

## November 2021 Session in Review

Session of Grace Commons Church, Boulder, Colorado, met November 9, 2021. Rev Randy Bare was the moderator.

Elder, Craig Rahenkamp, led a devotion reflecting the upper room discourse in the Gospel of John. Craig reminded the elders that Dana Allin told Session that their time should be divided equally between prayer, teaching, & business. Session meetings are upper room discussions and not just business. The themes of the upper room passage: unity, knowing Jesus and God, sacrificial love, seeking God, keeping the commandments, fruit that comes from abiding.

Session approved the minutes and ministry reports from Session, Deacons, Trustees, Kids, Global Missions, Local Missions, Personnel Committee, Roots, Racial Justice Ministry, Students and Music and Worship. Session received the October Covenant Partner report which indicates we have 1081 covenant partners as of October 31, 2021.

Personnel Committee report was presented by Craig Rahenkamp. Rich Bledsoe was presented to Session as a candidate for the position of Congregational Care Associate. Considering we are now at 2 full time pastor, the role of Congregational Care Associate was created to share the load amongst the pastors. Session voted to approve Rich Bledsoe as a part time staff member dedicated to congregational care including the authority to conduct sacraments such as serving communion.

Deb DuPont was added to the Personnel Committee as a member at large.

There have been 2 response sessions with a final Session on Nov 18 at 7pm. This evening session will be available via livestream for those who cannot attend in person. The response sessions highlighted the need for ongoing communications with the congregation regarding the Boulder Vision Project.

The final slate of officers for the upcoming congregational meeting was presented to Session for a vote. Shirley Berg was added as an elder for the class of 2024 and Debbi Tucker was added as a deacon to the class of 2024. Here is the final slate for which the congregation will have an opportunity to vote on Nov 14.

### Slate for Congregational Meeting

Slate of Officers for Election September 26, 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
<b>Elders</b>			
to fill empty positions	Braden Mark Greg Parr		
to fill 3 year term			Spencer Dusebout Dean Stull Shirley Berg
<b>Deacons</b>			
to fill empty positions	Jeannette Kneebone		
to fill 3 year term			Doug Walter Debbi Tucker
<b>Trustees</b>			
to fill empty positions	Warner Andrews	John Tucker	Doug Scheetz
to fill 3 year term			Don Otero Gene Koch

TED Team			
1 year term	Lisa Schone Clark Oldroyd		
Officers assigned	Jim Remnant Tim Chiles Bob Groneberg J.P. Clark		

Stewardship campaign response was considered and the importance of the connection between stewardship and shepherding. Elders will begin connecting with congregants through phone calls.

Joe Cutshall and Jim Keller presented to Session on the activities of worship. Two services resumed in the fall with one being more traditional and one more contemporary. There is still work being done on the worship experience with an original relaunch schedule of January 2022. Joe is not sure that they will be ready for a January roll out. There is much more work to be done. As specifics are clarified, details will be shared with Session.

Dean Stull continues to work with the committees of Session to create charters that clarifies their work and responsibilities. The communication tool for ministries and session communications is also under review and revision. Randy and Dean will bring a proposal back to Session with the goal of promoting healthy relationships between staff, congregation and leadership.

Boulder Vision Project update covered some key dates for the Preschool which plans to open in January. Faith-based curriculum is being planned. The new director will be introduced to the congregation through worship in the coming weeks.

The ECO National Gathering is back in person in late January. Craig Rahenkamp was elected as our voting elder at the 2022 Synod meeting.

Randy provided some staff updates including the upcoming staff leaves: Ash and Matt McDonald (maternity/paternity leave); Dave Pommer (sabbatical); Kelsey Walega (maternity leave).

The meeting adjourned at 9pm with prayer and singing of the Doxology.