

Session Minutes
Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church
November 12, 2020

A meeting of the Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church Session was held on November 12th at 6:30 PM.

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

Pastor Michael Morefield was also in attendance.

Moderator: Pastor Ritchey Cable called the meeting to order 6:42 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 Morefield reminded Session that the Church roll of membership was due for review and adjustment in December. He encouraged each Elder to review the church membership in their under shepherding group to determine which members are inactive or should be removed from the membership roll. Each Elder should reach out to those members and encourage them to engage with the life and ministry of the church. Adjustments to the roll will be made at the December Session meeting.
2. Pastor Cable shared that the past two Sunday's have been challenging from a staffing perspective as several ministry volunteers have been affected by health issues. Session discussed how to meet the challenges in both worship services with the hope of expanding the ministry team volunteer group able to run the sound and video equipment.

D. BUSINESS REPORTS and DISCUSSION

1. Old Business -
 - a. Nominating Team Report - Elder Marshall reported that the Team had completed their work and identified three candidates for elder and three for deacon. These individuals have submitted biographical sketches for publication in the Link so members may review that information prior to the congregational meeting on November 15th where each candidate will stand for election.
2. New Business
 - a. New Ministry Team - Chris Taylor proposed that Session establish a new ministry team to address and focus on technology and communication. These issues are currently handled primarily by the coordinating team but there significant overlap amongst all teams with other teams addressing parts of these issues, The coordinating teams responsibilities have grown and splitting out these areas would balance the work and give more focused attention to these areas. There was good discussion on the merits of this proposal and whether it should stand alone as its own team or be formulated as a sub-team under coordinating in a manner similar to the Stewardship Team under Worship or Missions Team under Outreach. The primary concern was that our two pastors are addressing many of these issues now that they should not have to as it takes time away from their primary functions of preaching, teaching and spiritual development of the congregation. Chris will meet with Catlin from the office staff

and Elder Klienmeyer to further discuss the issue and present a more detailed proposal to the Session at a future meeting.

3. Team Reports

a. Worship Team – Jeff reported that Advent begins the last Sunday in November. There will be three Christmas Eve services at 3:30, 5:00 and 6:30 PM. He also reported on the status of piano and organ repair issues and cost.

b. Outreach Team – Michael reported that the Missions Team will designate the recipient of the Christmas Eve offering this year to a new EPC church being formed in Parkville. He also reported on damage to the basketball goal in the south parking lot caused by someone driving a U-Haul truck. U-Haul may make some level of reimbursement from their insurance.

c. Relationship Team – The Team proposed a \$30,000 expenditure for installing commercial quality playground equipment set in the playground area west of the ministry center. There was much discussion on the proposal, but it was tabled until discussion could be had with the Finance Team on the most appropriate way to finance the purchase.

d. Discipleship Team – This team continues to work through the issues related to the reopening of the Little Lambs ministry. They also plan to provide more easy access to Library materials.

d. Coordinating Team – Dennis King reported that the 8:30 AM worship service is close to capacity so encouraged church leaders to consider attending the 11:00 AM worship service. He also reported that Phill Pace and family will be moving at the end of December resulting in Phil's resignation as second service Worship Leader. Session discussed how to address this vacancy in the short term. Elder Williams led the Session in prayer for the Pace Family.

- Church finances have been steady throughout the year and the church is now in a position to issue bonuses to the staff. No cost of living increase had been placed into the budget for this year due to financial restrictions. The proposed raises represent 2-3% for each eligible staff member. In coordination with the Finance Team, the Coordinating Team moves that

Motion - \$9,700.00 be designated for staff bonuses according to the schedule developed by the Coordinating Team to be issued to eligible staff prior to the end of the fiscal year. A voice vote was held. All Yes. Motion approved.

4. Clerk's Report –

a. Minutes from the October, 2020 Session Meeting were reviewed and approved with one minor correction being made to reflect the correct date for the November Session Meeting..

b. The next Session meeting was scheduled for December 10, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. in person and on

ZOOM.

E. **CONSENT REPORTS**

1. The Deacon Meeting Minutes for October have not been published.
2. The Finance Team Report for October was received.

F. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was moved for adjournment by Chris Taylor, second by Peter Marshall, with unanimous voice consent. Pastor Cable closed the meeting at 8:42 PM with prayer.

Paul Weatherford
Clerk of Session

Pastor Ritchey Cable
Moderator