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Elder Board Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2025
GCC Community Room

Members Present: Dan Brewer, John Skillman, Carol Walton, Senior Pastor Ryan Miller, Mark Harger, Hannah Goering, Nancy Westover, Charlene Quint

Members Absent: None

Charlie opened the meeting in prayer at 6:35 pm. Dan moved to approve the minutes of August 12, 2025, Hannah seconded. Charlie moved to approve the minutes of August 26, 2025 and Pastor Ryan seconded, with John Skillman abstaining.

Pastor Ryan gave Senior Pastor updates. Proposed changes in titles from Directors vs. Ministers was tabled. Team culture seemed to be positive. Mike Rancharan, Director of Worship, requested Renewal Leave for Spring 2026. Pastor Ryan was to review his Employment Contract and the policy for Renewal Leave and then request a specific proposal from him to include projected dates, activities, and plans for job coverage to present to the Elders for approval.

Pastor Ryan asked about a church contingency plan if ICE were to visit and request entry to search for immigrants. Charlie was to check on the legal requirements. Elders were to research information and follow-up with suggestions at the next business meeting.

Elders volunteered as communion servers for each of the services on September 14 given the return to two scheduled services per month. Ryan was to communicate with Host Lead, Mary Ann Voeks, as to the serving plan.

Hannah and Ryan presented new pairings for Elders and Directors as follows:

- Charlie - Mary Ann Voeks, Church Connections
- Carol - Carrie Yeaman, Children's Ministry; Stacy Hintz, Student Ministry
- John - Mike Rancharan, Worship Arts; Dave Ulrich, Stewardship
- Dan - Daniel Lense, Community Connections; Paul Kattner, Adult Education
- Hannah - Ryan Miller, Senior Pastor; Brian Walter, Associate Pastor
- Mark - Gary Elsbury, Facilities
- Nancy - Nikki Behler, Director of Administration; Stuart Swank, Ministry Partnerships

Carol presented the proposed *All Church Survey* for the *Guiding Principles*. Elders were to review it prior to discussion at the next business meeting.

The Board went into an Executive Session from 7:30-8:05 PM.

John Skillman gave a financial update that income increased last month. The Endowment Committee was still needing additional new members. Pastor Ryan planned a Stewardship Sermon Series for October to include testimonies from congregants. Gary Elsbury volunteered and others were needed. Charlie volunteered.

Charlie and Dan were investigating other organizations/churches that could train GCC for an active shooter situation. John and Nancy were contacting resources on how to manage fire and tornado emergencies. Hannah requested that all proposals be presented at the next business meeting.

Ryan called attention to the *Summary of Leadership Questionnaires* that he has created in the shared drive. In particular, the Elders were to consider the highlighted Strategic Goals listed on the final page, notably to deepen the communication of GCC's vision of the church to the congregation and to consider how "we are for our neighbors". Further reflection was to be done by the Elders before formalizing goals at a future meeting.

Ryan also noted that there are many questions and opinions regarding the completion and projected use of the North wing to be addressed in the future.

The meeting was closed in prayer by Hannah at 9:15 PM.

The next meeting was to take place on September 23 at 6:30 PM in the Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Westover
GCC Church Secretary