

Session Minutes
Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church
August 13, 2020

A meeting of the Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church Session was held on August 13th at 6:30 PM via ZOOM .

<u>Elders:</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>
	Peter Marshall	Aaron Kleinmeyer	Chris Taylor
	Mark Blakley	Derek Williams	Ron Wilson
	Dennis King	Jeff Van Der Weele	Mike Zachary

Pastor Michael Morefield was also in attendance.

Moderator: Pastor Ritchey Cable called the meeting to order 6:33 PM after confirming a quorum.

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

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

C. PASTOR'S REPORT:

1. Pastor Cable gave an update on the status of the re-branding effort for GEPC. This effort focuses primarily on changing the logo, adding/updating signage and introducing new ministry opportunities. The core of the church will remain unchanged. Elders, deacons and others with interest and knowledge of marketing will meet to create a mock-up of a new logo and signage
2. Pastor Cable shared that we need additional equipment to sustain and enhance digital services. We need two cameras for each service location and other enhancements to maximize efficiency and quality. We currently are having to move equipment from one location to another and are using some of Pastor Cable's own personal equipment. He asked Session to prepare for a special meeting of Session via phone in the next week or two to consider a detailed equipment and cost for making these upgrades.
3. Pastor Cable discussed the process for re-opening in person worship. The registration process has been simplified allowing for a one-time enrollment instead of weekly. Attendance in-person has steadily increased. Opportunities for children are also being added so attendance in-person should continue to grow.
4. Pastor Morefield reported the new community groups will be forming in September, both virtual and in-person. conversations the fall will look different as there will be no meal and will feature in-person and virtual options.

D. BUSINESS REPORTS and DISCUSSION

1. **Old Business**
 - a. Volunteer coordinator position - The Discipleship Team submitted a renewed proposal identifying a volunteer coordinator to help identify ministry team needs, volunteer resources within the congregation, coordinate and facilitate matching of resources with needs and manage the overall engagement of volunteerism within the church. Session approved moving forward with the proposal.
2. **New Business**
 - a. Nominating Team - Peter Marshall announced the beginning of the nominating process for Elders and Deacons. Study booklets, nominating forms and announcements will begin in September. Peter encouraged Session to help identify candidates for each position.
 - b. Team Assignments and responsibilities - Session discussed the issue of pastoral staff taking on responsibilities that they should not have to. Some of this is the result of the increased role of virtual services during the pandemic. Each team was encouraged to examine how virtual services and ministries impact their respective areas of responsibility and how they can be most effective in helping provide support in these areas.

3. Team Reports
 - a. Worship Team – Communion in August was much better in terms of logistics compared to July. Derek will coordinate a meeting with Jeff and Ritchey to discuss issues of concern that have arisen in first service.
 - b. Outreach Team – The Team did not meet in August but will meet in early September.
 - c. Relationship Team – The Team did not meet in August. The Team did offer prayer for an ailing church member
 - d. Discipleship Team – New Sunday School classes will begin on September 6th. A new Little Lambs Coordinator has been hired - Nicole Moncada. She will be introduced to the church August 16th.
 - d. Coordinating Team – Dennis King reports that all staff have returned to work after recent quarantine due to possible exposure to COVID-19. All staff have tested negative for the virus and the person who was ill is recovering.
4. Clerk's Report –
 - a. Minutes from the July, 2020 Session Meeting were reviewed and approved.
 - b. The next Session meeting was scheduled for Sept. 10, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. at the church and via ZOOM.
 - c. Dennis King was certified as a delegate for the 2020 EPC General Assembly and his certification was submitted on-line by the Clerk of Session.

E. CONSENT REPORTS

1. The Deacon Meeting Minutes August have not yet been received by Session. Dennis and Ritchey were both in attendance at the meeting and expressed how grateful they are for the hard work the Deacons have put in the past several months ministering to the congregation during the pandemic.
2. The Finance Team Report for July was received. The Team submitted one action item for Session consideration. The Finance Team has recommended returning \$6500.00 to the Memorial Fund used for COVID-19 related technology expenses and assigning those expenses to the Payroll Protection Program SBA loan funds. Session chose to defer action on this request and show those funds as unassigned until such time as an updated policy on use of Memorial Funds is finalized. Peter and Ron will discuss this with the Finance Team.

- F. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was moved for adjournment by Mark Blakley, second by Derek Williams, with unanimous voice consent. Pastor Cable closed the meeting at 9:07 PM with prayer.

Paul Weatherford
Clerk of Session

Pastor Ritchey Cable
Moderator