

Hope Evangelical Free Church Board Minutes

Meeting held on the Campus of Hope Church
3000 Lenhart Road, Springfield, Illinois 62711
July 27, 2026

Dave Richardson, Acting Presiding Elder, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The following Board members were present: Gary Clark, Cheri Fraker, Anthony Hamilton, Curt Mavis, Brian Mills, TC Morsch, Caleb Payne, Jeff Pfaffe, Dave Richardson, Mark Sexton, and Shelley Simpson.

Missing Board Members: Shannon Alderman and Anthony Suggs

Opening: Shelley Simpson opened the meeting with prayer. Caleb Payne led the group reading of the Elder Board Values and Norms.

Approval of Minutes: The Board approved the June 22, 2026, meeting minutes with one revision. The approved minutes will be posted to the Hope Church App.

Old Business

- **Process Policy #14 (Whistleblower) update**
Jeff and TC will update the Elders at the August meeting. Edits are being reviewed by an attorney.
- **Audit Committee update**
Met with our church bookkeeper and will start working in September to approve an audit firm.
- **Elder Selection Development (to be seated in January 2028) update**
 - All questionnaires received by candidates are due on 7/19/26. We currently have only two candidates after three candidates have decided to end their candidacy.
 - We will solicit the names of prospective Elders in August for the Elder Development Process.

Senior Pastor Reports

- **Strategic Plan Review**
 - We reviewed the Great Commission Engine (GCE) for Life Changing Relationships.
- **Vision Metrics**
 - We reviewed the metrics for Transformed in and Through Community.
 - Personnel.
 1. We discussed the Advance Team (previously called the Staff Lead Team) updates.
 2. We discussed the Resource Team development update.

- We have a new Leader for the Resource Team.
 - Two current members will continue consultation through December.
- 3. We will have a part-time Director of Operations supporting weekly operations for Finance, Human Resources, and Facilities. Will develop the profile and a candidate list for a Director of Operations.
- Limitations compliance
 - 1. None for review.
- Announcements
 - 1. Annual Business Meeting is Wednesday 8/26/26, 6:30pm to 7:30pm.
 - 2. A mini retreat for Elders and Staff is scheduled for 8/29/26, 9am to 1pm.
 - 3. Vision Night is Thursday 9/3/26, 6pm to 7:30pm.

Policy Work

- We completed the Elder Evaluations. Results will be reviewed in August.

Announcements

- Strategic Plan Review:
 - Review the Engagement Pathway for adults and students.
 - Annual Budget Review.
- August 2026 Policy Review:
 - Announce Elder Selection Candidate Review Team.
 - Solicit New Elder Development Class.
 - Review Elder Evaluations.
- David announced that the next meeting date will be Monday, August 24, at 6:30 p.m.
 - Cheri Fraker will open the August meeting with prayer.
 - Gary Clark will set the meeting context.

Adjournment

Cheri closed the meeting with prayer and adjourned the meeting at 8:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Anthony Hamilton