

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING MINUTES
HOUSTON, TEXAS
NOVEMBER 20, 2024

MODERATOR
The Reverend Doctor Julia Leeth

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED SESSION MEETING on Wednesday Nov. 20, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. in Massey Tucker Hall.

Attendance:

Pastors Present: Rev. Dr. Julia Leeth

Elders Present: Nnenna Akwari, Earl Baudin, Russ Chase, Ron Collins, Vic Condrey, Lisa Descant, Sarah Easterling, Cathy Finck, Andy Frazelle, Morris Harper, Dorothy Hobbs, Jamie Horton, Debbie Kaplan, Tom Lee, Rick Sell and Karen Welton

Excused: Martha Hunt, Judy Prisk

Absent: none

Others in attendance: Rev. Denise Phelps, Felicia Awazi, Traci Baudin, Marsha Bourgeois, Nancy Condrey, Jordan Goodie, Kristie Elmore, Johnice Haney, Ann Hodge, Tom Hodge, Thomas Horton, Shirley Krieg, Doug Lunn, Sue McGown, Hardie Morgan, Steve Murphy, Janet Roberts, Nelda Womack, Sharon High, Candy Aldridge

Call Meeting to Order – Rev. Julia Leeth called the meeting to order and led the Elders in communal reading of Hebrews 13:15-19.

Moderator's Report: Julia introduced the incoming Class of 2027 Elders and Deacons.

New Business

Examination of Class of 2027 Church Officers: Currently-serving Elders were assigned to groups with 2-3 incoming officers. As the examination, the new officers gave their faith statements. Upon completion, Elders recommended approval of the Class. There was a motion to accept the recommendation. It was seconded and approved.

Clerk's Report and Administrative Matters: Refer to the report included in the Session packet.

Approval of Consent Agenda: There was a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. It was seconded and approved.

Grace School Policy Document / Blueprint

There was a motion to give voice to the incoming Elders. It was seconded and approved. Grace School Committee member, Ron Collins, explained the changes and updates to the manual. There was a

motion to approve the 2024 Grace School Policy Manual. After a second and further discussion, there was another motion to delegate the implementation of the new policy to Julia, Hardie Morgan, and the Ministry Support team chair, and to change the document name to Grace School Policy Blueprint 2024. The revised amendment was seconded and approved.

Strategy Team Updates

Ministry Support - Chair Lisa Descant reported that October revenue was \$72,000 over current year budget and \$105,000 over the same period 2023. See the monthly report for additional information.

Worship - See the monthly report.

Equip - See the monthly report.

Serve - Chair Tom Lee reported that Sleep in Heavenly Peace has a goal of building 50 beds during Christmas in the City project on Dec. 8. He described two Serve mission opportunities:

- Fe Maya, Guatemala, Mar. 6-12
- Living Water, Dominican Republic, Mar. 30-Apr.5.

Leadership Development - Chair, Cathy Finck, deferred the team's report item to Executive Session.

Executive Session - There was a motion to move to Executive Session at 8:15 P.M. Elders and Class of 2027 Elders stayed for the meeting.

After returning to the Stated Session meeting at 9:00 P.M., the following motions were made.

1. Approve initiating a search for an Assistant Pastor to lead the Equip and Serve ministries or an Executive Pastor or Executive Director. The motion was seconded and approved.
2. Hire an Assistant Pastor to lead Equip and Serve. The motion was seconded and approved.
3. Authorize the Leadership Development Team to assemble a search committee of six to assist Julia in hiring the pastor. The motion was seconded and approved.

There was a motion to adjourn, which was seconded and approved.

Rev. Leeth closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Candy Clarke Aldridge

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Clerk of Session