

**The Presbyterian Church of Barrington
Session Meeting Minutes
27 October 2025**

Moderator: Rev. David Ezekiel, Pastor

Ruling Elders:

	CLASS OF 2025		CLASS OF 2026		CLASS OF 2027
P	Steve Alton	P	Ross Clover	P	Rich Barbour
P	Anna Armstrong	P	PK Johnson	P	Bob Dick
A	Bard Boand	P	Debra Johnson	P	Molly Stine
P	Mari Franklin	Z	Heather Layne		
P	Robert Reilly				
P	David Ezekiel, Moderator	P	George Landes, Jr., Clerk of Session		

P=Present A=Absent E=Excused

- I. Dr Ezekiel opened the meeting at 7:10 pm with joys & concerns followed by an opening prayer.
- II. Tom Hayward, a long-time member of PCB, passed away in June 2025.
- III. Clerk's Report – Approval of Omnibus Motion
 - ii. Approval of minutes of Session meeting, September 22nd – attached to agenda
 - iii. Approval of minutes of training meeting, October 25th
 - iv. Membership – As of October 27, 2025 – 310
 - i. Baptism of Charlie Clover occurred on 26 October 2025
 - ii. Session voted to approve the resignation of JC Clarke from his position as Elder.
- IV. Reports
 - i. Proposed 2026 Budget – Rich Barbour reviewed the budget for 2026 at \$752k. Motion was moved and seconded to approve the 2026 budget which Session unanimously approved.
 - ii. Committee Reports

1. Finance & Stewardship – Rich Barbour reviewed the financials which are attached to agenda. Expenses vs budget are well in line with no outstanding issues. YTD the expenses remain less than budget. Pledge cards are going out to Session in 1-2 weeks and need to be returned ASAP demonstrating leadership commitment. Robert Reilly said that we need a 25% pledge increase from pledgers. That calculation does not take into consideration new members. Robert also brought up the need to ask those “large” givers to consider PCB in their will/trust which could resolve many of the financial concerns currently plaguing PCB.
 2. Robert Reilly introduced not-for-profit entity accounting, explaining this concept and how it applies to PCB.
 - a. Cash versus accrual methods of accounting (BTW, we use a modified cash method)
 - b. Balance sheet information vs income statement information
 - c. Operating fund statement vs non-operating funds statements
 - d. Current period vs deferred income recognition
 - e. Expenditure recognition: operating vs non-operating
 - f. Non-operating funds: restricted vs unrestricted
 - g. Expenditure recognition: expense (on income statement) vs cost (capitalized to other funds)
 - h. Cash, liquidity, and solvency information
 3. Endowment Strategy – attached to agenda. Molly Stine discussed the strategy paper offered by the Endowment Committee. The endowment fund is to be used to pay expenses for building/grounds and personnel, with the stewardship campaign soliciting members for expenses such as MOTH, CE, Mission, etc. Session agreed for the Endowment Committee to proceed with the development of their strategy.
- ii. Mission – Rich Barbour requested Session permission for family to family giving in conjunction with Christopher House. Session approved this request. For 2026 Mission asked that on months with 5 Sundays, Mission would ask for 5 minutes to give a Minute for Mission during the service.
 - iii. New Members – Report attached to agenda
 - iv. Personnel – Robert Reilly asked for feedback on the draft personnel manual by 24 November
 - v. Worship – Chris Raaths, chair
 1. Report attached to agenda

- iii. Other Reports – the Session is responsible for overseeing and directing the ministry of deacons, trustees, and all organizations of the congregation on behalf of the congregation (G-3.0201c).
 - i. Trustees – Ron Furst, chair
 - 1. George Landes and David Ezekiel met with the Trustees on Monday, September 15, to discuss dissolving the Board of Trustees and for the Session to absorb all their remaining responsibilities into a Building & Grounds Committee, effective January 1, 2025.
 - 2. Process – at the October meeting, Session will act upon a draft motion to change the By-Laws of the congregation that formally dissolves the Trustees. The Session will call a congregational meeting at which the proposed amendment will be presented to the congregation for action.
 - 3. Results – the Session is constitutionally charged with overseeing all aspects related to the corporate matters of the congregation – legal, incorporation, financial, etc. The Trustees are tasked with the administration and care of the property, under the oversight of the Session. In short, nothing will change except that the Session will create a Building & Grounds Committee to do the same work.
 - ii. Nominating Committee – Bob Stine, chair
 - 1. Nominations report – attached to agenda
 - 2. The work of the Nominating Committee is complete.
 - iii. Stephen Ministers – Report attached to agenda

V. New Business – By-Laws

- i. Dissolving the Board of Trustees
 - i. **Motion** – Shall the Session recommend to the congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington that the Board of Trustees be dissolved and the Session to absorb those responsibilities?
 - 1. **Rationale** – The Board of Trustees currently has responsibilities for the administration and upkeep of the building and property, including the contracts and/or agreements to keep those operations running smoothly. The oversight of those areas could easily be done by the Session through the creation of a Buildings & Grounds Committee, which would cause no disruption to any aspect of the life of the church.
 - 2. **Background** – In time past, the Trustees held and defended the title to the property, oversaw financial administration, and even had its own personnel department. All of these areas are now the responsibility of the Session either through changes to the Book of

Order (the Constitution of the Church) or through State Law. Therefore, dissolving the Board of Trustees does no harm to the Presbyterian Church of Barrington.

3. This motion was moved, seconded, and approved. Rich Barbour suggested the creation of a facilities committee.

ii. **Motion** – Shall the Session recommend the congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington adopt the following changes to the By-Laws to reflect the dissolving of the Board of Trustees:

1. Line 33 – by deleting the words “and trustees” and inserting the word “and” in front of the word “deacons;”
2. Line 147 – by deleting the words “and trustees” and inserting the word “and” in front of the word “deacons;”
3. Lines 211–222 – by striking the entirety of Section 16; and
4. Motion was moved, seconded, and approved by Session.

iii. Changes requested by the Nominating Committee

i. **Motion** – The Nominating Committee moves the Session consider the following changes to the By-Laws:

1. That the number of persons required to serve on the committee be changed from seven to “a minimum of five and a maximum of seven...”
 - a. **Rationale** – Seven persons is not always necessary to do the work of the committee and seven can possible takeaway the number of persons who might be needed for other leadership functions.
 - b. Line 133 – by inserting the words “a minimum of five and a maximum of” between the words “be” and “seven.”
 - c. Motion was moved and approved by Session.
2. That the name of the Nominating Committee be changed to the “Leadership Nominations Committee.”
 - a. **Rationale** – The work of this committee is focused on nominating persons as elders, deacons, and to serve on the current nominating committee. It will also nominate persons to committees as created and directed by the congregation. The tradition of this church is that the nominating committee does not normally recruit members for Session committees. It will make referrals to those committees if they come across someone who expresses a particular interest.
 - b. Lines 33, 35, 132 (twice), 135, 137, 139 – Strike the word “Nominating” and replace it with “Leadership Nominations.”
 - c. Motion was moved and approved by Session.

- ii. **Motion** – Shall the Session recommend the congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington adopt the change to the By-Laws regarding the number of persons to serve on the “Nominating Committee?”
This motion was approved by Session
- iii. **Motion** – Shall the Session recommend the congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington the change of the Nominating Committee to the Leadership Nominations Committee? This motion was approved by Session.
- iv. A matter of clarification for the By-Laws.
 - i. **Motion** – Shall the Session recommend the congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Barrington adopt the following change for the sake of clarity to the By-Laws:
 - 1. Line 226 – to replace the word “of” with the words “elected by” as highlighted in yellow?
 - 2. If approved, the new Section 16 would read thusly: “Vacancies that occur on any committee or board **elected by** the congregation may be filled either at a special meeting of the congregation or at the annual meeting, as the Session may determine.”
 - 3. Motion moved, seconded, and approved by Session.
- v. The congregational meeting was set for 23 November 2025 to:
 - i. To act upon the report of the Nominating Committee
 - ii. To act upon the proposed changes to the By-Laws
- vi. The Congregational Meeting date for the installation / ordination of elders and deacons will be 11 January 2026

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00pm with prayer led by Dr. Ezekiel. Next meeting of the Session is 15 December 2025 at 7:00pm which is being combined with the November meeting.

George M Landes, Jr
Clerk of Session

Rev. David Ezekiel
Moderator of Session