

GASHLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING

April 10, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

<u>Ruling Elders Present:</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Brink <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Clapham <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Williams	<u>Class of 2026</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Blakley <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ethan Funk <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Johnson	<u>Class of 2027</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barry Cooper <input type="checkbox"/> Justin Ewing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aaron Kleinmeyer
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Excused: Mark Johnson, Justin Ewing

Teaching Elders Present: ☒Senior Pastor - Michael Morefield
☒Assistant Pastor of Community - Josh Lee

- I. **Opening prayer:** After a quorum was determined, Pastor Morefield opened the meeting with prayer at 6:30 p.m.
- II. **Adoption of Agenda:** Ethan Funk made a motion to add 1) Review/Approval of the revised employee handbook and 2) Review of the Children's Protection Policy under Old Business. Seconded by Aaron Kleinmeyer. Motion passed. The agenda was adopted as amended.
- III. **Review/Approval of Previous Session Meeting Minutes:**
March Session Meeting Minutes: Approved as written.
- IV. **Pastor's Report:**
A. Senior Pastor: See written report, provide by email on April 2nd.
B. Assistant Pastor Community: No report.
- V. **Calendar Items:**
A. Mid America Presbytery Meeting – April 23, 2025, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
The Crossing Church, Columbia, MO
Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/wAKHWPVCYufVA98b8>
- No elders are planning to attend.
- VI. **Business Reports and Discussion:**
A. Old Business:
1. Reorganization of Ministry Teams
Pastor Morefield provided input on the current organization, current challenges and areas that could be improved. Barry Cooper followed with a

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presentation on possible team organizational structures, mainly addressing Coordinating team as it relates to other teams.

Discussion: Explore evaluating the effectiveness of current team structure and the need to reorganize our structure.

2. Coordinating Team Description Policy

Discussion: Review responsibilities of Coordinating Team Official Policy on Team Oversight and make any necessary recommendations/changes.

Barry Cooper made a presentation on possible team organizational structures, mainly addressing Coordinating team as it relates to other teams.

The revised/updated employee handbook was briefly discussed. Session members are going to review and provide feedback comments. The proposed Children's Protection Policy was also discussed. Some questions were raised, requiring additional consideration of parts of the policy. Coordinating team will follow up on this policy for additional editing.

Ethan Funk made a motion to Table Items 3 & 4 below. Barry Cooper seconded. Motion passed.

3. Discipleship Pathways - Tabled

4. Team Meeting Night - Tabled

5. Amos Property Vision Team (APVT) Update

Discussion: Update on APVT, share vision statement, next steps.

Mark Blakley provided an update on the APVT efforts.

6. Sr. Pastor Terms of Call Review (Hold for end of meeting, See Item F.)

B. New Business

1. Expense Question (From Finance/Phil Josephson)

Where would session like to post the expense for \$1,800 for graphic designer Braden East? Finance is recommending it could come out of account #7560 Miscellaneous Expense or the session discretionary fund (from the anonymous donor).

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Ethan Funk made a motion to use funds from the session discretionary fund to cover this expense. Aaron Kleinmeyer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2. Part-time Social Media Admin. Position

Motion: Barry Cooper (Coordinating) moves to create a part-time social media administrator position. Motion was not seconded. Barry Cooper made a motion to Table his motion, seconded by Aaron Kleinmeyer. Motion to table passed.

3. New Missionaries Support Consideration

Motion: Mission's team (Dale Anderson) submitted a request to approve the Orr's and Creacy's as new missionaries.

Neither the Orr's and Creacy's (missions funding applicants) were formally approved for funding but have been receiving funding from the Missions budget in 2025, due to Mission team leadership changes and miscommunication. Mark Blakley made a motion to continue funding at the existing rate for both the Orr's and the Creacy's. Seconded by Ethan Funk. Motion passed.

C. Team Reports – Refer to team reports distributed by email.

D. Clerk's Report

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

E. Consent Reports

1. Deacon's Report: Meeting held 4/8/2025, minutes not yet received.
2. Financial Report: Received 4/9/2025

F. Old Business Item (last item of the meeting): Sr. Pastor Terms of Call Review
Follow-up of Jan. 9, 2025, session meeting, for session to revisit salary discussion after Pastor Morefield has completed one year of service as the Senior Pastor.

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Bob Williams made a motion to elect Mike Brink as temporary moderator, while Pastor Morefield excuses himself during this discussion. Seconded by Mark Blakley. Motion passed.

Discussion occurred, information from pastoral salary research was shared by Bob Williams and Aaron Kleinmeyer, supporting the need for a salary increase. Mark Blakley made a motion to change the Terms of Call of the Sr. Pastor, with an annualized salary increase of \$7500, prorated through the remainder of 2025, but effective as of May 1, 2025. No second was made due additional information needed.

Some questions were raised, which led to the need for a follow-up meeting, which was subsequently scheduled for April 29. See minutes from April 29 called session meeting.

- VII. **Adjournment and Closing Prayer:** Aaron Kleinmeyer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Barry Cooper. Motion passed. Ethan Funk closed the meeting with prayer.