

## Grace Commons Church Session Meeting Minutes

Date: Oct 12, 2023

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Westminster Hall, Grace Commons Church

Moderator: Rev. Emily Crider

### Session Members present:

Kathy Baker

Debbie Carosella

Emily Crider

Topher Fox

Willie Knierim

Lynnie Parr

Steve Rice

Lisa Schone

Dean Stull

### Others present:

Gene Koch

Bob Harlow

Janet Schultz

Carl Hofmann

Kelsey Walega

Tony Fischer

A quorum was confirmed, and the moderator called the meeting to order. Topher Fox opened the meeting with a devotion by asking the elders to imagine what we might be celebrating one year from now. Then consider how they used their gifts leading up to the celebration. Elders saw times of new life, hope, unity, revival, refreshment and more.

### Agenda approval:

The following agenda was provided in advance of the meeting. Session approved the agenda, minutes, matters of record and committee reports.

6:30pm	Establish Quorum; Call Meeting to Order	Emily Crider	Motion
6:30-6:50	Devotion	Topher Fox	
6:50-6:55	Consent Items for approval	Emily	Yes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Session meeting agenda</li> <li>• Session meeting minutes: Sept 14, 2023</li> <li>• Covenant Partnership Reports: Sept 30, 2023</li> <li>• Accept committee reports (NS=not submitted): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Trustees</li> <li>○ Deacons</li> <li>○ Finance</li> <li>○ Governance</li> <li>○ LDC</li> <li>○ MESH (NS)</li> <li>○ PSC (NS)</li> <li>○ Stewardship (NS)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Accept ministry reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ New worship experience (NS)</li> <li>○ RJM</li> <li>○ Young Adult ministry</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
6:55-7:05	Clerk's report	Dean	
7:05-7:25	Foundation Presentation	Steve Rice	
7:25-7:35	New Pastor update +	Emily/Gene	
7:35-7:45	Stewardship update	Kathy/Willie	
7:45-7:50	Communion discussion	Emily	
7:50-8:00	Break		
8:00-8:15	MESH: Young adults	Kelsey	
8:15-8:25	Mercy Ministry Task Force update	Lisa	
8:25-8:40	Trustees update: BVP update Financial report	Gene	
	Looking ahead		
Nov 9	New Moderator begins Kick off fall stewardship program MESH - Spiritual Formation and Discipleship Set TED officer position numbers for MY24 and Class of 2027 Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finances</li> <li>• BVP</li> <li>• Mercy Ministry Task Force</li> <li>• Stewardship</li> </ul>		

Dec 14	Christmas Break		
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#### **Clerk Report: Dean Stull**

Dean asked each committee to submit a report for the November Session packet. These reports should contain a bit more detail than usual as they will provide background information for Anthony when he arrives in Boulder.

The November meeting will include the 1<sup>st</sup> discussion on the Board/Class of 2027 needs for each board with a vote to approve the recommendation at the January 2024 meeting.

#### **Foundation: Steve Rice and Tony Fischer**

Steve introduced Tony Fischer as the incoming Chair of the Grace Commons Foundation. Steve provided a brief update on the status of the foundation.

#### **New Pastor Update: Emily Crider**

The Ceders have rented a home in North Boulder and are working toward a late Oct-early Nov arrival. Emily and Gene Koch are in regular conversation with Anthony.

The Pastor Support Committee is complete with Debbie Carosella and Shirley Berg serving as current elders and Glenn Bean joining as a reserve elder.

#### **Stewardship Update: Kathy Baker/Willie Knierim**

The stewardship team is reviewing plans for the next year and will have more to share at the November meeting. Session spent time in prayer for the budget and the next phase of stewardship.

#### **Communion Update: Emily Crider**

Emily shared that there will be some logistical modifications to the serving of communion for Nov. The elders appreciate the community feel of the communion tables and desire for communion to be unhurried.

#### **MESH: Kelsey Walega**

Steve Rice introduced Kelsey who shared an update on the Young Adult Ministry. She asked for prayer as they continue to seek out young adults in the community and she and Kyle begin to empower the young adults to take ownership of the ministry.

#### **Mercy Ministry Task Force Update: Lisa Schone**

The task force has not begun to meet formally. No team has been formed. There are many unknowns: the situation with the city's day center, our relationship with Trinity Lutheran as a distribution center for Deacons Closet and how Lamb's ministry will be serving meals this fall and winter.

Dean reminded Session that the expectation for the task force is to evaluate and propose how Grace Commons engages in ministry to those in need. The objective is to have a final report with recommendations ready for review by our new Pastor/Head of Staff within three months.

#### **Trustees Update: Gene Koch, President of Trustees**

Gene reported on the following:

- Boulder Vision Project status
- Financial update

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm with a singing of the Doxology.

Emily Crider, Moderator

Dean Stull, Clerk

Date approved by Session: November 9, 2023