

Grace Commons Church Session Meeting Minutes

Date: Nov 9, 2023

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Westminster Hall, Grace Commons Church

Moderator: Rev. Emily Crider

Session Members present:

Kathy Baker

Shirley Berg

Debbie Carosella

Anthony Ceder

Emily Crider

Topher Fox

Willie Knierim

Lynnie Parr

Lisa Schone

Dean Stull

Others present:

Gene Koch

Cindy Avenell

Janet Schultz

Carl Hofmann

Lindsay Waymire

A quorum was confirmed, and the moderator called the meeting to order. Shirley Berg opened the meeting with a devotion leading the elders through a time of reflection using Ps 19 considering God's creative word, incarnate word and written word,

Agenda approval:

The following agenda was provided in advance of the meeting. Session approved the agenda, minutes, matters of record and committee reports including the addition of a 1 min moment for the Leadership Development Team.

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

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Session meeting agenda • Session meeting minutes: Oct 12, 2023 • Covenant Partnership Reports: Oct 31, 2023 • Accept committee reports (NS=not submitted): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trustees ○ Deacons ○ Governance ○ LDT ○ Mercy Ministry Task Force(NS) ○ MESH ○ PSC ○ Stewardship • Accept ministry reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Foundation ○ New worship experience (NS) ○ RJM ○ Young Adult ministry 		
6:55-7:05	Clerk's report: Officer needs - Class of 2027	Dean	Yes
7:05-7:30	Stewardship update	Kathy/Willie	
7:30-7:40	Break		
7:40-7:55	MESH: Spiritual Formation & Discipleship	Lindsay	
7:55-8:05	Mercy Ministry Task Force update	Lisa	
8:05-8:20	Trustees update: BVP update Financial report	Gene	
8:20-8:30	Student ministry update	Emily	
8:30-8:35	National gathering		
	Looking ahead		
Dec 14	Christmas Break?		

Jan 11	Session meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TED launch + vote on the number of officers needed for Class of 2027 • Stewardship report • MESH report • Mercy Ministry Task Force • Communion approval for calendar year. 		
Jan 29-Feb 1	ECO National Gathering		
Jan-May	TED officer nominating process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January: recruiting • March: interviewing • April: compiling slate • May: Session approval • June: Congregation approval 		
Feb-Mar	Stewardship Pledge campaign for Ministry Year 2025.		
Feb 8	Session Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stewardship report • MESH Report • Mercy Ministry Task Force Recommendations • Finance Update • Update on 1603 Walnut 		

Leadership Development Team: Topher Fox

The LDT oversees the work of the T.E.D. (Trustees, elders, and deacons) nominating committee. As the recruiting season approaches for service on the governing boards, Topher expressed the importance of a personal invitation for someone to considering serving. Now is the time to start thinking of those you should ask.

Clerk Report: Dean Stull

Dean presented the preliminary number of elders, deacons and trustees needed for this next class. Session will vote at the January meeting on the TED slate expectations based on the following proposal.

Session: 3 elders, Class of 2027

Trustees: 3 trustees, Class of 2027, 1 trustee, Class of 2025

Deacons: 8 deacons, Class of 2027

Session spent time discussing the potential conflict of interests for the spouse of a staff member to be an officer.

The following motion was made and seconded.

With an enthusiastic thank you, job well done, it is moved that the Session disband with gratitude the Pastor Nominating Committee on this date, November 9, 2023 and relieve the members of their duties on the committee immediately.

The motion passed.

Stewardship Update: Emily Crider/Kathy Baker/Willie Knierim

Emily presented an overview of the annual stewardship calendar rhythms and reinforced the perspective of stewardship as a discipleship response through the gifts of time, talents and tithes.

MESH: Lindsay Waymire

Lindsay provided an update on the new and ongoing work in the Spiritual Formation and Discipleship department. She also described her role on staff and her status in the ordination process. Topher added details regarding the growing partnership between the Leadership Development Team and Lindsay.

Mercy Ministry Task Force Update: Lisa Schone

Lisa asked for prayer for the team as they begin. She shared that Grace Commons will no longer be hosting the 5th Sunday Lunch.

Trustees Update: Gene Koch, President of Trustees

Gene reported on the following:

- Boulder Vision Project status
- Financial update

Student Ministry Update: Emily Crider

The Student Ministry is leading a Maui Fire Relief Mission Trip over spring break for 8th-12th grade students.

This ministry needs to hire a female intern; it is possible that the intern would need to raise their full support.

ECO National Gathering:

Lisa Schone will be serving as the Grace Commons elder representative at the ECO National Gathering in January 2024.

Anthony closed the meeting with some observations, as this is his first Session meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm with a singing of the Doxology.

Emily Crider, Moderator

Dean Stull, Clerk

Date approved by Session: January 11, 2024