

Session Minutes  
Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
May 13, 2021

A meeting of the Gashland EPC Session was held on May 13th at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM and in person.

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

Pastor Michael Morefield was also in attendance.

**Moderator:** Pastor Ritchey Cable called the meeting to order 6:37 PM after confirming a quorum. Pastor Cable requested a volunteer to take notes for meeting minutes in Paul Weatherford's absence. Tom Clapham volunteered.

- A. PRAYER:** Don Vande Polder opened the meeting with prayer.
- B. AGENDA ADOPTION:** Dallas Reeve advised of a motion from Relationships team, which will be addressed as a planned discussion in the Relationships Team report. The agenda was adopted by unanimous voice consent.
- C. PASTOR'S REPORT:**
1. Pastor Cable inquired about the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Elder Fellowship event, which was hosted by Pastor Morefield. The event was moved to the Fellowship Hall (from Pastor Morefield's home, due to weather issues). Six elders attended the event.
  2. Elder Fellowship: The next event is scheduled for May 27<sup>th</sup> at Pastor Morefield's home. (Elders not able to host a large group may host the event at the GEPC outdoor pavilion or in the Fellowship hall. The preferred intent is to hold the event at a location other than the church building if possible.)
  3. Executive Session: Pastor Cable requested a motion to move into Executive Session. The motion was made by Dallas Reeve, seconded by Jeff VanDerWeele, and unanimously approved by voice vote at 6:46 p.m. At 6:58 p.m. a motion to close out of Executive Session was made by Mike Zachary, seconded by Derek Williams and unanimously approved by voice vote.
  4. General Assembly: Both Pastors Cable and Morefield are planning to go in person, to General Assembly being held on June 22-25 in Memphis, TN at 2<sup>nd</sup> Presbyterian Church. Other elders who may like to go, either in person or virtually, will need to communicate their intent by Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.
  5. Pastor Cable publicly thanked Pastor Morefield for his work over the last few weeks while Pastor Cable was completing filming of The Author Movie. Pastor Cable commented that the church was in good hands with Pastor Morefield. Regarding the movie, filming is complete and it is now in the hands of the editors.
  6. Pastor Morefield requested and led a prayer for Paul Weatherford and family, concerning Paul's mother and health concerns/complications.

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**D. BUSINESS REPORTS and DISCUSSION:**

1. Old Business

- a. Undershepherding review: Pastor Morefield stated that Undershepherding Review is planned to be a regular monthly recurring item, with discussion on how undershepherding is going and as a check-up. Pastor Morefield encouraged all elders to follow-up with the monthly e-mail to their flocks if they haven't already done so. The purpose is to communicate with the members that elders are praying for them, ask for anything specific to pray for and to remind of upcoming church events, among other topics that may be appropriate for each elder and flock.

2. New Business

- a. Shut-in visits and communion: Jeff VanDerWeele reported that Marian Anderson and Pat Daniels have been visiting shut-in members. Currently Pat Daniels is unable to assist with these visits, so Jeff VanDerWeele has started going with Marian Anderson for visits and giving communion.

Recently the following people were visited:

Marth Young (at Primrose)  
Carl Carver (at New Mark)  
Fontaine Tebo (at New Mark)  
Rosie Bateman (at her home)  
John & Earlene Joslin

Jeff and Marian are working on visiting other shut-in members. The question was raised, should undershepherd/elders go along. Jeff suggested they could, however three people might be too many for a visit and scheduling becomes more difficult with three people.

- b. Staff/Leadership/Team Org Chart: Tom Clapham described the need for some sort of organizational chart and/or list of staff, leaders and teams. Currently there does not appear to be a record or document with this information in one place. This information is assumed to be needed for the new website also. Discussion led to general agreement that an org chart/list would be helpful and useful to leaders and the congregation in general. The next step was determined to be developing a draft document. Tom Clapham volunteered to develop a draft org chart/list of staff/leaders/teams and submit to session for review.
- c. Review of Undershepherding Framework document, dated December 2015: Tom Clapham suggested the Gashland EPC Undershepherding Framework document dated December 10, 2015 may need to be revised and/or updated or possibly replaced. Discussion centered around the need to engage in undershepherding without a checklist, and more personally from the heart. Recommendation was to take this document to Relationship Team for review and report back to session. One or more elders are using helpers as described in the document. Tom Clapham stated he has learned at least three elders possibly have not been engaged in undershepherding as recently as the 2020 calendar year.
- d. Sunday morning service seating: Derek Williams raised the issue that some members would prefer seating spread out to be able to maintain social distancing. (Recent city and CDC guidelines have relaxed social distancing requirements.) Don Vande Polder advised that this issue will be included in the Coordinating Team report.

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3. Team Reports

- a. Worship Team – Worship Team met on April 27. Pentecost is Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Also on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Caleb Mason will be recognizing the youth who are graduating. There has been a request to restart the Bell Choir. On the Sunday before Memorial Day, Chris Schupp will be playing the bag pipes at both services. Also reported was the rumped carpet at the south entry vestibule on the lower level.
- b. Outreach Team – The toilet paper drive for City Union Mission will end on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Joyce Grady has been using her van as a collection point recently on Sunday mornings. On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, City Union Mission will have a truck come for final pick up. Hillcrest Ministries: One of the senior leaders, Rachel Hollenberger who has been there for 16 years, is leaving for a position with the State of Missouri. Eleos is being considered for continued mission support. This support is planned to be funded from the current year's budget.
- c. Relationship Team – Dallas Reeve reported the Men's Ministry leaders would like to promote and initiate a Dave Ramsey money manage course, open to the congregation as well as people outside of GEPC, as an outreach effort. Discuss led to the idea to consult with Outreach team as a possible supporting ministry. The license cost is \$2800 for a year, or \$130 per family. Dallas Reeve will contact Outreach team to gage interest in support of the idea. Also reported was a follow up on the Spring Extravaganza; it turned out to be well timed and appreciated by those who attended.
- d. Discipleship Team – No report/did not meet since last the session meeting.  
Mark Lancaster raised the question of which account will the new playground equipment be charge to. Since session approved the funding outside of the annual budget, session should direct where the funds will come from, such as memorial funds, general operating budget, or other. Mark Lancaster will contact Finance Team to inquire where the playground cost will be accounted for. Also suggested was the idea that if donations marked for the playground exceed the additional expenses, the remainder should go toward the session approved playground equipment cost.
- e. Coordinating Team – Minutes from the last Coordinating Team meeting were summarized. One member of the audit team brought forth by Coordinating Team and commissioned last month has decommitted. Coordinating brought forth the names of two additional people, and made a motion to commission Glen Tott and Amy Clapham for the audit team. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Due to updated social distancing guide lines, Coordinating team will be reviewing and updating the current requirements for GEPC in the coming week and will distribute that update. Some seating in both Sunday morning services will be maintained for social distancing. For Nominating team Aaron Kleinmeyer will contact previous elder Peter Marshall to obtain the process flow chart as the first step in starting the nominating process. A congregational meeting will be needed to vote on new Nominating team members as it is believed the two-year term of the current team has expired. Don Vande Polder will begin attending the Deacon's meetings as the elder representative and Deacon Barry Cooper will begin to be invited to the Coordinating Team meetings as the Deacon representative.

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4. Clerk's Report

- a. Minutes from the April 2021 Session Meeting were approved with the following exceptions. For item D.1.b Church Website Development, 1) strike the word "expertise" relating to Tom Clapham's input and 2) Mock-up screen shots were provided by Ritchey Cable (instead of Tom Clapham).
- b. The next Session meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. via ZOOM and in person.
- c. General Assembly is June 22-25, which may be attended virtually or in person by up to four elders in addition to both pastors. Registration is required.
- d. General Assembly Commissioner Election and Certification is required by May 15.

E. **CONSENT REPORTS:**

1. The Deacons Meeting Minutes have not been received by session for at least the last two months. Pastor Cable will request at the next Deacon's meeting that the 2021 Deacons Meeting Minutes be forwarded to session and continue to be submitted to session on a monthly basis.
2. The Finance Team Report for April 2021 was received by Session.

F. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was moved for adjournment by Dallas Reeve, seconded by Tom Clapham, and passed with unanimous consent. Pastor Cable closed the meeting at 8:56 PM with prayer.

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Tom Clapham

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Pastor Ritchey Cable  
Moderator