

Session Minutes
Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church
January 12, 2017

A meeting of the Session of Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church was held at 6:30 PM on Thursday, January 12, 2017 at the church.

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 (Excused)
	Chris Taylor	Don Vande Polder	Roy Stewart

Session Moderator: Pastor Ritchey Cable

- A. **Prayer:** Pastor Ritchey 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. **2017 Budget presentation:** Phil Josephson and Ethan Funk, of the Finance Team, presented a draft of the 2017 budget proposal. Following discussion, a couple minor adjustments were made to the proposed budget. Elder Dallas Reeve made a motion, seconded by Elder Roy Stewart, to approve the 2017 amended budget. All yeas. Budget approved. Budget will be presented to the congregation at the congregation meeting on January 29, 2017. Phil asked that the Session continue their discussions regarding the development of a Capital Campaign for 2017 to address some of the long-term capital needs for the church.
- D. **Pastors’ Report:**
 1. Pastor Ritchey shared the next Presbytery meeting would be at Brookdale Church in St. Joseph on January 27-28, 2017. Pastors Ritchey & Michael will be attending along with Elders Kleinmeyer and Stewart. Elder Taylor also may attend if his work schedule allows.
 2. Pastor Ritchey shared the 2017 General Assembly will be in Sacramento, California from June 20-23, 2017. Currently only Pastor Ritchey will be attending on behalf of GEPC as Pastor Michael has a commitment with the church youth at that time. Elders are reviewing their calendars to determine if any may be able to join Pastor Ritchey.
- E. **Discussion Agenda:**
 1. Elder King led discussion from the book “Pastors are People Too” being discussed by Session. The chapter was called “Pastor Compensation” and focused on elements a church should consider in compensating their pastors and staff. Discussion was held on how GEP currently compensates our pastors and staff as compared to the recommendations from the book chapter. Session asked both pastors to share their feedback on how they are cared for by the church. Both felt well-cared for at this time. Elder Vande Polder will lead the next chapter at the February meeting.
 2. Elder Kleinmeyer provided an update on the elders and deacons identified by the Nominating Committee to be presented to the congregation for approval at the congregational meeting on January 29, 2017. Elders being brought forward are Mike Brink, Dave Smith, and Derek Williams. Deacons are Steve Stalder and Rob Stegeman.

3. Pastor Michael provided an update on the entry status of the church rolls. Several members' information remains missing. Elders will complete the remaining forms by the end of February.
4. Discussion on how the undershepherding teams will transition to the new elders. Pastor Ritchey shared the out-going elders will remain with the teams they currently shepherd. The in-coming elders will be assigned to their new flocks at the February meeting.

F. **Ministry Team Reports:**

1. Session Meeting minutes of December 8, 2016 were approved by unanimous voice as submitted.
2. Ministry Team Reports:
 - a. *Worship Team* – Meeting was postponed
 - b. *Outreach Team* – Team minutes for January were received. Elder King shared that a list of former GEPC members has been developed. The current list has 28 former families who the team does not know if they have found a new church home. A team will be contacting these families to determine if they have a church home and invite them to visit GEPC if not.
 - c. *Relationship Team* – Elder Taylor shared the “logic” model for the team as an evaluation tool has been completed. He offered his assistance to any other team should they wish to have a similar model developed. He asked that each team provide him a name for their primary contact as members go through ReShape.
 - d. *Discipleship Team* – Matt Martinie has accepted the role as the leader for the Adult Education team. Elder Lancaster will be leading conversations in March-April using “The Pilgrim’s Progress” as the focus. Pastor Ritchey will be working with a small group during this time to assist those to disciple a specific individual each has identified who they would like to bring to Christ.
 - e. *Coordinating Team* – Team will be providing template for each team to use as a guide for any agenda item discussed to ensure we retain focus on the MD ministry care areas. A communication will go out to each team on how each can better utilize the features within Church Community Builder (CCB). Each team was asked to provide a brief summary of their 2016 achievements by January 23 for the 2016 Annual Report. A recommendation which will be discussed at the February meeting is to invite a deacon to future Session meetings as a representative. Session discussed agenda for Congregational meeting on January 29, 2017. Elder Vande Polder will host next elder gathering.
3. Clerk’s Report: No Clerk’s report was presented.

G. **Consent Report:**

1. Deacons Report – December 13, 2016 report was received and accepted.
2. Financial Report – December 31, 2016 financial report was received and accepted.

Prayer time for out-going Elders: Session thanked Elders Harris, Reeve, and Taylor for their service as Elders. All laid hands on them in a time of prayer.

H. **Adjournment of Session Meeting:**

Elder Taylor moved, seconded by Elder Kleinmeyer, to adjourn the meeting. All yeas. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:57 pm.

I. **Closing Prayer:**

Pastor Michael led the group in closing prayer.

Dennis King
For Paul Weatherford
Clerk of Session

Pastor Ritchey Cable
Moderator