

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING MINUTES
HOUSTON, TEXAS
November 17, 2021

MODERATOR
The Reverend Chris French

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED MEETING on Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in Massey-Tucker Hall.

Attendance:

Pastors Present: Rev. Chris French

Elders Present: Nnenna Akwari, Deb Castillo, Dath Collins, Bert Crump, Judy Dewey, Tory Gunsolley, Debbie Kaplan, Debbie Lunn, Mike Mantel, Abby Meade, Tom Prisk, Jim Tomforde, Ethan Tritt and Karen Welton

Excused: Dorothy Hobbs, Lisa Schwartz

Absent: Natalie McElroy

Others in attendance: Felicia Awazi, Mandy Barrow, Traci Baudin, Christian Bolano, Marsha Bourgeois, Ron Collins, Beth Craig, Carolyn Crawford, John Duffy, Kristi Elmore, Andy Frazelle, Rosmeli Gahona, Francisco Garibay, Betty Hanlon, Sharon High, DJ Holick, Susan Jernigan, David Lugo, Suzanne Penn, Janet Roberts, Amber Sheffield, Jo Swank, Debra True, Bill Welton and Candy Clarke Aldridge

Call Meeting to Order – The Rev. Chris French

Open with Prayer – Chris opened with lectio divino.

Pastor's Report – Julia joined the meeting briefly via Zoom to apprise the Elders of the plan to search for and hire a pastor for discipleship.

Clerk's Report, Administrative Matters and Approval of Consent Agenda – Candy Aldridge, Clerk of Session, presented the Consent Agenda. A motion was made to approve the agenda. It was seconded and approved.

Team Updates

- Ministry Support Update – the monthly financial report is delayed and will be sent to the Session. Debbie Kaplan reported that November 14 was Pledge Sunday, and that there is an uptick to current contributions.
- Worship Team – the monthly report is in the Session packet.
- Equip – the monthly report is in the Session packet.
- Serve – the monthly report is in the Session packet.
- Grace School – the monthly report is in the Session packet.
- Together –

New Business – Discernment

- Christian Bolano, soon to be ordained and installed as a deacon in January, reported on the new

church he is planting in the Shepherd, Texas area: Iglesia Presbiteriana El Ancla - The Anchor Presbyterian Church. A core group has been meeting and evangelizing in the area. Christian is studying to be a Certified Lay Pastor in ECO.

- Church Officer Examinations - newly elected Elder and Deacon candidates were present to be examined by the Session. The new officers were divided into six groups led by two to three Elders and shared their faith statements in the group. At the conclusion, each serving Elder reported to the Session that their group passed the required examination. A motion was made to receive and approve the newly elected Elders and Deacons of the Class of 2024.

A motion was made to go into **Executive Session**. It was seconded and approved.

After Executive Session, a motion was made to adjourn. It was seconded and approved.

DATES:

Next Session meeting - Wednesday, January 26, 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Candy Clarke Aldridge
Clerk of Session