

March 2022 Session in Review

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

The time began with a Zoom call with Pastors, Lucky Arnold and Keith Case to hear about ECO church planting in Palm Beach, FL. It was the desire of a Presbyterian (now ECO) church in Palm Beach to be a church planter. They planted multiple churches including a church plant within the [Memorial Pres](#) Church building led by Keith Case. [Providencia](#) was planted within Memorial Pres. Keith Case is now Lead Pastor of both Memorial Pres and Providencia.

Next Mike Clark, our liaison to the Ministry Partnership Team of the Presbytery of the West, (MPT) provided insight into the pastor search process along with the tools that ECO offers to assist in the process to find the best pastor for Grace Commons. The ECO Pastoral Search and Transition Guide was sent out to Session and is available on the ECO website. Mike explained the next step in the process will be to create a church profile. The team to do this work will come from Session. After the profile is created and approved, the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) will be formed by a vote of the congregation. The makeup of the PNC is defined by our ByLaws and includes elders, a deacon and covenant partners at large. An additional consideration for Session is whether or not to hire an outside consultant to help in the process.

Christopher Lietz led a devotion with a challenge Session to keep their eyes open to the culture and how the culture of young adults expresses their faith in Jesus – even if we might find their expressions different from what we are accustomed to.

Session approved the minutes and ministry reports from Session, Deacons, Trustees, Governance, the Foundation, and Racial Justice Ministry. Session received the February Covenant Partner report which indicates we have 1069 covenant partners as of February 28, 2022.

A stewardship mailing was sent out in early March. Commitment Sunday is March 20. March 13 and 20 will be the final ‘stewardship’ sermons.

All committees or offices of Session are working on new charters. Currently the Trustees continue to work on their charter which will serve as the model for other committees. Each charter should include a biblical or scriptural charge. Charters will be reviewed annually.

A review and update to our bylaws is continuing alongside the Trustee charter work.

Trustees are in the process of gathering new construction costs for the Annex, applying for additional grants and seeking new financing sources. The Trustees will be working toward a mid-summer presentation to the congregation at a Congregational Meeting. There is a proposed joint Trustee-Session meeting for May to review the status of the project.

Looking ahead to the April Session meeting, Session will be continuing their *Church of the Future* presentations and conversations, hearing from the Lead Pastor from Highlands Park Pres in Dallas. There will be a next steps conversations regarding the pastoral search.

Session moved the meeting to executive session to discuss recommendations from the Personnel Committee.

Randy adjourned the meeting at 9:30pm with the singing of the Doxology.