

February 2022 Session in Review

Session of Grace Commons Church, Boulder, Colorado, met February 8, 2022. Rev Randy Bare was the moderator.

Elders Jonathon Anderson, Mike Scott and Tim Chiles took their ordination vows. Session also signed the 2022 Covenant of Session,

Session approved the minutes and ministry reports from Session, Deacons, Trustees, Governance, Finance Committee and MESH. Session received the January Covenant Partner report which indicates we have 1071 covenant partners as of January 31, 2022.

Session approved an outside pastor to perform a wedding on March 27 for a former Annex student. In addition, Session approved the serving of communion on March 1 at the Annex with elder Stan Benjamin leading.

Terri Evans and Jonathon Anderson provided an update on Grace Commons' fire response. The Deacons are processing requests for assistance and are working with the Trustees on the benevolence policy for the distribution of funding. The Deacons have adopted Eldorado K-8 and are supporting impacted families through this Superior school. The Fire Leadership Team and the Grace Commons Foundation have met with World Renew, Christian Reformed Church and Samaritan's Purse regarding possible grants. The team continues to investigate the best ways to reach the community considering our proximity to the impacted areas.

The Annual Stewardship campaign will take place in March concluding with Commitment Sunday on March 20.

The Grace Commons Church financial audit is completed and a presentation to Trustees will take place in February. The Finance Committee has a revenue forecast for the next Ministry Year. The MY 23 expense budget is \$2.4mil down from \$2.9mil in MY22.

The Boulder Vision Project Town Hall meeting on Sunday, Feb 6, 2022 was positive as congregants commented on the unity and communication between Trustees, Session and the congregation. There will continue to be monthly information sessions using a variety of platforms which will expand on the Why's, Financial Information, and Logistics of the Boulder Vision Project. Regarding the Annex, the City of Boulder is interested in partnering with Grace Commons Church. This could include providing financial support. The city has significant federal funds to respond to and provide services for the homeless.

As of Feb 8, Pathways Learning Academy Preschool at Grace Commons Church has 33 students enrolled, 18 kids currently attending; the goal is 49 by end of year 1. During the discussion, Terri Evans asked for clarification of the number of full time (FTE) and part-time enrolled and attending students. The FTE equivalent consideration relates to the definition of the preschool goal of 49 (FTE) by year end as the current number of children attending are a combination of full and part-time.

Mike Clark will make a presentation at the next Session meeting to explain the Pastoral Search process. In addition, the next 2 Session meetings will include conversations with pastors from successful church plants or alternative worship concepts within ECO.

Jennie Fletemeyer, Director of Children and Family Ministry, joined Session and shared some highlights from Children's Ministry. She highlighted the growing relationship with the preschool, upcoming summer camps and the baptism and communion class. Randy led Session in praying for Jennie and the ministry.

The Personnel Committee provided some updates for Session. The church has hired a human resources company to support our business office. Trustees and the Personnel Committee continue to review and update our housing allowance. The remainder of the Personnel committee discussion took place in executive session to cover potential staff modifications

Session reviewed the status of the mask mandate in Boulder County. They tabled a motion to consider disregarding the current mask requirement. Since the County Health department is scheduled for a review of the current requirements shortly after this meeting, the motion was not brought to a vote. The Regathering Task Force of Tim Chiles, Cathy Marquis and Kent Thompson will meet to modify our own restrictions following the Feb 14 BCH department decision.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm with prayer and singing of the Doxology.