

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
HOUSTON, TEXAS  
November 17, 2015

**MODERATOR**

The Reverend Trey Little<sup>1</sup>

**ASSOCIATE PASTORS**

The Reverend Chris French  
The Reverend Dr. Michael Fry  
The Reverend Chad Erb

**STAFF**

Hardie Morgan, Executive Director of Ministry Support  
Sabrina Hergert, Missions Coordinator  
Denise Phelps, Director Older Adult Ministries  
Susan McElroy, Pastor's Executive Assistant

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED MEETING in the Library of Grace Presbyterian Church on November 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

**ELDERS PRESENT:** Okey Akwari, Ronnie Braden, Paul Craig, Russ Chase, Jim Davis, David Finck, Monika Frazelle, Phil Grant, Morris Harper, Kevin Kiniry, Matt Kiker, Doris Looper, Doug Lunn, Scott Maham, Dan Malaguilla, Myrna Maldonado, Paul Mancillas, Kerry Moore, John Musgrove, Ken Purgason, Lisa Schwartz, Wanda Schwarz, Rick Siegel, Jim Weatherall, Mandy Weber, Sarah Williams.

**ELDERS EXCUSED:** Debbie Kaplan.

**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.

The Reverend Little called the meeting to order and the Reverend French opened the meeting with prayer.

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

- Approve the minutes of the October 20, 2015 stated Session Meeting.

- Approve the Minutes of the November 1, 2015 called Session meeting for the purpose of receiving new members.
- Approve the November 2015 Clerk's Report and all action items therein.

There was a second and the floor was opened to discussion. The motion to approve the Consent Agent was then voted upon and the motion passed.

**MODERATOR'S REPORT:**

The Session meeting was started by the having the Session split into groups to examine the Class of 2018 Church Officers. Each of the 2018 Church Officers drafted a written statement of faith which is attached to these minutes. The following were examined, affirmed their faith, and were sustained as church officers:

- |                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| 1. Deb Castillo       | Elder  |
| 2. Jenny Gottschalk   | Elder  |
| 3. Hollie Mancillas   | Deacon |
| 4. Keith McElroy      | Elder  |
| 5. John Murphy        | Elder  |
| 6. Richard Rains      | Deacon |
| 7. Jerry Hanlon       | Elder  |
| 8. Russ Neisig        | Deacon |
| 9. Karen Rains        | Deacon |
| 10. Ted Teinert       | Elder  |
| 11. Ellen Gonzalez    | Deacon |
| 12. Stephanie Husmann | Elder  |
| 13. John Meloy        | Elder  |
| 14. Sarah Neisig      | Deacon |
| 15. Keeke Russo       | Elder  |

There was a motion to affirm the call for these people to serve as church officers, a second and the motion passed.

The Reverend Little again noted the ECO meeting in Newport Beach, California in January. Those interested in attending were directed to submit their names and the Session would vote on the delegates at the next Session meeting.

The Reverend Little also gave an update on the progress of the Facilities Improvement Team including the development of drawings for Session's review.

The Reverend Little discussed the ECO Discipleship Pilot Program. Grace will be the host for this region. The anticipated Grace Team for this pilot program is:

1. Rev. Trey Little
2. Rev. Francisco Garibay
3. Rev. Chris French
4. Monica Frazelle
5. Jerry Hanlon
6. Martha Hunt
7. Edie Purgason
8. Ken Purgason

The Reverend Chris French asked if there were any changes to the proposed application provided in the Session Packet. There were none. There was a motion to affirm the team and endorse the application. There was a second and the motion passed.

The Reverend Little proposed three Elders to start the Leadership Team: 1. David Finck—Class of 2015, 2. Mandy Weber—Class of 2016, and 3. Scott Maham—Class of 2017. The proposal was accepted. It was also announced that Debbie Kaplan would be the new Clerk of Session.

There was a great thanks and appreciation expressed for the Pastor Nominating Committee. The following resolution was then passed:

Resolved that the Session of Grace Presbyterian Church of Houston express its heartfelt gratitude to the following members of the Pastor Nominating Committee for the dedicated Kingdom service in the search for and the calling of our Senior Pastor:

- Trey Able
- Sam Bradshaw
- Sharon Collins
- Cathy Finck
- Jerry Hanlon
- Jim Hunt
- Ann McIntire
- Harold Metts
- Denise Patrick
- Laura Smith
- Jim Tomforde
- Karen Welton-Chair

Further resolved that given the successful completion of their assigned duties, the Pastor Nominating Committee is now discharged and released from any further committee responsibilities.

There was a motion to call a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 10, 2016 for the purposes of:

- Electing Church Officers and Trustees
- Electing Church Officer Nominating Committee
- Electing Grace Endowment Fund Trustees.

There was a second and the motion passed.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Administration & Finance:** The committee submitted a written report, which was provided in the Session Packet. Paul Craig noted that the auditors completed their audit of the Church finances and returned a clean audit. Many thanks were given to Hardie and Mayda for their excellent work.

A question was raised about the cost of the hymnals and Bibles after accounting for dedications. The net cost was approximately \$13,000.

**Adult & 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.

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

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

**Married Life:** No Report.

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

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

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was then converted into Executive Session. Administration & Finance made motion to provide a 3% cost of living increase to Mike Fry, Chris French and Trey Little retroactive to Nov. 1, 2015. There was a vote and it was approved.

### **CLOSING**

There was a motion to close, a second and the motion passed. The meeting was closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

David Finck  
Clerk

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<sup>1</sup> Now the Reverend Doctor Trey Little.