

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING MINUTES
HOUSTON, TEXAS
JANUARY 31, 2026

MODERATOR

The Reverend Doctor Julia Leeth

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED SESSION MEETING during the Church Officers' Retreat on Saturday, January 31, 2026 at 1:00 P.M. in Massey-Tucker Hall.

Attendance:

Pastors Present: The Reverend Doctor Julia Leeth

Elders Present: Bill Akwari, Nnenna Akwari, Kendall Compton, Sarah Easterling, Tom Hodge, Thomas Horton, Grant Kay, Tom Lee, Doug Lunn, Sue McGown, Steve Murphy, Tami Plummer, Kim Rankin, Rick Sell, Cynthia Walston, and Karen Welton

Excused: Morris Harper, Judy Prisk, Ethan Tritt

Absent: n/a

Others in attendance: Traci Baudin, Julie Clark, Rev. Francisco Garibay, Doug Gleditsch, Rev. Aaron Hanz, Sharon High, Jamie Horton, Alyssa Minear, Hardie Morgan, Rev. John Pflug, Rev. Denise Phelps, and Candy Aldridge

Call Meeting to Order – Rev. Leeth called the meeting to order and led the Elders in communal prayer of Job 28:28.

Moderator's Report – In setting goals for 2026, Julia asked Strategy Teams to review their previous goals and report on the status of each goal by the February Session meeting, then set new goals for the next 90-100 days. A priority is focusing on the 10% component of the 5%/10%/5%. Later in the year, we will do Strategic Initiatives again.

Clerk's Report and Administrative Matters

Approval of Consent Agenda

There was a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. It was seconded and the motion carried.

Candy Aldridge reminded the Elders that the annual Conflict of Interest form is available electronically. Type your name in and it will serve as an electronic signature.

New Business – The Grace Endowment Board made a motion to approve two new members: Tami Plummer and Ethan Tritt. There was a second and the motion was approved.

Grace is doing the regular review of the Covenant Partner rolls to identify names of people who no longer meet the criteria for Covenant Partner. There are about 500 names that need reviewing. Sharon High will email the list to the Elders for feedback by the February Session meeting.

Strategy Team Updates:

MST - Elder Rick Sell reported that pledged contributions exceeded what is budgeted for this fiscal year and there were enough pledges to claim the \$300,000 match, generously offered by a few Covenant Partners. This is a net positive year. These pledges will cover the deficit if all are realized. It's the first time in 16 years that Grace has finished with a surplus.

Leadership Development - In addition to the monthly report, Chair Steve Murphy asked Elders to start identifying candidates to be vetted for Church Officers.

Worship - see monthly report

Equip - In addition to the monthly report, Chair Sue McGowen announced that there is a new Equipping class - Journey. It is currently composed of adults age 40-60, so far. All are welcome.

Serve - see monthly report

Grace School - Chair Karen Welton asked the Elders to pray for consistent enrollment.

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

Julia closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Candy Clarke Aldridge
Clerk of Session