GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SESSION MEETING MINUTES
HOUSTON, TEXAS
August 26, 2026

MODERATOR
The Rev. Dr. Julia Leeth

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED SESSION MEETING on Wednesday, August 26, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. in Massey-Tucker Hall.

Attendance:
Pastors Present: The Rev. Dr. Julia Leeth, Rev. John Pflug, Rev. Denise Phelps

Elders Present: Bill Akwari, Nnenna Akwari, Kendall Compton, Sarah Easterling, Morris Harper, 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: Ethan Tritt

Absent: Judy Prisk

Others in attendance: Ivy Castle-Simpson, Jamie Horton, Liz Kay, Hardie Morgan, Sharon High, Candy Aldridge

Call Meeting to Order – Rev. Leeth called the meeting to order and led the Elders in communal prayer of Hebrews 12:1-3

Moderator's Report – none

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.

New Business
Election of commissioners for the ECO Texas Presbytery meeting on September 18-19. Elders Candy Aldridge, Hardie Morgan, Bill Welton and Karen Welton were nominated. There was a motion to approve, it was seconded and approved.

Strategy Team Reports
Ministry Support – Chair Thomas Horton reported that the team recommended approval of the 2026-2027 budget. It was seconded and approved.

Leadership Development Team - Chair Steve Murphy announced the date and time for a guest speaker who will be part of the Margaret Jarboe Lectureship Series. Dr James Tour, a Messianic Jew and renown

science professor at Rice University, will speak about his conversion and Thriving as a Christian. Steve also presented the work of the Church Officer Nominating Committee – officers for the Class of 2029:

Elders: Brett Bennett, Kim de Jong, Carey Dow, Jim Leeland, Brittany Mondlak and Kent Whitten

Deacons: Susie Ecklund, Sylvia Kirkland, Jane MacFarland, Daniel Malaguilla, Terrelyn Teinert and Cindy Thomas

Lay representatives to CONC: Beth Craig and Dawn Murphy

Nominees for these roles will be voted on by the congregation at the Annual Congregational meeting, October 4, 2026 at 10:30.

Grace School – Chair Karen Welton announced that there are 504 students from 354 families enrolled this semester.

Worship - Team met this quarter and reviewed all the worship services. Chair Doug Lunn spoke of the need for younger members on the Team.

Equip - Chair Sue McGown announced that Trail Life had begun for boys and their fathers. They meet at Grace. Rev. John Pflug will lead a monthly class for class leaders on how to teach the Westminster Catechism, the topic for the sermons beginning September 26 through May 2027.

Serve - Chair Sarah Easterling described the plan to raise interest in our current ministry partners. Team members will go to each Sunday School/Equip class and ask them to team up with one of the ministry partners for a year.

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

Julia closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Candy Clarke Aldridge

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Clerk of Session