



GASHLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SESSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 12, 2023  
MINUTES

<b><u>Ruling Elders Present:</u></b>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
	Mark Lancaster	Tom Crossett	
		Jim Langford	Tom Clapham
	Don Vande Polder	Dave Wiersma	Bob Williams

Excused:...Dallas Reeve,.....Mike Brink

**Teaching Elders Present:** Pastors Ritchey Cable and Michael Morefield

- I. **Opening prayer:** A quorum was determined present; Pastor Morefield called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with prayer at 6:31 p.m.
- II. **Adoption of Agenda:** A motion was made to adopt the agenda as written, with the revision of the next session meeting date changed to 11/9 and the addition of New Business Item #4, Beatification issues. A voice vote was held, and the agenda was accepted as revised.
- III. **Pastor's Reports:**
  - A. Associate Pastor: Pastor Morefield reported there are seven people in the Getting to Know Gashland class, and asked for approval to allow Jay Fowler, a Pastor Serve mentor, to preach sometime after Jan. 1, to assist with the preaching schedule. General discussion was a consensus that would be acceptable, and a standard honorarium would be provided.
- IV. **Calendar Items:**
  - A. Nominating: Jim Langford provided an update from the Nominating team. Jim Langford made a motion to hold a congregational meeting on November 19 for the purpose of electing elders and deacons. Seconded by Tom Crossett. Motion carried.
  - B. Ministry team budgets: Due to Finance team by the end of October.
  - C. Presbytery meeting: To be held in Hannibal MO, on 10/27 & 28 at Big Creek Presbyterian. Ruling elder Bob Williams and Pastor Morefield will be attending.
- V. **Business Reports and Discussion:**
  - A. Old Business
    1. Congregational meeting time: Mark Lancaster made a motion the 11/19 congregational meeting to be held immediately after the 8:30 service with the adult Sunday school teachers either delaying the start of classes or cancelling classes on this day. Seconded by Don Vande Polder. Motion carried.



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B. New Business:

1. Finance Team motion: Finance team submitted a motion to revise the Endowment, Memorial and Special Gifts Program with the addition of items a. and b. as follows: *“a) Families of loved ones would have two years to direct their funds for special, approved project or direct their funds specifically to the Endowment Fund, and b) Funds beyond the current year plus two years would be released to the Endowment Fund.”* Motion to approve this change was voted down. Clerk Tom Clapham will notify Finance team.
2. Pastor visits/consults: Coordinating team raised the question, how can leadership better support Pastor Morefield, considering the vacant sr. pastor position. Pastor Morefield suggested help with pastoral visits, with some elders and deacons taking care of visits. After discussion it was determined a message would be sent by undershepherd elders to communicate this message to the congregation.
3. Missions Audit: Pastor Morefield explained the process and recommended that session accept the Mission Audit recently provided by the Missions team. Mark Lancaster made a motion to accept the Mission Audit, seconded by Tom Crossett. Motion carried.
4. Beautification Team: Discussion held regarding Beautification team processes and communication with other ministry teams. No action taken at this time.

C. Team Reports: Brief reports were given by elders on or leading ministry teams.

1. Worship team.
2. Outreach Team.
3. Relationships Team.
4. Discipleship Team.
5. Coordinating Team.

D. Clerk's Report

1. Review and approval of the September Session meeting minutes. Accepted as written.
2. Next Session Meeting: October 12, at 6:30 p.m.

E. Consent Reports

1. Deacon's Report: Received
2. Financial Report: Received.



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**VI. Adjournment and Closing Prayer:**

Don Vande Polder made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Tom Crossett. A voice vote was held, and the motion passed. The meeting was closed with prayer by Don Vande Polder at 8:45 p.m.