

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING MINUTES
HOUSTON, TEXAS
MAY 21, 2025

MODERATOR

The Reverend Doctor Julia Leeth

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED MEETING on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 during a regularly scheduled monthly meeting at 7:00 p.m. in Massey-Tucker Hall.

Attendance:

Pastors Present: Rev. Dr. Julia Leeth

Elders Present: Nnenna Akwari, Earl Baudin, Lisa Descant, Kendall Compton, Dorothy Hobbs, Tom Hodge, Sue McGowan, Steve Murphy, Judy Prisk, Rick Sell

Excused: Sarah Easterling, Morris Harper, Martha Hunt, Debbie Kaplan, Tom Lee, Doug Lunn, Karen Welton, Candy Aldridge

Absent: none

Others in attendance: Rev. Aaron Hanz, Rev. Denise Phelps, Traci Baudin, Johnice Haney, Sharon High, and Hardie Morgan

Call Meeting to Order – Rev. Julia Leeth called the meeting to order and led the elders in a communal reading and praying of Ephesians 3:10-13.

Moderator's Report –

Consent agenda and Clerk's Report – There was a motion to approve the consent agenda. It was seconded and approved.

New Business

None

Team Updates: most Strategy Teams meet quarterly in 2025

Leadership Development:

CONC - Chair Nnenna Akwari reported that at this time, CONC has a good number of nominees to contact as potential elders and deacons. She asked for prayers that those contacted will be willing to serve.

LDT - The group is almost done with the tenets training document. They plan to work with the Senior Pastor, Dr. Julia, to determine next steps.

Grace School - Kendall Compton reported on behalf of chair Karen Welton. The school enrollment is going well.

- They have added additional staff to the high demand 3rd grade class.
- They purchased a 10-person van from the money realized from the Gala.
- Middle School Principal Robert Williford will lead an AI training for the school employees
- Julia added that Mr. Williford will also lead the training for the church staff.
- Dorothy Hobbs added that no one knows how the school voucher legislation, recently passed in Texas, will impact the school.

Worship Team - Hardie Morgan to sign the agreement to approve VBS music. Chair Earl Baudin let the session know that Franco Basili's last day is July 27. He is moving to California. Alex Koppel is staying until June 15 and is moving to Iowa. Ivy Castle Simpson is currently interviewing to replace these positions.

The worship team had comments from covenant members requesting two services as 9:30 is too early. One worship service began in September 2020. For context, it was agreed we are not at the stage as a church to move to two services. It was also reported that attendance is up 7% for March and April.

Equip Strategy Team - Judy Prisk, chair of the Equip Strategy team, reported that the team met on May 7. There are 40 participating in the youth program and the youth mission trip for the summer is full.

Serve Strategy Team - Tom Hodge reported on behalf of chair Tom Lee.

- The North Carolina Mission Trip is scheduled for next week.
- There are 16 students from the schools in their mentorship program that are signed up for VBS.
- Friends of Westchase is providing breakfast for teachers.
- In collaboration with Equinor, the Astros Foundation will host 50 MENtorUP students, mentors, and Friends of Westchase guests to a special pregame meal and great seats to the Astros game on June 11.
- They are providing 600 cookies for graduation.

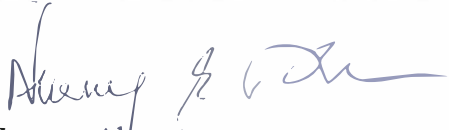
There was a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Ministry Support. It was seconded and approved. The Executive Session began at 7:27 PM. It was approved for Hardie Morgan to stay as he is an integral part of ministry support.

After the Executive session, there was a motion to return to the regular Session meeting.

There was a motion to adjourn. It was seconded and approved.

Rev. Julia Leeth closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nnenna Akwari', followed by a stylized flourish.

Nnenna Akwari
For Candy Aldridge, Clerk of Session