

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING MINUTES
HOUSTON, TEXAS
January 21, 2020

MODERATOR
The Rev. Dr. Trey Little

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED MEETING on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance:

Pastors Present: The Rev. Dr. Trey Little, The Rev. Chris French

Elders Present: Candy Aldridge, Dath Collins, Vic Condrey, Bert Crump, Evan Ghazi, Jim Leeland, Terry Looper, Mike Mantel, Natalie McElroy, Greg Morby, Hardie Morgan, Nnenna Okoro, Wayne Parchman, Philip Parker Tami Plummer Tanner Spears, Jo Swank, Jim Tomforde, Gindi Vincent, Woody Woodruff, Greg Zuanich

Excused: Francisco Garibay, Dan McElyea

Absent:

Others in attendance: Susan McElroy, Traci Baudin

Prayers for our Church Family and Our Leadership

Trey opened the meeting by encouraging Elders at each table to get to know each other by identifying two words they each will focus on in 2020, and pray for each other.

Introduction – Class of 2022 Church Officers

The new Elders were welcomed to their first Session meeting.

Clerk’s Report & Administrative Matters

Candy Aldridge presented the Consent Agenda for approval. A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda. It was seconded and approved.

Strategy Team Opportunities

Team Leaders provided highlights of their Team’s work.

New Business

- **Conflict of Interest Forms** – Hardie Morgan reminded Elders to complete the forms and submit them this evening, if possible.

Old Business

- **Pastor of Discipleship and Formation Search Team Report** –Trey shared that the Search Team interviewed four candidates via video interview, with an additional interview scheduled. Slingshot continues to vet potential candidates.
- **Generosity / Revenue** - Ministry Support Team chair Mike Mantel and Hardie Morgan presented a follow-up report from the November meeting displaying a two-year “giving analysis,” as well as the

December financial update. Operating Revenue for YTD 2019 was 18% less than 2018. Operating Results for YTD 2019 were in a deficit position of \$486,387, which is 212% greater than the 2018 deficit. This is primarily due to lower-than-expected revenue and a decrease in giving units, -266. From the Ready campaign, we have collected two-thirds of pledges in two years of the three-year campaign, with an increase of 283 contributors.

Based on analysis and discussions of the past several months, the Ministry Support Team will present a complete solution for the Session's consideration, discussion and approval at the Session retreat (and Session meeting) on February 22, 2020. Options under consideration are:

1. Accessing existing cash reserves of \$2 million,
2. Appealing to the congregation for additional contributions and
3. Further reducing expenses, which will likely affect personnel

Trey encouraged the Elders to remain faithful and hopeful and ask the Lord to continue His provision for Grace.

- Church Planning Project - Trey updated the activities of the Visioning Team. The results would be presented at the Session Retreat in February, after presentation to the Planning Team.

Dates

The next Stated Session Meeting will be held Saturday, February 22, 2020, 8 a.m.

Jim Tomforde closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Candy Clarke Aldridge
Clerk of Session