

Session Minutes
Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church
August 11, 2016

A meeting of the Session of Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church was held at 6:30 PM on Thursday, August 11, 2016 by tele-conference.

Elders:	<u>Class of 2016</u>	<u>Class of 2017</u>	<u>Class of 2018</u>
	Mark Lancaster	Mark Blakley (Excused)	Aaron Kleinmeyer
	Dallas Reeve	Dennis King	Larry Harris
	Chris Taylor	Don Vande Polder	Roy Stewart

Session Moderator: Pastor Ritchey Cable

- A. **Prayer:** Elder Lancaster opened the meeting with prayer.
- B. **Agenda Adoption – (changes to agenda should be made at this time):** The agenda was amended to omit the teaching from the book “Pastors Are People Too”, delete the Finance Team Report as that team reports to the Deacons and add a discussion item on first service worship leader. The amended agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.
- C. **Pastors’ Report:**
1. Pastor Ritchey provided an update on his planning for the fall teaching and preaching series.
 2. Marilyn Jennings will not return to her position in the office after her maternity leave. The position has been posted to accept applications.
- D. **Discussion Agenda:**
1. First Service Worship Leader Position – Larry Harris excused himself from the discussion of the item by signing out of the tele-conference. Pastor Cable reported that several applications have been received, interviews conducted and arrangements made for applications to meet with and rehearse with the choir. Pastor Cable presented a motion from the search committee to appoint Larry Harris as interim 1st Service Worship Leader until such time as the position is filled and for Larry to be compensated at the rate of \$50 per week as has been done in the past under similar circumstances.

****Motion – The above described First Service Worship Leader Search Committee motion was moved from the floor by Dennis King, second by Don Vande Polder. All – Yes. Motion passed.***

Larry returned to the tele-conference and was informed of the decision.

2. The Amos House policy and use was reviewed by the Outreach Team at its most recent meeting. Roy Stewart reported that the Team has confirmed their vision for the property as being for the use of visiting pastors, missionaries, ministry workers and seminary students. Several people have been lined up to use the house in the coming months. The Team had considered the possibility of using the house for other uses such as temporary and transitional housing for people not in ministry, but ultimately decided to maintain the current policy.
3. Metro Life Church (MLC) has given notice that they will terminate their lease with us effective August 28th. Lease terms obligate them to pay rent through the end of September

since a 60 day notice was not given. The Coordinating Team submitted the following motion:

***Motion** – GEPC will return to Metro Life Church the \$2000 deposit on file and not seek rent payment from MLC for September. All –yes. **Motion passed.**

Mark Lancaster will communicate the Session decision to Metro Life Church and Finance Team.

4. Mark Lancaster led a discussion about future leasing of space to other ministry entities. There was general agreement that future lease arrangement should be considered on a case by case basis as the opportunity was presented but that we would not actively pursue any lease arrangement at this time. Pastor Ritchey offered a pray for the ministry of MLC.
5. Dennis King advised the Session of a new on-line background check system being used by GEPC for staff and ministry partners. Dennis recommended that all elders and deacons also undergo thru background check process and will submit an email link to the website for all elders and deacons to use to complete the process.

E. **Ministry Team Reports:**

1. Session Meeting minutes of July 14, 2016 were approved by as submitted.
2. Ministry Team Reports:
 - a. *Worship Team* – Peter Marshall, Stewardship Team, will be presenting the “Treasures” devotional on October 2 with study guide available after both services. A ministry focus for August will be on the EPC denomination with encouragement for members to support EPC thru per member asking donations of \$23 for the denomination and \$18 for the presbytery. Each ministry team will asked to make a presentation during Wednesday night Conversations this fall and winter highlighting how they see God using their team to help implement the ministry focus for the coming year.
 - b. *Outreach Team* – Outreach will be hosting a “Karnival Kickoff” on August 20 as a follow up the Kampout event in July. The Karnival will include games, food and many activities for the neighborhood. Students/parents who attended Kampout will be invited to attend. Church members will be encouraged to assist with making this event a success. Plans are being made to invite the parents of the students who attended Kampout to a parents gathering this fall. Focus will be on helping them find a church home for those currently un-churched. Future theme meetings are being planned for these parents.
 - Outreach Team will also be hosting a City Union Mission graduation on Nov. 15 and a Christmas meal on a yet to be determined date.
 - c. *Relationship Team* – A fall festival is being planned for mid-October
 - d. *Discipleship Team* – Michael has planned a meeting with parents and youth to outline the planned confirmation process for membership with a class to be offered in the fall.
 - e. *Coordinating Team* –The Team announced that they plan to purchase AED’s for the church and to implement annual training for authorized users.
 - Marilyn Jennings has announced her last day on staff as August 26th.
 - First Service Worship Leader interviews are proceeding with another applicant set to meet with the choir on Wednesday, August 17th.

3. Clerk’s Report:

- a. Clerk received the 2015 Audit Committee report on behalf of Session. Mark Lancaster will communicate to the Audit Team the Session intent to schedule the report for discussion at the September Session meeting .
- b. Next meeting date – Session on September 8th at 6:30 PM.
Combined Deacon/Session on September 13th at 6:00 PM.

F. **Consent Report:**

- 1. Deacons Report – July 12, 2016 report was received and accepted.
- 2. Financial Report – The July 31, 2016 financial report was received and accepted.

G. **Adjournment of Session Meeting:**

Elder Vande Polder moved, seconded by Elder Harris, to adjourn the meeting. All yes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM with prayer by Don Vande Polder.

Paul Weatherford
Clerk of Session

Pastor Ritchey Cable
Moderator