



GASHLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING
JULY 11, 2024
MEETING MINUTES

<u>Ruling Elders Present:</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Crossett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Brink	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Blakley
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Langford	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Clapham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ethan Funk
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Wiersma	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Johnson

Teaching Elders Present: Pastor Michael Morefield

Guests: None.

- I. **Opening prayer:** Quorum was determined present. Pastor Morefield provided the book *The Valley of Vision* to all elders at the meeting, to be used at each meeting for prayer guidance.
- II. **Adoption of Agenda:** The agenda was adopted, with one addition. Under V. Calendar Items, Nominating was added.
- III. **Review/Approval of Previous Session Meeting Minutes:**
June 11 Session Meeting Minutes. Approved as written.
- IV. **Pastor's Report:**
 - A. Senior Pastor: Pastor Morefield provided an update on some members who are or had some health concerns.
- V. **Calendar Items:**
 - A. Nominating.
 1. Elders: Jim Langford (2nd year), and Mike Brink (1st year, on Nominating team)
 2. Deacons: Debbie Failing, and one other, to be determined.
 3. Congregation members. Three members needed.
 4. Class of 2024 Elders and Deacons, who are eligible for a consecutive second term, should advise by Aug. 8, if they are planning to rotate off or accept the second term.
 5. Congregational Meeting to elect Nominating Committee. Tentatively scheduled for Aug. 18. Tom Crossett made a motion, seconded by Jim Langford, to hold the congregational meeting to elect the Nominating Committee on Aug. 18, immediately after the 11:00 service. Motion passed.



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VI. Business Reports and Discussion:

A. Old Business:

1. Password Management. Tom Clapham will follow up/inquire with Chris Stackpole for recommendations.
2. Amos house: Report from Property team has not yet been received due to Property team meeting schedule.
3. Re-Branding update. The group has met to consider and develop the process. The logo is planned for development at following meetings. It was noted the group consists of all men and it would be good to have one or more women in this group to get a well-rounded perspective of input. The group will seek to add one or more women.
4. Search Committee(s) Updates
 - i. Worship Director. There was an interview this evening, which went well and was encouraging, as reported by Pastor Morefield.
 - ii. Assistant Pastor. Five applications have been received. Of the five, two are not qualified. The others are in various stages of the interview process.
 - iii. Student Ministry Director. There have been interviews with two candidates, one of which is scheduled for a second interview. There is also one new applicant, who has not yet been interviewed.

B. New Business

1. Ligonier's – Field Guide, intro and distribution. Bob Williams provided this booklet, as part of introducing the discussion of how GEPC may respond to cultural issues and potential social issues as may arise with visitors. Bob will lead more discussion at the August session meeting.
2. General Assembly Update. Our Presbytery and others submitted overtures regarding Memorial Presbyterian Church, which are being combined into a single draft overture. No endorsement of Memorial Presbyterian Church has been given. Presbytery is planning to study the issue, which may take up to two years.
3. Wednesday Evenings – Update on leaders.

For the fall semester, Discipleship and Relationships teams are planning to have a simple meal with a teaching element, and then separate by gender for



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discussion. Teaching is planned to be 15-20 minutes. Plans will be finalized at the August Relationships team meeting. Men and Women leaders will be needed.

4. Sunday Mornings – Announcements help/scheduling. Pastor Morefield advised that help with announcements at the Sunday morning services is helpful and appreciated. He will set up a schedule using the new software, “Breeze”, for elders to sign up to make announcements.

C. Team Reports

1. Worship. There are seven I-Pads from 2013 being used by the Worship team which are no longer adequate. New I-Pads (base model) are approximately \$350. Ethan Funk made a motion to approve funding, from the \$30k donation, not to exceed \$3000, for the purchase of new I-Pads for use by the Worship team. Mike Brink seconded. Motion passed.
2. Outreach. No report.
3. Relationships. The Wednesday night program is planned to be renamed from “Conversations” to something associated more to a “family night” idea. The new name is not yet determined.
4. Discipleship. No report.
5. Coordinating. Coordinating team provided a recommendation that Coordinating team members be assigned to staff members for additional support. After discussion, this recommendation was not accepted. At 9:25 p.m., Ethan Funk made a motion to enter into executive session, seconded by Dave Wiersma. Motion passed. At 9:35 p.m. Tom Crossett made a motion to exit executive session, seconded by Bob Williams. Motion passed.

D. Clerk’s Report

1. Next Session Meeting: Aug. 8, 6:30 p.m.

E. Consent Reports

1. Deacon’s Report: June 11 meeting minutes received June 22
2. Financial Report: June 30, 2024, report - Received July 9



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VII. **Adjournment and Closing Prayer:**

Tom Crossett made a motion to Adjourn, seconded by Bob Williams. Motion passed.
Meeting was Adjourned at 9:46 p.m. and closed with prayer by Pastor Morefield.