

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
HOUSTON, TEXAS  
January 19, 2016

**MODERATOR**

The Rev. Dr. Trey Little

**ASSOCIATE PASTORS**

The Rev. Dr. Michael Fry

**STAFF**

Hardie Morgan, Executive Director of Ministry Support

Dan Fenn, Director Traditional Worship

Sabrina Hergert, Director Mission Partners

Narda Weierbach, Director Human Resources

Susan Mcelroy, Pastor's Executive Assistant

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED MEETING in the Library on January 19, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

**ELDERS PRESENT:** Okey Akwari, Ronnie Braden, Deb Castillo, Russ Chase, Paul Craig, Monika Frazelle, Jenny Gottschalk, Jerry Hanlon, Stephanie Husmann, Debbie Kaplan, Kevin Kiniry, Matt Kiker, Doug Lunn, Scott Maham, Dan Malaguilla, Myrna Maldonado, Keith McElroy, John Meloy, Kerry Moore, John Murphy, Keeke Russo, Lisa Schwartz, Ted Teinert, Jim Weatherall, Mandy Weber

**ELDERS EXCUSED:** Morris Harper, John Musgrove

**CALL TO ORDER, OPENING PRAYER AND DEVOTION:** The Session Packet was provided to the Session with an agenda for this meeting, the minutes of the prior Session meeting, committee reports, and other data for the Session's review and analysis.

The clerk took roll and declared a quorum.

Dr. Little called the meeting to order and Okey Akwari opened the meeting with prayer.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** Motion was made for approval of the Consent Agenda as stated below:

- Approval of the minutes of the November 17, 2015 stated Session Meeting
- Approval of the minutes of the January 10, 2016 congregational meeting for the purposes of:
  - Electing Class of 2018 Deacons and Trustees
  - Electing Grace Endowment Fund Trustees
- Approval of Clerk's Report for January 2016
- Authorize the celebration of the Lord's Supper at the Houston Presbyterian Pilgrimage

There was a second and the motion passed.

### **MODERATOR'S REPORT:**

The Session started by ordaining John Meloy as an elder. The session voted to approve John then we prayed over him.

Dr. Little then requested that each member of Session read the statement of faiths that had been prepared by the Class of 2018 elders.

Dr. Little announced that he and several staff and Grace Church members would be attending the ECO National Gathering in California January 26-28, 2016.

Dr. Little informed Session that the Facilities Improvement Team would be meeting later in the week to view renderings, set realistic numbers and to be ready to provide Session with preliminary plans by the March Session meeting. Dr. Little also noted that construction has started on the second floor of Massey-Tucker Hall.

Dr. Little provided Session with the new Staff Structure and new Team Assignments. We will now have six Teams designed to Gather, Connect and Bless. We will also have a School Team, a Ministry Support Team and a Leadership Development Team. All elders have been assigned a team.

Dr. Little announced that Angela Simpson has returned to a staff position as Director of Guest Services and Messaging.

Scott Maham, Chair of the Leadership Development Team, discussed the implementation of the new Team structures.

Dr. Little indicated that his goal is to have a church-wide town hall meeting on February 21, 2016 to inform members of the church of the new structure for both staff and teams.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Administration & Finance:** The committee submitted a written report, which was provided in the Session Packet.

**Adults and JOY:** The committee submitted a written report, which was provided in the Session Packet.

**Congregational Care:** The committee submitted a written report, which was provided in the Session Packet.

**Evangelism:** No report

**Family Ministries:** The committee submitted a written report, which was provided in the Session Packet.

**Grace School:** No report.

**Ministry Projects:** The committee submitted a written report, which was provided in the Session Packet.

**Missions:** The committee submitted a written report, which was provided in the Session Packet.

**Worship:** The committee submitted a written report, which was provided in the Session Packet.

**Young Adults and College:** The committee submitted a written report, which was provided in the Session Packet.

## **CLOSING**

There was a motion to close, a second and the motion passed. Ronnie Braden closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Kaplan  
Clerk