



GASHLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2023
MINUTES

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

Guests: Rachel Adams, Children's Ministry Director

Teaching Elders Present: Pastor 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. Motion passed.
- III. **Pastor's Reports:**
 - A. Associate Pastor: Pastor Morefield reported that some elders and deacons have been helping with hospital visits of members and that is working out well. Pastor Morefield requested a volunteer to coordinate visits. Tom Crossett volunteered and will be the point person. Sunday 11/19, in the new members class there may be 5 new members and elders are needed to meet with the new members prior to being received into the church. For January preaching, Caleb Mason 1/7, Lake McGinty 1/14, and Jay Fowler (of Pastor Serve) 1/21. Pastor Morefield is planning 12/31.
- IV. **Calendar Items:**
 - A. New Elder/Deacon Training: Tentatively scheduled for early December. Morefield will send info and schedule to new elders and deacons. Mike Brink volunteered to conduct the training. Installation of new elders and deacons is tentatively scheduled for 12/31, subject to availability.
 - B. Annual Operating Budget Review. No action. Proposed budget has not been received.
 - C. 12 month "No attendance & No contribution" report review: The report was reviewed and adjustments were made considering "inactive" status or being removed from the member roll.
 - D. Christmas Eve offering recipient: Mark Lancaster made a motion to give 50% of Christmas Eve offering received to both, the currently supported missionaries, the Mooks, and to Northwest Haiti Christian Mission. Seconded by Bob Williams. Motion passed unanimously.



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- E. New elders and deacons to be invited to respective December meetings. Jim Langford will send the invites.

V. **Business Reports and Discussion:**

A. Old Business

1. Nominating: Elder candidates are Mark Johnson, Ethan Funk and Mark Blakely. Deacon candidates are Mary Lancaster and Laura Cooper.

B. New Business:

1. Classroom Flooring: Rachel Adams provided cost information for different flooring options for the lower lever class rooms. The group went to the class rooms during the meeting to observe current conditions. A motion from Discipleship team was received, requesting approval by session for \$20,050 for new flooring (including one area rug), window treatments and wall art canvases, with the funds coming from the remaining/additional capital campaign funds and receipts. A voice vote was held and the motion was not approved. Mark Lancaster volunteered to communicate to Rachel Adams the concerns of session regarding the funding request.
2. Worship team motion – Coffee Bar/Cabinet: Worship team provided a motion requesting approval to purchase a coffee bar (cabinet) to be placed along the south wall in the lower lobby. Estimated cost is \$2500 to \$3500. Worship team has \$1000 available in their budget. The remaining needed funds are proposed to come from the remaining/yet to receive funds of the capital campaign. After brief discussion, this motion was tabled, and is planned to be reconsidered after the Classroom flooring item is addressed.
3. Audit Report: The audit report has been officially received by session. Tom Clapham will send a thank you to the audit team, recognizing the their time and effort to complete the audit.
4. Petty Cash Policy Revision: Finance team submitted a motion to revise the amount of petty cash held from \$200 to \$250. Motion passed.
5. Sub-team oversight organization: Beautification Team and Mission Team. Tom Crossett made a motion to move oversight of the Beautification team (currently a sub-team under Worship team) to Property team, also as a sub-team. Seconded by Tom Clapham. After discussion, this motion was tabled until the January session meeting. Tom Crossett made a motion to move the



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Missions team (currently under Outreach) to oversight directly by session.

After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

6. Educational support – budget line item. Tom Crossett made a motion to list seminary educational support for Lake McGinty (currently a GEPC pastoral intern) as a separate line budget line item, for the purpose of transparency. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

7. Coordinating Check request- Precepts material cost. Subsequent to the meeting Pastor Morefield made a request by email at Coordinating Team's direction, requesting \$630 from the memorial fund to cover the women's Precepts class material cost. Some or all of the cost may be reimbursed by class members. During the process of the email vote, an anonymous giver provided the funds.

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 October Session meeting minutes. Accepted as written.
2. Next Session Meeting: December 14, at 6:30 p.m.

E. Consent Reports

1. Deacon's Report: No Report
2. Financial Report: Received 11/9

VI. Adjournment and Closing Prayer:

Mark Lancaster made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dave Wiersma. A voice vote was held, and the motion passed. The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Morefield at 8:55 p.m.