

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING MINUTES
HOUSTON, TEXAS
JUNE 25, 2025

MODERATOR
The Reverend Doctor Julia Leeth

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED SESSION MEETING on Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.

Attendance:

Pastors Present: Rev. Dr. Julia Leeth, via Zoom

Elders Present: Nnenna Akwari, Earl Baudin, Kendall Compton, Lisa Descant, Sarah Easterling, Tom Hodge, Debbie Kaplan, Tom Lee, Sue McGown, Steve Murphy, Rick Sell and Karen Welton

Excused: Morris Harper, Dorothy Hobbs, Thomas Horton, Martha Hunt, Doug Lunn

Absent: Judy Prisk

Others in attendance: Traci Baudin, Sharon High, Hardie Morgan, Candy Aldridge

Call Meeting to Order – Rev. Julia Leeth called the meeting to order and led the communal prayer using Zechariah 2:10-13.

Moderator's Report – There are 2 candidates for Associate Pastor. They will come in for an onsite interview soon. The Equipping Strategy Team is working with staff to prepare for reading the Bible in a Year as a congregation.

Clerk's Report and Administrative Matters

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

Strategy Team Updates

Ministry Support – Chair Lisa Descant reported that the May financial report was much improved because of a financial gift that arrived in May instead of June. Income for FYTD is about \$229,000 over budget and 20% ahead of the same period last year. Expenses are down, and the overall picture is better than budgeted, and \$603,797 better than last fiscal year. See the monthly report for details.

There was a motion to go into **Executive Session**. The motion was seconded and approved. The Session entered **Executive Session** at 7:22 p.m.

The Session returned to the **Stated Session** meeting at 7:29 p.m.

There was a motion from Ministry Support to approve the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year budget. It was seconded and approved.

Elder Rick Sell made a motion to excuse the Moderator and to name Elder Karen Welton as acting Moderator. The motion was seconded and approved. The Session prayed for Julia, and she left the meeting.

The session meeting proceeded with Elder Karen Welton moderating.

Worship – repaired organ pipes are due to be reinstalled in August.

Equip – the team briefly outlined the plan for reading the Bible in a Year. The high school mission trip to San Antonio included 32 students and leaders. The junior high trip to Waco is scheduled for July. See notes in the monthly report.

Serve – See the monthly report.

Grace School – Julia and Karen Welton gave Liz her review and extended her contract to 2027. Playground construction will probably be complete this fall.

Leadership Development – Chair Nnenna Akwari reported that the Church Officer Nominating Committee is reviewing nominations for Elder and Deacons for the Class of 2027. The process will continue through the summer. The Team is also considering Strategy Team placements for the new Elders.

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

Karen Welton closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Candy Clarke Aldridge
Clerk of Session