

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
HOUSTON, TEXAS  
May 15, 2018

**MODERATOR**

The Rev. Dr. Trey Little

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

The Rev. Chris French, Associate Pastor; The Rev. Chad Erb, Associate Pastor; Susan McElroy, Executive Assistant; Denise Phelps, Director Caring Ministries

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED MEETING on May 15, 2018 at 7 p.m.

**Attendance:**

**Elders Present:** Candy Aldridge, Vic Condrey, Evan Ghazi, Jerry Hanlon, Stephanie Husmann, Jim Leeland, Terry Looper, Mike Mantel, Dan McElyea, Stephanie Mixon, Greg Morby, Hardie Morgan, John Murphy, Tami Plummer, Keeke Russo, Jo Swank, Ted Teinert, Jim Tomforde, Gindi Vincent, Woody Woodruff, Greg Zuanich

**Excused:** Deb Castillo, Francisco Garibay, Jenny Gottschalk, Keith McElroy, Philip Parker

**Absent:** John Meloy

**Also attending:** Andy Frazelle

Trey Little opened the meeting with prayer, then posed this question to the elders for response: When did you see the Lord today?

**Clerk's Report & Administrative Matters:** Candy Aldridge presented the Consent Agenda for approval. A motion was made to approve the April 15, April 29 and May 13 minutes and the attachments. It was seconded and approved.

**New Business:**

- **Resolution Three** – In the previous Session meeting, it was agreed that we would develop a third resolution that addressed and described the missional component of the upcoming capital campaign. Chad reported that a group of six members has met twice toward that goal, and will keep the Session apprised of their progress.
- **Hurricane Harvey observance** – Trey reported that Grace will observe the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Harvey during the August 26 worship service.

**Conversations About Key Strategic Opportunities:**

- Capital Campaign Next Steps – Trey outlined these key steps:
  - a. June 10 – announce the results of the April 15 Session meeting to the congregation: unanimous approval to begin a capital campaign to repair and improve the Grace campus.

- b. May through September – Trey will quietly engage key church members to secure early support for the project.
  - c. September 9 – the public launch begins.
  - d. October 14 – the commitment phase begins.
- **External Mission Component** – Stephanie Husmann and Chris French presented a two-part recommendation and slide presentation related to the External Mission Component commitment of the upcoming capital campaign. The Bless Team identified two potential partners with whom Grace can make an international and local impact:
    - a. Living Water International - Grace has the opportunity to become a lead partner in a new five-year project in Haiti: WASH.
    - b. Across the Street – a Holistic Christian Community model that would be an intentional expansion of our current ministries in the Beltway area.
  - During the discussion the Bless Team recommendation was amended to clarify that we will commit 20% of funds raised to the external component of the capital campaign, based solely on the amount raised during the capital campaign. The Session unanimously approved the resolution, as amended, partnering with these organizations.
  - During the discussion and vote on Living Water International, Mike Mantel left the room while the rest of the Session considered the course of action.
- **Spiritual Formation Cohort** – Chad reported that eleven elders have committed to begin this journey in September 2018. To achieve the ideal number of 20 participants, we will include some staff members.
  - **Mission Affinity Group report** – Candy reported meeting with peers from Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church to frame the Mission Affinity Group lay relationship and brainstorm ideas these churches could explore and implement for synergistic impact. Two possibilities were mentioned: an informal meeting of the three Sessions to learn more about each other and a joint observance of the 2017 Hurricane Harvey event.

Greg Morby closed the meeting in prayer.

The next Session Meeting will be held Tuesday, June 19, 2018, 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Candy Clarke Aldridge  
Clerk of Session