

**Session Minutes**  
**Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
**February 8, 2018**

The monthly meeting of the Session of the Gashland EPC was held at the church on Thursday, February 8, 2018.

**Elders attending:** Mark Lancaster, Dennis King, Aaron Kleinmeyer, Chris Taylor, Peter Marshall, Dave Smith, Mark Blakely, Jeff VanDerWeele and Mike Brink.

**Moderator:** Senior Pastor Ritchey Cable. Also attending was Associate Pastor Michael Morefield.

- A. The meeting was opened with prayer by Ritchey Cable.
- B. A quorum was confirmed and the agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.
- C. **Pastor's Report:**
  - a. Ritchey Cable reported the dates for the Retreat will be March 2-3 and the location will be announced soon.
  - b. A pre-Retreat workshop agenda is being developed.
  - c. Peter Marshall, Jeff VanDerWeele and Debbie Ellison are to be installed on Sunday, February 11, 2018.
  - d. Ritchey reported on his attending Pastor Serve and said 350-400 persons attended.
  - e. Michael Morefield said his comments would be included in the Outreach and Discipleship Team reports.
- D. **Business Reports and Discussion:**
  - 1. **Old Business:**
    - a. Follow-up to Finance Team request: Date for the meeting has not been set to discuss potential use of the cash excess for maintenance reserves or debt reduction.
    - b. Emergency Preparedness: Dennis King and Dave Smith will meet prior to the March Session meeting to clarify the next steps to be taken and will report at the March meeting.
  - 2. **New Business:**
    - a. February Congregational Meeting in 2019: In response to requests from members to be able to review the financial statement prior to the annual congregation meeting, there was discussion on the possible delay of next year's congregational meeting until February in order to have the financial report available ahead of the

meeting. A motion by Mark Lancaster, seconded by Chris Taylor, to hold the 2019 congregational meeting on February 10, 2018, was carried.

- b. Trustee Meeting and Election of Officers: There was discussion relative to the requirements and duties of the Trustees of the corporation as set out in the Book of Order. Since members of the Session are Trustees, it was decided by unanimous consent that Session meetings can also function as meetings of the Trustees. Mark Lancaster was elected as President of the Trustees; Dennis King was elected Vice-President and Paul Weatherford was elected Clerk.
  - c. Review of Elder Duties: Mark Lancaster led a review of the duties of Elders as set out in the Book of Order. The discussion also reviewed the organizational structure of the Board of Deacons, including required officers. Further, it was mentioned that the Clerk is required to submit annually to the Presbytery the minutes of Session meetings. The Clerk is to assure GEPC is in compliance with this requirement.
- 3. Team Reports:**
- a. Worship: Ritchey Cable said there is a need for the Personnel and Coordinating Teams to meet with the Worship Team to review the schedule and scope of Christmas activities. Jeff VanDerWeele suggested The Apostles Creed be scheduled for inclusion in worship services in a timely manner.
  - b. Outreach: Aaron Kleinmeyer reported the goal of having a plan by June for a short-term Mission trip in 2019. He said the dates for the sports camp for ages 5-12 will be June 4-8. Michael Morefield said the connection with Gashland Elementary School is going well and that the school officials would welcome members to visit the school prior to the commencement of morning classes for prayer time. Plans for neighborhood outreach are still ongoing.
  - c. Relationship: Mark Blakely said he wanted to speak positively about his experience with Christmas caroling this past season. He said it was an uplifting experience and he hopes to create greater emphasis for caroling in 2019. He asked that the choir be encouraged to participate in the future caroling. Game night will be April 7 with child care being provided in the hope that will encourage greater participation from parents with young children. Two other events are being planned; the first being a campfire outing on March 9 at Mark Lancaster's farm.
  - d. Discipleship: Michael Morefield reported that with the updating of the library being completed, usage has increased. He reported that 200 persons have signed up for the Read the Bible in a Year program. He said there will be a prayer time set aside during the Sunday School hour each Sunday in March in the Chapel. Michael also reported there will be two fundraisers for camp funding; one in February and one in March.

- e. **Coordinating:** Dennis King reported this committee is to meet on February 20. Regarding the Girl Scout program, Dennis requested input from other teams for suggestions as to what services the Girl Scouts might provide for the church.
- 4. **Clerk's report:** The minutes of the January Session meeting were approved. The minutes of the congregational meeting of January 28 were approved.
- 5. **Deacon's Report:** There was no report from the Deacons.
- E. **Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Chris Taylor, seconded by Dave Smith. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40. The meeting was closed with prayer by Ritchey Cable.

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Jim Carney  
Acting Clerk

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Ritchey Cable  
Moderator