

Trinity  
Presbyterian Church  
(TPC)

Appeals Process Policy

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# Trinity Presbyterian Church

## Appeals Process

In the event that an individual or group is dissatisfied with a decision or policy made by a body of church government (either the Board of Deacons or the Session) that individual or group may appeal the decision or policy, in writing, by following an orderly process that recognizes the structure of the Presbyterian government and allows all affected or interested parties to be heard.

### **Appeals Process Procedures:**

#### **1. Diaconate Level:**

- a. If a decision or policy in question was made by the Board of Deacons, the individual or group dissatisfied with the decision or policy made may ask the Board Chair, via written communication within ten (10) business days of hearing of the decision or policy, to bring the issue before the Board of Deacons for reconsideration.
- b. After the Board reconsiders the decision or policy, the Board will convey their second opinion in writing to the individual or group requesting the reconsideration within ten (10) business days of the Board meeting.
- c. If the Board of Deacons reaffirms the original decision and the individual or group is still dissatisfied, the individual or group dissatisfied with the decision may appeal the decision within ten (10) business days, in writing, to the Session.

#### **2. Session Level:**

- a. If a decision or policy in question was made by the Deaconate, Session or a Session committee, the individual or group dissatisfied with the decision or policy made may ask the Session moderator (TE Wenger), via written communication within ten (10) business days of hearing of the decision or policy, to bring the issue before the full Session for reconsideration.
- b. After the Session reconsiders the decision or policy, the Session will convey their second opinion in writing to the individual or group requesting the reconsideration within ten (10) business days of the Session meeting.
- c. If the Session reaffirms the original decision and the individual or group is still dissatisfied, the individual or group dissatisfied with the decision may appeal the decision within sixty (60) days, in writing, to the Presbytery. See the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) Book of Church Order (BCO), chapter 43, highlights of which are briefly summarized here:
  - i. Any member in good standing (para. 43-1) may make such an appeal to the Presbytery, in writing, within sixty (60) days of the Session's decision (para 43-3), a copy of which is also provided to the Session of the local church.

