

GASHLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING
July 10, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
MEETING MINUTES

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

Guests: Laura Cooper

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 6:36 p.m.

II. **Adoption of Agenda:**

Proposed amendments:

IV. A. 4. Rebrand Update – DELETE

IV.B. 1. Facility Manager help - DELETE

VI. A., Items 1 and 2, Rebrand Proposal and Preschool Upate – MOVE TO FIRST AND SECOND ITEMS OF BUSINESS, ON THE AGENDA

Agenda was adopted as amended, as noted above.

III. **Review/Approval of Previous Session Meeting Minutes:**

June Session Meeting Minutes of 6/12/2025 – Approved as written.

IV. **Pastor's Report:**

A. Senior Pastor: See also agenda packet notes, provided by email on June 4th.

1. Hymnal Update: Hymnals have arrived, and will be presented with the rebrand rollout.
2. Alliance Defending Freedom Update (policies review): Information was received from the attorney working with ADF. There is much to consider and a special session meeting may be needed to fully review the information and considerations. A statement on marriage and sexuality was recommended to be included in the bylaws. There are three items to consider/address,...Core beliefs, Consistency and Clarity (3C's).

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MEETING MINUTES

3. General Assembly Update: Pastor Morefield provided a summary report of the General Assembly meeting. As an overview, the Ad Interim Committee made a recommendation to change pastoral positions letters, as non-binding, and the Book of Government as binding.

B. Assistant Pastor of Community:

1. Discipleship Groups: Pastor Lee provided an update, schedule information and a handout with more detailed information.

V. Calendar Items:

- A. None.

VI. Business Reports and Discussion:

A. Old Business:

1. Rebrand Proposal

Laura Cooper and Pastor Morefield provided an update and a detailed presentation based on three different options with regard to scope and items included in the rebrand effort, and also with three different cost estimates, based on a scale of “Good”, “Better” and “Best”.

Discussion and questions were addressed after the presentation.

Mike Brink made a motion to accept and approve the “Better” option, with an estimated cost of \$49,000, with funds provided from the general checking account, and also with a request to Property Team to consider ways to reduce the cost of labor, by self-performing some more simple labor.

Seconded by Ethan Funk.

After further discussion of the motion, a vote was taken and the motion passed.

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MEETING MINUTES

2. Preschool Update

Laura Cooper provided an update on the research of what may be required to set up, open and start a preschool. After the update, questions were addressed and discussed briefly.

Ethan Funk made a motion that session provide approval of intent to allow the use of church facilities for a preschool, subject to further development of a project plan.

Mark Blakley seconded the motion. Discussion occurred. Motion passed.

B. New Business

1. Capital Campaign Funds for Lobby Improvements: Relationships team presented a motion to release the remaining funds (approximately \$26,000) in the Capital Campaign account for new carpeting in the upper and lower lobbies (as originally planned). No second needed. Motion passed.
2. Carpet Proposal: Mark Blakley made a motion, for session to approve \$30,911, from the general checking account, for new carpeting for areas other than the lobbies, so all carpet will be replaced. Justin Ewing seconded. Discussion was held, and the price quote information was reviewed and discussed, as was the idea of replacing all carpet so there will be no discontinuity. Also noted, the current carpet is original and is approximately 25 years old. Motion passed.
3. Social media/Website Admin. Update: Barry Cooper/Coordinating reported there have been no applications. He will increase the level of advertising for the position.
4. Children's Ministry Director: The search committee has completed the search and has recommended Nicole Moncada. Aaron Kleinmeyer, as a search committee member, presented the committee's motion to make the hourly rate \$26 per hour (increased from \$25.11). Motion passed. The search committee will handle and schedule the announcement of the hiring.

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5. Interim Facility Manager Update: Aaron Kleinmeyer/Coordinating reported that Kent Hermes has been hired as the Interim Facility Manager. Kent previously held this position a few years ago.
6. Little Lambs Ministry Director Position: Ethan Funk made a motion to open the Little Lambs Director Position with a search team, for applicants. Barry Cooper seconded the motion. Motion passed. Coordinating team will create a search team.
7. Nominating Committee: Mike Brink requested recommendations for nominees for the Nominating Committee, of 8 people. Session members will send him recommended names by 7/23 and then session can vote by email, to develop the slate of names to be recommended to the congregation at the upcoming congregational meeting on Aug. 17 after the 11:00 service, scheduled for 12:15 p.m.

By email on 7/29, Mike Brink made a motion to submit the following candidates to serve on this year's GEPC leadership nominating team, to be put forth for vote at the congregational meeting scheduled for 8/17/25.

1. Moderator - Michael Morefield
2. Elder - Mike Brink
3. Elder - Justin Ewing
4. Deacon - Larry Anderson
5. Deacon – Andrea Quinn
6. Congregational Member - Chris Schupp
7. Congregational Member – Holly Marshall
8. Congregational Member – Angela Langford

Seconded by Bob Williams. By email vote, the motion carried.

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

D. Clerk's Report

1. Next Session Meeting: September 11, 6:30 p.m.

There is no session meeting scheduled for August.

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E. Consent Reports

1. Deacon's Report: June 10 meeting minutes received June 17.
2. Financial Report: June 30 Report received July 10.

VII. Adjournment and Closing Prayer:

Move to Adjourn: Mark Blakley

Second: Mark Johnson

Discussion: None

Vote: Pass

Closing Prayer: Pastor Morefield

Time: 10:11 p.m.