

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING MINUTES
HOUSTON, TEXAS
June 1, 2021

MODERATOR
The Reverend Doctor Julia Leeth

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a CALLED MEETING on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. Because of the current public health environment, the meeting was held via Zoom conference.

Attendance:

Pastors Present: Rev. Julia Leeth, Rev. Chris French

Elders Present: Deb Castillo, Bert Crump, Judy Dewey, Tory Gunsolley, Dorothy Hobbs, Debbie Kaplan, Debbie Lunn, Abby Meade, Nnenna Okoro, Lisa Schwartz, Jim Tomforde, Ethan Tritt, and Karen Welton

Excused: Dath Collins, Mike Mantel, Tom Prisk, Tanner Spears

Absent: Natalie McElroy

Others in attendance, Traci Baudin, Beth Craig, Francisco Garibay, Sharon High, Heather Kaemingk, Mayda Mendiola, Hardie Morgan, Denise Phelps, Narda Weierbach and Candy Clarke Aldridge

Call Meeting to Order – Rev. Julia Leeth called the meeting to order.

Open with Prayer – Chris French opened with prayer.

Moderator’s Report – Julia reviewed the agenda and the upcoming dates.

The Session meeting began with a scriptural praying of 1 John 5: 13-15.

New Business

Resolution to Call Assistant Pastors – Francisco Garibay and Denise Phelps recently completed their post-seminary requirements, achieving eligibility to be called as pastors in ECO. Each was asked to read the Statement of Faith they prepared for ECO. Each told how their lives led to pursuit of the ministry at this stage in their lives. All guests then left the room as Julia made the recommendation from the Leadership Development Team to call Francisco and Denise as Assistant Pastors at Grace. Elders approved the recommendation. Guests then reentered and celebrated with the Elders. Denise will be ordained in July. Francisco will be ordained in the fall when his family can gather.

Staff Alignment – Julia presented the final organization chart for the realignment of the Grace staff into 4 areas of ministry: Worship, Equip, Serve and Together. She described the expense reduction generated by the realignment. A motion was made to approve the administrative change. It was seconded and approved.

State of Grace – Julia will present the State of Grace after worship on June 6. She will reveal the new staff alignment, provide an update on current financial status, and describe the recent virtual Living Water International event.

COVID-19 Protocol Update - On Sunday, June 6, all front pews in the sanctuary will be open for seating. The back third of the pews will still offer social distancing of closing every other pew.

After a motion to adjourn, a second and approval, Chris French closed the meeting in prayer.

DATES:

State of Grace - Sunday, June 6, 11:00 a.m.

Outdoor worship - Sunday, June 13, 5:00 p.m.

Stated Session Meeting - Tuesday, June 15, 2021 @ 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Session Retreat - Saturday, August 14, 9:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Candy Clarke Aldridge

Clerk of Session