

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
HOUSTON, TEXAS  
AUGUST 23, 2025

**MODERATOR**  
The Reverend Doctor Julia Leeth

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED SESSION MEETING on Wednesday, August 23, 2025 at 12:00 P.M. during the Session Retreat.

**Attendance:**

Pastors Present: Rev. Dr. Julia Leeth

**Elders Present:** Nnenna Akwari, Earl Baudin, Kendall Compton, Lisa Descant, Sarah Easterling, Morris Harper, Thomas Horton, Doug Lunn, Sue McGown, Steve Murphy, Judy Prisk, Rick Sell and Karen Welton

**Excused:** Dorothy Hobbs, Tom Hodge, Martha Hunt, Debbie Kaplan, Tom Lee

**Absent:** n/a

**Others in attendance:** Daniel Baudin, Traci Baudin, Ivy Castle-Simpson, Kristi Elmore, Doug Gleditsch, Rev. Aaron Hansz, Jamie Horton, Liz Kay, Hardie Morgan, Rev. John Pflug, Rev. Denise Phelps, Sharon High, Candy Aldridge

**Call Meeting to Order** – Rev. Julia Leeth called the meeting to order, and Rev. Denise Phelps prayed.

**Moderator's Report** – information was reported during the first part of the retreat.

**Clerk's Report and Administrative Matters**

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

**New Business**

The ECO Presbytery of Texas is convening, beginning Friday, September 19, 2025 in Amarillo, Texas. Grace is allotted 4 commissioners for the meeting. Julia called for volunteers. A motion was made to give Hardie Morgan authority to select and commission the commissioners. It was seconded and approved.

**Strategy Team Updates**

**Ministry Support** – Chair Lisa Descant called for Session to move into Executive Session.

There was a motion to go into **Executive Session**. The motion was seconded and approved. The Session entered **Executive Session** at 1:07 p.m.

The Session returned to the **Stated Session** meeting at 2:13 p.m.

Lisa continued her report. Although monthly income for June 2025 lagged projections, FYTD results were 5% above budget and 4% over June 2024. June 2025 expenses were 2% under budget. Overall operating results show that Grace keeps making progress to close the gap, showing a 23% improvement in the FYTD budget. Then she reported on the number of new contributors in 2025. This is the “10” part of the 5:10:5 plan. Results show that there is a 4.37% increase in new contributors, below the 10% goal. The importance of contributing and tithing as important participation in the life of Christ is emphasized regularly in the Covent Partner course.

**Worship** – repaired organ pipes are due to be reinstalled in early September. There is a Covenant Partner course on August 17. Earl emphasized the importance of participating in the worship service. Elders can sign up online. Also see the monthly report.

**Equip** – Julia and team chair Judy Prisk outlined the plan for the church to read the Bible simultaneously. We will be using the Bible Project format, and the week’s readings will be the sermon topic and the Equipping classes each week. It will begin in September. See also the monthly report.

**Serve** – For the paint date at Paul Revere Middle School there were 81 in the Grace crew earlier this month. There was also a prayer walk. See also monthly report.

**Grace School** – There is a record attendance of 518. Chair Karen Welton asked for prayer over the students and teachers.

**Leadership Development** – Chair Nnenna Akwari reported that the Church Officer Nominating Committee is reviewing nominations for Elder and Deacons for the Class of 2028. The process will continue through the summer. The team expects to bring the slate of officers to the September Session meeting. The Team is also considering Strategy Team placements for the new Elders.

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

Rev. Leeth closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Candy Clarke Aldridge  
Clerk of Session