



Grace Presbytery Council
Tuesday, August 10, 2021
Special Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the Grace Presbytery Council was called to order with prayer by Presbytery Council Moderator **Rev. John Williams** at 9:00 a.m. on August 10, 2021. The Presbytery Council acted on behalf of Grace Presbytery in accordance with Standing Rule 1.4.9: “In the event of a natural disaster, a state of emergency, or other situation which would delay, postpone or cancel a meeting of the presbytery, the Presbytery Council is delegated the authority to act on behalf of Grace Presbytery.”

Electronic Meeting

The meeting was held electronically in accordance with Standing Rule 3.11, the General Assembly’s authoritative interpretation of F-3.0205 (*Minutes* of the General Assembly, 2004, Part I, page 329) and *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised* (page 482).

Quorum

The moderator declared a quorum was present in accordance with the *Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised* and the Standing Rules and Manual of Administrative Operations of Grace Presbytery.

Reports

Reports were received from the following: Presbytery Council Moderator **Rev. John Williams**, Presbytery Moderator **Rev. Lisa Patterson**, and Interim General Presbyter **Rev. Steve Shive**.

Motions Approved by the Presbytery Council

1. *Grace Presbytery Council concurred with the decision of Presbytery Moderator Rev. Lisa Patterson to cancel the September 25, 2021 presbytery meeting in accordance with Standing Rule 1.4.8: “The decision to cancel or delay the start of a presbytery meeting will be made by the Moderator of the Presbytery in consultation with the General Presbyter and Stated Clerk.”*

2. *Grace Presbytery Council scheduled a virtual presbytery gathering for September 25, 2021 to include worship, a brief report from Interim General Presbyter Rev. Steve Shive, and breakout groups led by Presbytery Council members with the topic of conversation centered on visioning.*

Rationale for Motions 1 and 2: These recommendations come from the following leadership task force: Presbytery Moderator **Rev. Lisa Patterson**, Presbytery Vice Moderator **Ruling Elder Mike Jones**, Council Moderator **Rev. John Williams**, Presbytery Council member **Ruling Elder Kathy Jones**, 2020 General Assembly Commissioner **Ruling Elder Crysta Brantley**, Interim General Presbyter **Rev. Steve Shive**, Stated Clerk **Rev. Gerry Tyer**, and Director of Communications **M.E. Clary**.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, the necessary lead time to implement these changes, and the importance of communicating these changes to the whole presbytery in a timely manner, it is prudent to approve these changes as soon as possible.

3. *Presbytery Council approved the following COVID-19 policy: Beginning August 11, 2021 all participants at in-person Grace Presbytery meetings, staff meetings, and committee meetings are required to wear a mask. This policy will remain in effect until further notice.*

Background: The rate of Covid-19 cases is increasing daily in the area, the Delta variant is impacting our communities, and this is the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Note: This motion was sent to the Presbytery Council a week ago via email. However, in accordance with *Roberts Rules of Order*, since it received a negative vote, the motion was taken up at this meeting of the Presbytery Council.

4. *Due to COVID-19 increases, Presbytery Council canceled the in-person retreat at Camp Gilmont scheduled for September 1-3, 2021, and instead scheduled a virtual Presbytery Council meeting on Wednesday, September 1, 2021.*

Information from the Presbytery Council

- A. Attendance at the August 10, 2021 Presbytery Council special meeting held via electronic means: Class of 2021: **Rev. Jennifer Mitchell** (Corsicana, Westminster), **Ruling Elder Lazara Abernathy** (Fort Worth, Gethsemane), Class of 2022: **Ruling Elder Kathy Jones** (Dallas, NorthPark), **Rev. Perryn Rice** (Dallas, Lake Highlands), **Ruling Elder Denyse Rodgers** (Waco, Central), Moderators of Presbytery Committees: **Ruling Elder Cindy Miller** (Corsicana, Westminster and Committee on Ministry), **Rev. Alissa Conner** (Hurst, St. Philip and Church Development Committee), **Rev. Woody Meredith** (Athens, First and Budget and Finance Committee), Ex-Officio with Vote: Council Moderator **Rev. John Williams** (Sherman, Austin College), Former Moderator of Presbytery Council **Ruling Elder Phyllis Kidwell** (Athens, First), Moderator of Presbytery **Rev. Lisa Patterson** (Denton, St. Andrew), Ex-Officio without Vote: Vice Moderator of Presbytery **Ruling Elder Mike Jones** (Dallas, NorthPark), Interim General

Presbyter **Rev. Steve Shive**, Stated Clerk **Rev. Gerry Tyer** (Honorably Retired), Presbytery Treasurer **Trey Angel** (Dallas, NorthPark), Staff: **Rev. Elizabeth Callender** (Director of Ministry Development), **Ruling Elder Karen Ebling** (Director of Property and Real Estate), **Joanna Kim** (Director of Ministry Services), **Vicki Roberts** (Director of Finance), **Ruling Elder Gary Holloman** (Director of Youth and Young Adults Ministries), Excused: **Ruling Elder Wendell Black** (Arlington, Grace), **Rev. Thomas Lamb** (Temple, Grace), **Ruling Elder Beth Peak Thompson** (Denton, Trinity), **Rev. Larry Spencer** (Honorably Retired), **Rev. Andy Odom** (Richardson, Canyon Creek and Personnel Committee), **Ruling Elder Brian Parker** (Irving, Woodhaven and Congregational Support Committee), **Rev. Lisa Juica Perkins** (Sherman, Covenant and Nominating Committee).

- A. The meeting was opened with prayer by **Rev. John Williams**. The meeting was closed with prayer by **Rev. Steve Shive**.

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These minutes are submitted by **Rev. Dr. Gerald L. Tyer**, Stated Clerk of Grace Presbytery and **Rev. Lisa Patterson**, Moderator of Grace Presbytery.



Stated Clerk of Grace Presbytery



Moderator of Grace Presbytery