

Session Minutes
Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church
July 15, 2021

A meeting of the Gashland EPC Session was held on July 15th at 6:34 PM via ZOOM and in person.

Elders:	<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
	Aaron Kleinmeyer	Tom Clapham	Dallas Reeve
	Derek Williams (Excused)	Ron Wilson	Mark Lancaster
	Jeff Van Der Weele	Mike Zachary	Don Vande Polder

Pastor Michael Morefield was also in attendance.

Moderator: Pastor Ritchey Cable called the meeting to order 6:34 PM after confirming a quorum.

A. PRAYER: Pastor Morefield opened the meeting with prayer.

B. AGENDA ADOPTION: The agenda was approved by unanimous voice consent.

C. PASTOR'S REPORT:

1. Pastor Morefield introduced Deacon representatives from the Mercy Team who gave Session an update and review of the services they offer. These resources may be beneficial for the Elders to use in their under-shepherding responsibilities.
2. Pastor Cable gave a report on the new staff person, Ellie Brown, Media Director/Worship Leader, hired to fill the vacancy created when Caitlyn resigned.
3. Pastor Michael Morefield announced that Conversations will return with a meal starting September 15th.
4. The next elder fellowship event will be July 27th at The Brim.

D. BUSINESS REPORTS and DISCUSSION

1. Old Business
 - a. Under-shepherding Review – Pastor Morefield will review the group listings to ensure that each Elder is included in another group as a member only, in addition to the group they shepherd. Updated group lists will be emailed to each Elder. Elders also discussed specific members in need of prayer, general role and function as under-shepherd and encouraged one another in their role as under-shepherd.
 - b. Organization and Access to Church Documents – Tom Clapham initiated the discussion on the topic raising concern about ongoing update of policy and procedures within Church teams and ministries. Who has this responsibility, how are updates archived, who has access to policy and procedure documentation? The matter was referred to the Coordinating Team for further study and recommendation at their July meeting.
 - c. Security and Firearm Policy – Dallas Reeve initiated discussion on this topic expressing a need for further clarification on FirstTeam responsibility and Safety Team responsibility to enforce security measures. A general discussion was held concerning training, controlling access to the church during various events and need for incident and policy review. The matter was referred to the Coordinating Team for further discussion at their July meeting.
2. New Business
 - a. GEPC Organizational Procedures – Tom Clapham initiated discussion on the viability of documenting various recurring church events on the Church calendar and adding these items to the Session agenda each month. A primary concern was to have recurring, anticipated events documented for planning purposes. Examples would be date to begin budget process, new officer nominating process and annual meeting date. This item was referred to the Coordinating Team for discussion at their July meeting. Michael Morefield volunteered to have a rough outline proposal emailed to Session for discussion at the August Session meeting.
 - b. Prayer Leadership – Mark Lancaster initiated discussion of the Session responsibility for spiritual formation of the church body specifically surrounding prayer. Elders discussed the various ways in which prayer ministry is manifested within the church and how they can foster and encourage prayer. Mark concluded the discussion by praying for the Session, church leadership and the congregation.

3. Team Reports

- a. Worship Team – the new Worship/Communications Director is working out well. Pastor Cable prayed for the Team.
- b. Outreach Team – team monthly report was received. Caleb Mason was commended for his outreach to the community and work with the summer interns.

The Relationship Team submitted the following motion, introduced by Dallas Reeve:

The Relationship Team will present two sessions of a Dave Ramsey Financial Management Ministry Seminar, one for GEPC members and one open to the public, with the \$2900 licensing fee to be paid from Account #2273, Miscellaneous Ministry.

All YES – Motion passed.

- c. Relationship Team – new team members have been added to this Team.
 - d. Discipleship Team – Michael Morefield requested help from the Elders in leading the prayer ministry on Wednesday evening for the remainder of July and August. He will email the dates to the Session and Elders can sign up to fill a spot by return email reply to all to coordinate the scheduling.
 - e. Coordinating Team – Don Vande polder made note of the items assigned to the Team for review during this meeting. In addition, elder assignments to the Nominating Team were discussed and a plan formulated to accomplish the nominating process for election of new church officers. Pastor Cable will serve as an ex-officio member of the Team. Aaron Kleinmeyer was appointed to a one-year term and Mike Zachary to a two-year term as Elder representatives. Don was tasked with obtaining two names as Deacon representatives. The Session and Deacon representatives to the Nominating Team were tasked with obtaining four at-large nominees by the end of July from the congregation to serve on the Team pending election.
4. Clerk's Report –
- a. Minutes from the June 2021 Session Meeting were reviewed and approved with minor spelling correction noted to be completed by Jeff Vander Weele.
 - b. The next Session meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2021, at 6:30 P.M.

E. **CONSENT REPORTS**

1. The Deacons Meeting Minutes for June 2021 have not been published at the time of the Session meeting.
2. The Finance Team Report for June 2021 was received by Session.

- F. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was moved for adjournment by Don Vande Polder and second by Mike Zachary and approved by unanimous consent. Pastor Cable closed the meeting at 9:32 PM with prayer.

Paul Weatherford
Clerk of Session

Pastor Ritchey Cable
Moderator