

Session Minutes
Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church
July 14, 2016

A meeting of the Session of Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church was held at 6:30 PM on Thursday, July 14, 2016 at the church.

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

Session Moderator: Pastor Ritchey Cable

- A. **Prayer:** Pastor Michael Morefield opened the meeting with prayer.
- B. **Agenda Adoption – (changes to agenda should be made at this time):** Mark Lancaster requested addition of a discussion of “Members” to the agenda (item #3). The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent with added item 3 to the Discussion Agenda.
- C. **Pastors’ Report:**
1. Pastor Ritchey provided an update on his vacation stating it was a renewing trip. He was able to get much needed rest and thanked everyone for their prayers and protection of his time while away.
 2. Marilyn continues to face challenges in her pregnancy and may soon be required to bed rest. Elder Lancaster led prayer for Marilyn and the church staff.
 3. The fall sermon series continues to evolve with more details to be shared at the next meeting.
 4. Pastor Ritchey and Pastor Will, of Metro Life, will be offering a prayer time together for both churches on Wednesday, July 20 at 6:30 pm in the Ministry Center. Prayer will be focused on the various incidents which have recently taken place throughout the country with our law enforcement officials.
 5. Kampout was a huge success with 110 students attending for the week with nearly 75% having no connection to GEPC. Follow up phone calls are being made to these students/parents by Pastors Ritchey and Michael along with Rachael. Other avenues of follow up can be read in the Outreach minutes of July 12th.
 6. Pastor Michael also stated the Kampout had 60 students receive scholarship assistance. He received much positive feedback from the parents regarding the Kampout. The staff also learned much from the Kampout leaders for future VBS events.
 7. The high school trip to Colorado went well. Pastor Michael stated this was one of the best trips he has ever attended and was very encouraged with the teaching and leadership of the Reformed Youth Ministries staff.
 8. Pastor Michael will be meeting with the parents of our youth on August 28th to explain the confirmation process.

D. Discussion Agenda:

1. Elder Taylor led discussion from the book “Pastors are People Too” being discussed by Session. The chapter was called “24-Hour Pastor” and focused on the challenges pastors have with continually being on call and the label attached with being a pastor. Discussion was held on how to help Pastors Ritchey and Michael balance their time as pastors with having a healthy personal time for family and themselves. Elder Harris will lead the next chapter at the August meeting.
2. Pastor Ritchey read a letter forwarded to Session from Tom & Amy Clapham. Following reading of the letter, Session approved having Elders Stewart and Kleinmeyer become members of the nominating committee and to begin putting a calendar together to have the process be completed earlier in the year than has occurred in past years. A list with the names of the church leadership will be posted on the church website along with other postings throughout the church so members can readily identify our leadership. Session will be scheduling a special meeting to discuss their request about women in leadership within GEPC.
3. Elder Lancaster led discussion on the draft of the current active members who need to be moved to inactive status. A couple names were added and/or removed. Elder Lancaster will make the revisions and send the final list to the Session clerk to be entered into the membership rolls. Elder Lancaster moved, seconded by Elder Reeve, to accept the new members from the most recent class retroactive to our June, 2016 session meeting. All yeas. Motion carried. Outreach Committee will find method to make contact with members who have left GEPC over the past 8-10 years to invite them back to the church if they do not currently have a church home.

E. Ministry Team Reports:

1. Session Meeting minutes of June 12, 2016 were approved by unanimous voice as submitted.
2. Ministry Team Reports:
 - a. *Worship Team* – Stewardship team will be presenting “Treasures” on July 31st. Wednesday, September 14 each team will present their “Dreams” for the year. Team recommended that Session consider a capital campaign for 2017. Coordinating Team will take the lead on researching the development of this campaign.
 - b. *Outreach Team* – Team minutes for July were received and accepted. Additionally, Outreach will be hosting a “Karnival Kickoff” on August 20th. 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.
 - c. *Relationship Team* – No meeting scheduled.
 - d. *Discipleship Team* – No meeting scheduled.
 - e. *Coordinating Team* – No meeting scheduled. Interviews with candidates for the Music Ministry position will begin the week of July 18th.
3. Clerk’s Report: No Clerk’s report was presented.

F. Consent Report:

1. Deacons Report – Report was received and accepted.
2. Financial Report – The June 30, 2016 financial report was received and accepted.

G. **Adjournment of Session Meeting:**

Elder Stewart moved, seconded by Elder Harris, to adjourn the meeting. All yeas. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:24 pm.

H. **Closing Prayer:**

Elder Stewart let the group in closing prayer.

Dennis King
For Paul Weatherford
Clerk of Session

Pastor Ritchey Cable
Moderator