

GASHLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Approved Minutes

Session Meeting November 11, 2021

A meeting of the GEPC Session was held on 11/11/21 at 6:30 PM. Those in attendance were:

<u>Elders:</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
	Aaron Kleinmeyer	Tom Clapham	Dallas Reeves
	Derek Williams	Ron Wilson	Mark Lancaster
	Jeff VanDerWeele	Mike Zachary	Don Vande Polder

Pastors Cable and Morefield were also in attendance.

Moderator: Pastor Cable called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM after confirming a quorum.

A. Opening prayer - Pastor Morefield opened the meeting with prayer.

B. Adoption of Agenda – The agenda was adopted by Session as presented by unanimous voice vote.

C. Pastor’s Report –

1. Pastor Cable discussed the most recent “Getting to Know Gashland” class and the people making a commitment to membership at GEPC. Pastor Cable stated Elder volunteers are needed to meet with the prospective new members on Sunday 11/14/21 to ask them the five proscribed questions affirming their faith and responsibilities of membership. Pastor Cable provided a brief orientation and instruction for the meetings.
2. Pastor Cable advised the Session of a particular family circumstance surrounding the transfer of membership from GEPC to another local church. Pastor Morefield was tasked with providing specific information to the Clerk of Session to facilitate the transfer.
3. Pastor Cable provided Session with a report of the Nominating Team and the candidates identified for the office of Elder and Deacon. Session discussed each candidate and reviewed the plan to announce the candidates in the bulletin on 11/14/21, publish biographical introductions in the next LINK 11/17/21 and announcement of the Congregational Meeting the next two Sundays with the meeting scheduled for 11/21/21 at 12:30 PM. The candidates are:
Elder – Tom Crosset, Dave Weirisma and Jim Langford
Deacon – Josiah Colle, Steve Moberg and TBD
4. Three Christmas Eve services are planned at 3:00, 4:30 and 6:00 PM.
5. Pastor Cable will be hosting the Elder fellowship evening on 11/30/21.
6. Pastor Cable shared that a documentary film company had requested to rent the GEPC sanctuary for a film project. The filming would occur during the Advent season. Session declined to approve the request.
7. Pastor Morefield reported on his work with Athens KC as Chair of the Presbytery Church Oversight Committee. Michael and Elder Vande Polder attended a recent worship service at Athens KC.
8. Pastor Morefield presented to Session an application for his sabbatical planned for Summer 2022. Michael outlined his goals and plan for spiritual, personal, family, and physical growth and revitalization. Session accepted the application as information and will address it at a later date.

D. Calendar Items

1. Elder and Deacon Training -Pastor Cable reviewed the plan for this training and advised that assistance will be needed from the Elders.
2. Finalize Annual Budget – The Finance Team is working to finalize the budget and the 2022 Stewardship Campaign is progressing well.
3. Produce report of members with “no attendance and no financial contribution in last 12 months” and distribute to Elders – this report will be reviewed at the December Session meeting with any required changes made at that time. Michael will email the list to Elders for review prior to the December meeting.
4. Christmas Eve Offering Recipient – The Outreach Team will provide a recommendation to Session for consideration at the December Session meeting.

5. Invite officers-elect to December Session and Deacon meetings – this invitation will be extended by Pastor Cable once the election of officers is complete.

E. Business Reports and Discussion

1. Old business/follow-up items
 - a. Under-shepherd review – Session discussed specific families with prayer needs. Pastor Cable led the Session in prayer for these concerns.
 - b. Congregational Meeting to elect Church Officers – Session scheduled this meeting 11/21/21 at 12:30 PM.
 - c. Clerk of Session vacancy – Session reviewed the list of non-ruling Elders who may be appropriate for this position. Tom Clapham volunteered that he might be interested in taking on this responsibility if an Elder currently not serving on Session cannot be recruited to fill the position.
2. New Business
 - a. None noted.
3. Team Reports
 - a. Worship – Jeff reported on the Advent season plans. Elders were encouraged to become more involved with varying aspects of worship in both services by handling parts of the order of service items such as prayer, announcements and scripture reading.
 - b. Outreach – The Trunk or Treat event was an enormous success with over five hundred community members visiting the event. The Global Orphan Project is a mission the Team may support in the future.
 - c. Relationship – A Thanksgiving meal is planned for the church on 11/17/21 at 6:30 PM. Two sessions of the Dave Ramsey financial wellness seminars have been started.
 - d. Discipleship – This Team did not meet this month.
 - e. Coordinating – An updated COVID policy statement will be prepared and published in light of the expiration of the KCMO COVID mask mandate on 11/4/21. The Team is finalizing the staff evaluation process. They are also examining the Church phone/WI-FI system to explore options and identify the best service set-up for our needs. Don Vande Polder noted that the Audit Team report was complete and was forwarded to Session. There were no significant issues noted that require Session action. Session remarked they were appreciative of the time and effort put in by the Audit Team.
4. Clerk's Report
 - a. Review and approval of October Session Meeting minutes – Tom Clapham prepared the October Minutes. Upon review, several clerical corrections were noted which Tom will amend to the Minutes. The Minutes were approved by unanimous vote as amended.
 - b. Next meeting December 9, 2021, at 6:30 PM
 - c. Clerk responsibilities document – This document was prepared by the Clerk and submitted to Session for information to assist the new Clerk with fulfilling responsibilities of the position.
5. Consent Reports
 - a. Deacons Report – November 2021 Meeting Minutes were received by Session.
 - b. Finance Report – October Financial Report was received by Session.

F. Adjournment of Session Meeting and Closing Prayer

Dallas Reeve moved the meeting be adjourned, second from Don Vande Polder. All yes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM with prayer led by Don.

Paul Weatherford
Clerk of Session

Ritchey Cable
Moderator