



GASHLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING
MARCH 9, 2023
MINUTES

<u>Ruling Elders Present:</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
	Mark Lancaster	Tom Crossett	Mike Brink
	Dallas Reeve	Jim Langford	Tom Clapham
	Don Vande Polder	Dave Wiersma	Bob Williams

Teaching Elders Present: Pastors Morefield & Cable

Guests: Lisa Miller, Dan Scheneman, Mark Johnson

- I. **Opening prayer:** A quorum was determined present; Pastor Cable called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with prayer at 6:30 p.m.
- II. **Adoption of Agenda:** A motion was made to adopt the agenda with the change of moving the New Business item regarding women's ministry to the first item of business after the adoption of the agenda. A voice vote was held. Motion passed unanimously.
- III. **Pastor's Reports:**
 - A. Senior Pastor:
 1. Easter Schedule: April 2 - Palm Sunday
April 5 – No (Wed. night) Conversations
April 6 – Maundy Thursday service
April 7 – Good Friday service
April 9 – Easter Sunday, Three services: Sunrise, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
 2. Prayer Vigil is planned similar to what has been done in the past.
 3. Mark Johnson (who was a strong elder candidate) is attending as a guest and may do so periodically to gain an understanding of how session operates.
 4. Pastor Cable explained how anyone from the congregation may attend session meetings, except for times of executive session.
 5. Funding from the Debt Free in '23 campaign – some members are continuing with their campaign pledges even though the debt is paid in full. Finance team has advised there has been approximately \$30k given beyond the debt amount. The first capital project to be funded is new sign panels on the N. Oak sign. Bids are anticipated to be in a range of \$1500 to \$2700, depending on scope (inclusion of lighting). Pastor Cable welcomed a motion to fund this project. Bob Williams made a motion to approve funding for new sign panels



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not to exceed \$3000. Dallas Reeve seconded the motion. A voice vote was held and the motion passed unanimously. A motion was received from Worship team to approve \$2286 to fund the redecorating of the Mother's room on the north side of the Ministry Center. A voice vote was held, and the motion passed unanimously. Follow up comments centered around contingency funds. Don Vande Polder made a motion to change the Mother's Room redecorating funding limit from \$2286 to an amount not to exceed \$3000. A voice vote was held, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Associate Pastor:

1. Maundy Thursday service update – Pastor Morefield shared plans for this service.
2. Member Roles – Updated undershepherding lists were handed out. Some adjustments were made as an effort to realign groups based on number of members per group. Pastor Morefield made a motion to approve the updated lists. Dallas Reeve seconded the motion. A voice vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Missions Committee update: New policies are being developed. The new direction is going well. The next step is to complete an audit of current missions being supported.

IV. **Calendar Items:**

- A. Participants for the April Presbytery Meeting: The meeting will be held April 26 in Columbia, MO. Up to four elders may attend. Both Pastors Cable and Morefield are planning to attend, so two Ruling Elders may also attend.

V. **Business Reports and Discussion:**

A. Old Business:

1. Memorial Fund definition: Mark Lancaster gave a status update on the memorial fund. Approximately one-half of the current memorial funds are not specified for a specific use. Mark provide the current and proposed definitions as follows:



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Current Definition: Memorial Gifts are those given to the Church by families and/or friends for the purpose of providing some tangible items or projects having some degree of permanence and which shall be a physical memorial to the person in whose name the gifts were given. Those monetary gifts shall be deposited in the Memorial Fund.

Proposed Definition: Memorial Gifts are those given to the Church by families and/or friends in the memory of the named person for a specific ministry team (e.g., Worship, Discipleship, Mercy) and purpose, or for general use at GEPC. These monetary gifts shall be deposited in the Memorial Fund. Gift use shall be approved by Session.

Mark Lancaster made a motion to accept the proposed definition of Memorial Gifts. Tom Crossett seconded the motion. A voice vote was held after discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. New Business:

1. Women's ministry – women feeling disconnected/isolated. Lisa Miller shared the idea of the Stephen Ministry and asked where that ministry idea should be considered. Pastor Cable advised that it should go to the Mercy team within deacons for discussion. Discussion about women feeling isolated and disconnected lead to the overarching idea that this may be for the congregation as a whole, more of a church issue than just a women's issue. Discussion led to the following action items.
 - Pastors and session will continue to think about this issue
 - The group consisting of Dan Sheneman, Dallas Reeve, Mark Lancaster, and Pastors Cable and Morefield will evaluate the issue, and start thinking through and developing an action plan and report back to women's ministry.
2. Pastoral Intern (Lake McGinty) Tuition: Jim Langford made the following motion: Use \$3000 from memorial funds given in the name of Lila Langford to pay for tuition for the next two terms for Lake McGinty's seminary tuition.



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Seconded by Don Vande Polder. After discussion, a voice vote was held.
The motion passed unanimously.

C. Team Reports

1. Worship team: Reported on Easter schedule and the Mother's room (see Pastor's Report). Dave Wiersma reported on communion for shut ins.
2. Outreach Team: Bob Williams reported there is a plan to locate a missions donation box on both levels (currently there is only a donation box on the main level).
3. Relationships Team: Dallas Reeved reported on and provided a handout on the idea of "Friendship partners", which would be existing members matched up with new members to help new members get engaged. The team also has a sense of an approaching period of growth and encouraged the idea of being prepared for that.
4. Discipleship Team: Will be highlighting areas of service this month.
5. Coordinating Team: Don Vande Polder reported the team working on terminating the unneeded water meter, advised of the drainage easement for KC storm water, and that Steve Moberg (HR team member) will be reviewing and approving Pastor Cable's expense reports.

D. Clerk's Report

1. January and February 2023 session meeting minutes: Both January and February were approved and accepted as written.
2. Amos house – An email was received from a property team member who received an inquiry from a neighbor about purchasing the Amos house property or part of the property. Mark Lancaster, who is on the property team, advised property team is not in favor of selling the property or part of the property.
3. Next Session Meeting: Apr. 13, at 6:30 p.m.

E. Consent Reports

1. Deacon's Report: Received.
2. Financial Report: Received.



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VI. Adjournment and Closing Prayer:

Dallas Reeve made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Tom Crossett. Motion passed. Pastor Cable closed the meeting with prayer at 8:30 p.m.

Tom Clapham, Clerk of Session

Pastor Ritchey Cable, Moderator