

## Gateway Community Church - Governing Council Report

May 2026

The Governing Council met on May 6th for our monthly meeting. Elder Ron opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

The infrastructure task force continues to look at the aging Montessori wing and is working through what our options could be with that space in terms of use and needed renovations and upgrades.

The process of seeking nominations for the various roles on council were continued. We are close to having this finalized, and the hope is to have the names to the congregation sometime in June. It's worth noting two items about the process we take (excerpt from 'How Gateway Selects Office Bearers' document):

### ***WHAT IS UP WITH THE NOMINATION BAGS? WHY DO WE USE THEM SOMETIMES, BUT NOT ALWAYS?***

*Drawing lots is a helpful process, when necessary. Nowhere in scripture, our church order, polity, or bylaws is drawing lots required. Even the story in the book of Acts that is often referenced to point to this is simply "descriptive" of what happened in that place and not "prescriptive" of what churches should do in all times and places. There were probably 50+ different people they could have chosen to fill the seat of Judas Iscariot who walked with Jesus over his three year ministry, but they found two men whom they thought were the most exceptional candidates for this position. What's more remarkable about that story was that there were "just" two names (out of the dozens whom they could have asked), and not the drawing of lots. Think of it this way – The exceptionally qualified candidates are the requirement and drawing of lots is a helpful tool (when needed), not vice versa.*

### ***HOW DOES OUR COUNCIL GRAPPLE WITH "THE WILL OF HUMANS" VS "THE WILL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"?***

*We believe that the Holy Spirit is part of our process from start to finish. As Christians who seek to understand God's sovereignty, we see His work in and through each of the following steps – our Council discernment process, the search matrices, conversation in the council room, conversations with prospective Council members, their own prayer and discernment process when asked, the invitation for congregants to pray and consider prospective council members' eligibility for this role, the affirmation, and more. This process is led, start to finish, by the Holy Spirit.*

We continued discussions on building up new leaders within the Church. This includes getting to know people who may have the skills, gifts and abilities to serve. It will also allow us to teach and show how Gateway is governed to give future leaders a better understanding. Our hope and prayer is that steps like this will help to build a group of future leaders who have the gifts and skills to serve, but also the willingness to do so.

Lastly, Pastor Justin led us through his Lead Pastor report. Pastor Justin will be starting his sabbatical soon and we pray for rest and rejuvenation for him and his ministry here at Gateway. He also updated on staff including Thomas' starting at Gateway in June as our Director of Youth Ministries.

The meeting closed in prayer at 8:40. Our next meeting will be June 4th

On Behalf of the Governing Council Elders:  
Matt Tinsley: Governing Council Chairperson