

**Session Minutes**  
**Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
**April 12, 2018**

A meeting of the Gashland EPC Session was held at 6:34 PM on April 12, 2018 at the church.

<u>Elders:</u>	<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>
	Aaron Kleinmeyer	Mike Brink (excused)	Peter Marshall (excused)
	Chris Taylor	Mark Lancaster	Mark Blakley
	Jeff Vander Wee	David Smith	Dennis King

**Session Moderator:** Pastor Cable moderated the meeting. Pastor Morefield was also in attendance.

- A. PRAYER:** David Smith opened the meeting with prayer after the Clerk of Session confirmed a quorum of the Session membership was present.
- B. AGENDA ADOPTION:** The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.
- C. PASTOR'S REPORT:**
1. Pastor Cable reported to the Session that he desired to meet individually with each Elder in the coming weeks to encourage and help strengthen their relationship through his role as under-shepherd to each of them. He circulated an appointment calendar for each Elder to use in identifying time availability to meet with him in the coming weeks.
  2. Pastor Cable shared information about four books he recommended for possible study by the Session. After discussion of the books, Session agreed to study "Gospel Shaped Mercy" by Stephen Um. They will plan to watch a video introduction of the book to prepare in advance of discussion of the challenge presented in the book and then meet to discuss formulation of a specific action to be taken by our church in response to the book.
  3. Pastor Cable will be attending the Presbytery meeting April 24th.
  4. Pastor Cable informed Session that EPC General Assembly meeting was scheduled for June 19-23 in Memphis. He will be attending along with Pastor Morefield. He encouraged the Elders to examine their schedules and consider attending as well if possible.
  5. Pastor Cable reported that he would be preaching on Romans 12:3-8 on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, emphasizing the importance of the various gifts given to the church for carrying out the ministry of the Gospel and the importance of each individual utilizing their gifts in support of the church ministry. The Reshape spiritual gift evaluation program has been modified and reorganized into a shorter evaluation process that allows immediate results and feedback and takes only about 20 minutes to fill out on-line. The new assessment program has been renamed Reshape Today to reflect this change and will be introduced to the congregation on April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- D. BUSINESS REPORTS and DISCUSSION:**
1. **Old Business/follow-up items –**
    - a. Session Retreat Ministry Team Action Items – Pastor Cable encouraged each Elder to share the conclusions of the Session retreat in March with the members of their respective ministry teams and begin development of an action item for their Team to implement in response to the 2018 Mission vision to grow in initial ministry care to those in our church and community.
    - b. A meeting has been set up to discuss the GEPC 2017 Audit Team so that the Team can be commissioned to begin its work.
  2. **New Business**
    - a. **GEPC Prayer Ministry** – Mark Lancaster led the Session in discussion of congregational prayer and how to make that a more vibrant ministry in the church. He read Act 2:42, emphasizing the practice of the early church devoting themselves to prayer. Discussion focused on an evaluation of ourselves and GEPC in the practice of prayer, how we see that being carried out now and how we can foster and instill

prayer as a more vibrant ministry in our church. The Discipleship Team has been given responsibility for shepherding the prayer ministry in the church.

**b. Gashland Elementary School** – Pastor Morefield gave an update on the ministry outreach efforts at the school. April 22<sup>nd</sup> will mark the official ministry rollout with various service and ministry opportunities being presented to the congregation. The opportunities will vary in terms of time commitment and focus, with much variety to encourage some level of commitment from as many church members as possible.

**3. Ministry Team Reports**

**a. Worship Team** – Pastor Cable gave the team report. The team reviewed the Session Retreat conclusions and discussed possible action items that would enhance worship and incorporate specific prayer for the community into the life of the church.

**b. Outreach Team** – Aaron Kleinmeyer reported that the Outreach Team had not yet discussed the Session retreat conclusions, but his desire for the Team and the congregation is to move people from being givers of good to givers of themselves.

**c. Relationship Team** – Mark Blakley reported there more than 50 people in attendance at the recent family game night at the church. The team discussed ways to encourage more attendance at fellowship gatherings by use of social media tools and providing childcare. He gave an update on the upcoming all church picnic in June and sign-ups for summer socials.

**d. Discipleship Team** – Pastor Morefield reported that the team had not yet discussed the Session retreat conclusions. He reported that the team is developing a family discipleship guide, an adult discipleship program and considering a spiritual disciplines Sunday School class for the summer.

**e. Coordinating Team** – Dennis King reported that the Team is working to establish an electronic administrative library to archive administrative policies and procedures. They are also re-forming an IT Team which will address wireless connectivity throughout the church campus, maintain an IT inventory with planned upgrades and replacement, and update policies and procedures. The Team also conducted safety and security training for the church staff and First Team members and will be scheduling a site security survey to be conducted by the Police department.

**4. Clerk's Report -**

**a.** The minutes of the March 2018 Session meeting, having been provided to the Session electronically for review prior to the meeting, were summarized and approved by unanimous voice vote.

**b.** The next Session Meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2018 at 6:00 PM at the Church. This a joint meeting with the Deacons, sponsored by the Session.

**c.** The EPC Annual report was filed by the Clerk on March 31, 2018. A copy is attached to these Minutes and was presented for Session review.

**d.** The Clerk reported on the Presbytery review of the GEPC Session minutes for 2017 and noted several areas for improvement in documenting the Session's actions. That report was made available for Session review and has been inserted into the Session Minutes archive book at the end of the 2017 minutes.

**E. CONSENT REPORTS:**

**1. Board of Deacons** – March 2018 minutes received.

**2. Financial Report** – March 2018 financial report received.

**F. ADJOURNMENT:**

The Session meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M. upon motion of Mark Lancaster, seconded by Mark Blakley. Pastor Cable closed the meeting with prayer.

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Paul Weatherford  
Clerk of Session

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Pastor Ritchey Cable  
Moderator