

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING MINUTES
HOUSTON, TEXAS
October 16, 2018

MODERATOR

The Rev. Dr. Trey Little

The Session of Grace Presbyterian Church, Houston, Texas met in a STATED MEETING on October 16, 2018 at 7 p.m.

Attendance:

Pastors Present: The Rev. Dr. Trey Little, The Rev. Chris French, The Rev. Chad Erb

Elders Present: Candy Aldridge, Deb Castillo, Francisco Garibay, Jenny Gottschalk, Jerry Hanlon, Stephanie Husmann, Jim Leeland, Mike Mantel, Dan McElyea, Hardie Morgan, Tami Plummer, Keeke Russo, Jo Swank, Ted Teinert, Jim Tomforde, Woody Woodruff, Greg Zuanich

Excused: Evan Ghazi, Terry Looper, Keith McElroy, Stephanie Mixon, Greg Morby, John Murphy

Absent: Vic Condrey, Philip Parker, Gindi Vincent

Trey Little opened the meeting prayer.

Clerk's Report & Administrative Matters: Candy Aldridge presented the Consent Agenda for approval. A motion was made to approve the following:

1. September 18, 2018 Stated Session Meeting minutes
2. September 23, 2018 Called Session Meeting minutes
3. October 7, 2018 Annual Congregational Meeting minutes
4. Clerk's Report
5. Resolution on Election of Directors of Grace School Foundation

It was seconded and approved.

New Business - None

Conversations About Key Strategic Opportunities

- **Capital Campaign Update:** Trey will update the congregation at all three services on Sunday, October 21. After the October 7 Commitment Sunday, 270 of our 558 giving units have pledged \$5.8 million toward the Ready Campaign goal. Based on consultants' estimates, if 200 additional giving units contribute \$7500 for 3 years, the goal is reachable. Gifts from non-pledgers are also expected. Trey asked the Session to pray for and encourage those who have not submitted a pledge yet.
- **Bless Strategy Team Report:** Chris French described the Bless Strategy Team's new strategy development that was initiated in June. Chris consulted experts at Living Water International and used a model called Appreciative Inquiry. Thirty members of the congregation participated in formulating the principles that

would be used for the next five years. The strategic goal is to mobilize the congregation to be a people of blessing across the street and around the world through six initiatives.

- **Financial Update:** Hardie Morgan updated the Session on the financial status of Grace, as presented in the Session packet. September 2018 contributions are 8% less than FY2019 budget and 14% less than the same period FY2018. Operating expense are 2% less than FY2019 budget and 2% less than the same period FY2018. Net operating results for September 2018 are 27% over budget, primarily due to timing of certain expenses and lower contributions.

Trey announced to the Session that Elder John Meloy and family have left Grace. His term expires December 2018 so he will not be replaced.

Jerry Hanlon closed the meeting in prayer.

The next Session Meeting will be held Tuesday, November 13, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Candy Clarke Aldridge
Clerk of Session