Tuesday, April 23, to discuss our security management. An outside security service has reported that IT is up to date.
	It was reported that the columbarium will be expanded and that the funds for this have already been raised.
	Beginning in April, Charlie Davis was asked to coordinate information on the Hillier School closing and the Session. He reported that there had been some miscommunication about HPPres's relationship to the school. That has been corrected and now the staff and board of the school are working with families to relocate their students.
	Governance Coordinating Committee: Jennifer Tollett thanked the Slate Making Task Force, especially our own Justin Eastburn, who served as moderator, Cole Evans, and Angie Vaughan, Governing Elders, who have worked diligently to bring a list of 11 women and men who are to be nominated for the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). Justin was asked to come forward to share his thoughts.
	It was noted that it is the authority of the Governance Coordinating Committee to form task forces and to discontinue them also. David Martin was asked to pray for the SMTF and the ending of their role.
	Closing Prayer The session formed a circle and held hands to close in prayer.
	The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.
Upcoming Schedule	Next Session Meeting – May 20, 2024—"Please Note Date Change"

Jay Lee,	Jennifer Tollett,
Moderator	Clerk of Session



SESSION ATTENDANCE 2023-2024

Elder	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Lana Adams	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х				
Jackie Burke	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х				
Anne Compton	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х				
Charlie Davis	Х	Х	Χ		Х	X	Х	Х				
Justin Eastburn	Х	Х	Χ		Х	Х	Х	Х				
Cole Evans	Х	Х	Χ		Х	Х	Х	Α				
Larry Glasscock	Х	Х	Χ		Х	Х	Х	Х				
Brett Krause	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х				
Lauren Langley	Х	Х	Χ		X	Χ	Х	Α				
Tom Leiser							Α	Х				
David Martin	Х	Α	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х				
Craig Murray	Х	Α	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х				
David Murray	Х	Х	Χ		Α	X	Α	Α				
Margaret Nderitu	Х	Х	Χ		Х	X	Х	Х				
Kelsey Phillips	Α	Х	X		X	Χ	Х	Α				
John Rain	Х	Х	Α		Х	Χ	Х	Х				
Karl Rathjen	Х	Х	Χ		Х	Χ	Х	Х				
Nancy Seay							Х	Х				
Alisa Sell	Х	Х	Χ		Х	X	Х	Х				
Reid Slaughter	Х	Х	Χ		Х	X	Х	Х				
Jennifer Tollett, Clerk	Х	Х	Х		X	X	Α	Х				
Angie Vaughan	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х				
John Walsh	Α	Х	Χ		Х	Х	Х	Х				
Madeline Wilkins	Х	Х	Χ		Х	Χ	Α	Х				

Others in attendance:

Jay Lee, Andrew Franklin, Josh Peck, Calum Lindsay, Zach House, Audrey Schmit, Cameron Beaty, Charlie Dunn

Highland Park

MINUTES OF THE SESSION OF HIGHLAND PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH APRIL 22, 2024

As the Moderator and Clerk of the Session of Highland Park Presbyterian Church, we certify that the following motion was adopted by the Session of Highland Park Presbyterian Church at its meeting duly called and held on April 22, 2024:

Motion: "It is moved to call Ryan Tompkins to serve Highland Park Presbyterian Church as an Assistant Pastor. This call will become effective upon the final approval of the transfer of Ryan's ordination from the Presbyterian Church of America to ECO."

Background and Timeline: According to the policies of the ECO Presbytery of Texas (the "Presbytery"), Ryan requested a transfer of his ordination from the PCA to ECO. Ryan has been interviewed by representatives of the Ministry Partnership Team ("MPT") of the Presbytery. The MPT has the authority to approve the transfer on behalf of the Presbytery. The interviewers have recommended that the MPT approve the transfer. Upon the receipt of a copy of the above Session motion, the MPT will call a meeting to approve and finalize the transfer. Upon approval by MPT, the Session will install Ryan as an Assistant Pastor at the next regular Session meeting by administering the vows set forth in ECO Polity Section 2.0103. Alternatively, the Session may choose to have an Elder administer the vows at a worship service utilizing the vows in Section 2.0103 for Ryan and the questions in Section 2.0104 for the Congregation.

Signed on April 22, 2024.

Rev. Jay Lee, Moderator

ennifer Tollet, Clerk of the Session



CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HIGHLAND PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SANCTUARY SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

At 10:50 AM, Moderator, Jay Lee called the meeting to order for the purpose of announcing the members of the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC). The acting Clerk of the Session, Jennifer Tollett, reported that there was a quorum. Jay called the meeting to order.

Jay called Justin Eastburn, moderator of the Slate Making Task Force (SMTF), to come forward to explain the process of the Pastor Nominating Committee. Justin reported that the congregation had sent in over 200 nominations for consideration for the PNC. He thanked everyone who had served on the SMTF.

Justin made the motion that the following 11 Covenant Partners will make up the Pastoral Nominating Committee, who will interview and bring to the congregation their recommendation for the new Senior Pastor. They are Kurt Alexander, Carol Chapman, Charlie Davis, Jed Melson, Aaron Murff, Austin Neuhoff, Kelsey Phillips, Neil Rambin, Bailey Schaufele, Alisa Sell, Ashley Shull, and Bailey Schaufele.

Jay called for discussion. One person, Caroline Walker, came forward to say that it was disappointing that there were no single Covenant Partners nominated to the PNC. There was no further discussion. The motion was seconded and was unanimously approved.

Jay thanked Justin and the SMTF for their work to form the Pastoral Nominating Committee. There being no more business the Congregational Meeting was closed. The meeting adjourned at 12:05 AM.

Jay Lee, Moderator	Jennifer Tollett, Clerk of the Session

2024 March Membership Report

April 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024 Session Meeting of May 20, 2024

Covenant Partners -April 30, 2024

AGE	Total: Beginning of the Month	New Covenant Partners	Dismissed Covenant Partners	Deceased Covenant Partners	Total: End of the Month	Percent of Total
18 & Under*	272	6	0	0	278	5%
19 to 35	1649	25	0	0	1674	31%
36 to 50	947	15	0	0	962	18%
51 to 65	1204	4	0	0	1208	22%
66 to 80	753	2	0	0	755	14%
81 & Over	352	0	0	2	350	6%
Unknown	172	6	0	0	178	3%
Total	5349	58	0	2	5405	100%

Baptized Members (Infant to 14) - April 30, 2024

According to ECO, a 'baptized member' has been baptized but has not yet made a public profession of faith in Christ, through, for example, our Confirmation experience (7th grade).

AGE	4/30/2024		
Infants - 14	864		



2023-2024 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

April 30, 2024 Session Meeting of May 20, 2024

NEW CONVENANT PARTNERS Vows taken Sunday, April 28, 2024

Barnes, Christy	Garvey, Lisa	Murchison, Daniel
Barnes, Jon	Gillespie, Daniel	Metzger, Claire
Berlin, Eric	Gillespie, Taylor	Peterson, Morgan
Berlin, Kristi	Green, Jacque	Quick, Jacob
Bischoff, Brian	Green, Kyle	Quick, Jaryn
Bischoff, Kasey	Hager, Ann Lauren	Ray, Bailey
Blaess, Marilyn	Hager, JD	Ray, Sami
Braun, Natalie	Hamilton, Caroline	Reid, Brook
Caulkins, Charlie	Henderson, Gibbs	Ridley, Kimberly
Caulkins, Jorie	Henderson, Marjon	Ridley, Jeffrey
Dickerson, Laura	Jasin, Laura	Robinson, Emma
Dunlap, Carter	Johnson, Jaidyn	Ruckman, Robert
Dunlap, Audrey	Jordan, Wendy	Speicher, Kristen
Ellerman, John	Maitland, Tim	Speicher, Will
Ellerman, Molly	McWay, Blair	Stern, Alyssa
Flores, Jennifer	McWay, Mike	Watts, Cassandra
Flores, Phillip	Meredith, Josh	

Confirmation Students

Garvey, Robert

Lance, Shepard Merryman, Sam Phillips, Saylor Merryman, Lexi Muu, Aiysha Worth, Ella

Murchison, Claire

MILESTONES

Births

Songer, George child of Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Songer (Kelly) on April 23, 2024

Infant Baptisms

Highland Park Presbyterian Church

Banner, Lila, child of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Banner (Piper) on April 21, 2024 Dhanani, Sophia, child of Mr. Rahim Dhanani and Mrs. Jaye Massey on April 21, 2024 Flores, Olivia, child of Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Flores (Jennifer) on April 24, 2024 Huerta, Navy, child of Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Huerta (Amanda) on April 24, 2024 Kemp, Rowan, child of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Rowand (Blakely) on April 21, 2024 Sieker, Blair, child of Mr. and Mrs. Justin Sieker (Katie) on April 21, 2024 Stevenson, Teddy, child of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor Stevenson (CJ) on April 21, 2024

Leading all generations to find and follow Jesus for the flourishing of our city and beyond



Taylor, Charlie, child of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Taylor (Emily) on April 21, 2024 Todd, Hunt, child of Mr. and Mrs. Hunter Todd (Ashton) on April 21, 2024 Toomer, Isabella, child of Mr. and Mrs. Chris Toomer (Stefany) on April 21, 2024

Grace Lake Highlands

Admussen, Henry on August 27, 2023 Costello, Emma on October 22, 2023 Sheehan, Sutton on December 3, 2023 LaRue, Ellie on March 3, 2024 Hurtado, Martina on April 7, 2024 Brown, Payton on April 14, 2024 Murphy, Cameron on April 28, 2024 Martin, Stella on May 19, 2024 Martin, Jude on May 19, 2024

Adult Baptisms

<u>Highland Park Presbyterian Church</u> Hamner, Georgia Mae on April 21, 2024

Weddings

Sonnier, Emily to Moody, Miles on April 6, 2024 Toms, Kelsey to Cooper, James on April 13, 2024 Rea, Brittany to Gillespie, Graham on April 27, 2024

Deaths

Highland Park Presbyterian Church
Edwards, Jack on April 7, 2024
Hunt, William Herbert on April 9, 2024

DISMISSED COVENANT PARTNERS

None



Covenant Partner Vows

NEW CONVENANT PARTNERS HIGHLAND PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Vows taken Sunday, April 28, 2024

Barnes, Christy	Garvey, Lisa	Murchison, Daniel
Barner, Jon	Gillespie, Daniel	Metzger, Claire
Berlin, Eric	Gillespie, Taylor	Peterson, Morgan
Berlin, Kristi	Green, Jacque	Quick, Jacob
Bischoff, Brian	Green, Kyle	Quick, Jaryn
Bischoff, Kasey	Hager, Ann Lauren	Ray, Bailey
Blaess, Marilyn	Hager, JD	Ray, Sami
Braun, Natalie	Hamilton, Caroline	Reid, Brook
Caulkins, Charlie	Henderson, Gibbs	Ridley, Kimberly
Caulkins, Jorie	Henderson, Marjon	Ridley, Jeffrey
Dickerson, Laura	Jasin, Laura	Robinson, Emma
Dunlap, Carter	Jordan, Wendy	Ruckman, Robert
Dunlap, Audrey	Johnson, Jaidyn	Speicher,Kristen
Ellerman, John	Maitland, Tim	Speicher, Will
Ellerman, Molly	Meredith, Josh	Stern, Alyssa
Flores, Jennifer	McWay, Blair	Watts, Cassandra
Flores, Phillip	McWay, Mike	
Garvey, Robert	Murchison, Claire	

Confirmation Students

Lance, Shepard	Merryman, Sam	Phillips, Saylor
Merryman, Lexi	Muu, Aiysha	Worth, Ella

GRACE LAKE HIGHLANDS Vows taken Sunday, May 5, 2024

Atkins, Lyle	Kimwele, Jane	Neely, Jordan	Weidig, Will
Atkins, Caroline	Kyallo, Elijah	Raines, Joe	Weidig, Lindsay
Friesen, Derwin	Kyallo, Samuel	Raines, Cathy	Woodmansee, Alec
Friesen, Jamie	Leifeld, Nate	Stalle, John	Woodmansee, Hayward
Harper, Julianne	Leifeld, Katie	Stalle, Katherine	Woodward, Trey
Hussey, Ed	Mathis, Jack	Swain, Greta	Woodward, Ali
Jahnke, Jeff	Mathis, Erika	Swain, Daniel	York, Haley
Jahnke, Linda	Mccombs, Denise	Terrell, Brandon	
Kimwele, Charles	Neely, Wilson	Terrell, Anna	

What Is Corporate Spiritual Discernment?

The following is an excerpt from the Introduction to Ruth Haley Barton's book, **Pursuing** God's Will Together: A Discernment Practice for Leadership Groups.

Spiritual discernment is the ability to distinguish or discriminate between good (that which is of God and draws us closer to God) and evil (that which is not of God and draws us away from God). There are many qualities that contribute to good leadership, but it is our commitment to discerning and doing the will of God through the help of the Holy Spirit that distinguishes spiritual leadership from other kinds of leadership.

Corporate or leadership discernment, then, is the capacity to recognize and respond to the presence and activity of God as a leadership group relative to the issues we are facing, and to make decisions in response to that Presence. Spiritual leaders are distinguished by their commitment to discern important matters together so they can affirm a shared sense of God's desire for them and move forward on that basis.

It is hard to imagine that spiritual leadership could be about anything but seeking to know and do the will of God, and yet many leadership groups do not have this as their clear mandate and reason for existence. This raises a serious question: If we are not pursuing the will of God together in fairly intentional ways, what are we doing? Our own will? What seems best according to our own thinking and planning? That which is merely strategic or expedient or good for the ego?

Discernment together as leaders, on the other hand, opens us to an entirely different reality — the wisdom of God that is beyond human wisdom and is available to us as we learn how to open ourselves to it (1 Cor 2:6-16). This approach to leadership presents unique challenges because it requires us to move beyond reliance on human thinking and strategizing to a place of deep listening and response to the Spirit of God within us and among us.

(Barton, Ruth Haley. *Pursuing God's Will Together*, 2012, Introduction. Kindle Version, Intervarsity Press. Downers Grove, IL)

ONE WAY CHURCH TIMELINE

OUR FIRST SEMESTER TIMELINE

June-21-2021 - Pr. Ozzie and Luma Menezes arrived in Austin-Tx not knowing anyone.

July-2021 - Pr. Ozzie and Luma Menezes begin to relate to the Brazilian community in Austin through sport (volley and soccer). They met around 40 people. August-25-2021 - The opening process of the Non Profit Organization One Way Brazilian Church was concluded.

September-12-2021 - They launch the first service, a small group of Bible study meeting at the Park with breakfast, 5 people were present.



October-31-2021 - We reached our first 25 church members.

November and December-2021 -We developed the One Way logo and One Way website.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS, WE ARE TOGETHER ON THIS MISSION!

OUR SECOND SEMESTER TIMELINE

January-22 -Collection of 2 truckloads of Clothing Donations for people in need in Austin-Texas.

February-22 - We rented the YMCA Twin Lakes for our services.
Before, we were in the common area of Carine Manhães apartment.



May-22 - Healing a person with cancer and other answers to our prayers. God is moving!

March-22 - Sending and supporting a couple who were discipled in Brazil by Pr. Osnir to be missionaries in Tunisia (Muslim world).



THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS, WE ARE TOGETHER ON THIS MISSION!

June-22 - Because of the YMCA Summer Camp we rented a new space: A Music School.



OUR THIRD SEMESTER TIMELINE

1)July22

We finished an expository sermons series on the Gospel of Mark called: The Jesus I Never Knew, 13 Sundays in a row on this journey of faith.

2)19August22

Started the first course of Raising Kids God's Way at One Way Church.

3)September 22

We designate our first Elder Wes Neel and started a kid's ministry program called "Think Orange" that link Church and Parents for Christian faith development.

4)090ctober22

First anniversary celebration of One Way Church with 8 people being baptized, it was our first baptism in the USA!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP, WE ARE TOGETHER ON THIS MISSION!

5)13November22

We collect, sort, and deliver overwhelming one of the biggest shelters in the city with clothes, toys, blankets, for people and families in need in the city of Austin-Tx.

6) 13December 22

The premature twin daughters of Léo Santos cousin who were born at 25 weeks spent many days in the ICU after many prayers miraculously leave the hospital healthy.







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MAY-2023

We officially moved to a new space and also a new service time at 12:20pm. We are renting the Cross Pointe Church building in North Austin-Tx.





We had our first women's special meeting and also our first men's retreat.

APRIL-2023

Special Easter celebration with worship and Easter Egg Hunt.



JUNE-2023

We sent our second couple of missionaries to the Muslim world. they were sent from Brazil to Qatar. We also started a midweek prayer meeting (Thursdays).



Thank you for your partnership, we are together on this mission!



We started small group and prayer meeting during the week.

August-2023

We had 2 special services receiving a visit from Brazil of pr. Paulo with his wife. He was the senior pastor at Ozzie's home church over 35 years.



September-2023

We celebrated our second anniversary with 2 more baptisms. Total of 10 baptisms in 2 years!

October-2023

A miracle cure of Lucas stroke (Luma's brother). God answers prayers!



We had a weekend retreat for the entire church at the lake house. Four people answered the prayer to accept Jesus.





December-2023

We had special Christmas and New Year's gatherings that strengthened the life of our community.



1

Savannah R. Pace

402-960-8177 • savannah.pace@hppres.org • Dallas, TX

Vision

My vision as a pastoral resident and lifelong learner is to pursue excellence in all that I do and work diligently to serve the organization I am a part of for mutual enrichment and formation in the name of Jesus. I am passionate about quality work, exceptional communication, and effective innovation.

Education

Master of Divinity – Denver Seminary – GPA: 4.0 – Expected Graduation: December 2025 B.A. Bible, Theology and Ministry – Biola University – GPA: 3.96 – Completion Date: May 2021

Work Experience

Pastoral Resident of Care & Prayer – Highland Park Presbyterian Church

May 2023 – Present

- Oversee 60 deacons through coaching and equipping alongside the Pastor of Formation
- Plan, execute, and evaluate deacon events including annual retreats, quarterly meetings, officer training classes, service projects, continuing education, prayer meetings, etc.
- Lead and assist in prayer initiatives such as training courses, prayer teams, and prayer vigils
- Provide pastoral care through assisting memorials, leading GriefShare, and supporting congregants
- Develop spiritual formation tools such as Advent guide and Lent guide devotionals
- Host, assist, teach, and preach in worship services and classes 2-3 times per month

Associate Director of Student Ministry - Highland Park Presbyterian Church

June 2021 - May 2023

- Planned, executed, and evaluated weekly ministry programs, outreach events, retreats, and mission trips
- Taught Sunday class and student evening gatherings on weekly basis
- Recruited, resourced, and trained 16 community group leaders
- Developed curriculum for staff and volunteer leaders
- Built meaningful relationships with students, parents, and lay leaders
- Coached 8 student lead team members and 2 summer interns to equip in ministry leadership

College Ministry Intern – Providence Church

August 2020 - May 2021

- Collaborated with Providence Church leadership, fostering unity in all ministry areas
- Assisted, equipped, and advocated for 12 college ministry student leaders and volunteers
- Planned, executed, and evaluated college retreats, outreach events, leadership meetings, and Bible studies
- Ideated and executed new ministry initiatives to fit the growing college ministry

Teacher's Assistant – Biola University (Theology department)

October 2019 – May 2021

- Consistently delivered constructive feedback on the students' work to promote development
- Communicated important announcements and updates on Canvas LMP to 90 students weekly
- Advised and developed individual students, seeking improvement/direction throughout the semester

America Reads Tutor – Biola University

September 2018 – November 2019

- Developed 40 elementary-aged students in their reading skills through 1-on-1 and small group sessions
- Fostered strong relationships with students and teachers through consistency and respect

Ministry Support Coordinator – YouthWorks

May 2019 – August 2019

- 1 of 4 core team members responsible for facilitating the Beckley, WV ministry location
- Provided and coordinated the upfront leadership of youth programming while creating a fun and engaging atmosphere
- Coordinated, confirmed, and maintained community partnerships for evening activities

Additional Skills

Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite

Proficient in CCB Church Software and Planning Center

StrengthsFinder: Achiever, Learner, Discipline, Intellect, and Relator

MOTION HP Pres Session meeting on May 20, 2024.

Motion: It is moved that Svannah Pace be endorsed and approved by the Session of Highland Park Presbyterian Church as a candidate for ordination as a Pastor in the Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians.