

**Session Minutes**  
**Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church**  
**December 13, 2018**

A meeting of the Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church Session was held on December 13, 2018 at 5:35 PM at the church.

<b><u>Elders:</u></b>	<u>Class of 2018</u>	<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>
	Aaron Kleinmeyer	Mike Brink	Peter Marshall
	Chris Taylor	Mark Lancaster	Mark Blakley
	Jeff Van Der Weele	David Smith	Dennis King

Pastor Michael Morefield was excused and Elder Elect Derek Williams (Class of 2021) was in attendance.

**Session Moderator:** Pastor Cable called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM after confirming a quorum was present.

**PRAYER:** Aaron Kleinmeyer offered prayer for the group and the decisions to be made during the meeting.

**A. AGENDA ADOPTION:** The agenda was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**B. PASTOR'S REPORT:**

1. Book discussion, "Gospel Shaped Ministry" by Stephen Um, "Diversity". Pastor Cable asked that this discussion be postponed until the January Session meeting and that Elders be prepared to discuss this topic along with what next steps should be taken in ministry at GEPC in response to what we have learned about ourselves during the study of Stephen Um's book.
2. Pastor Cable led a discussion of concerns and protocols that should help guide our ministry to those attending our services now that we have begun a more active outreach to the homeless population near our church. He tasked the Safety Team with establishing some policy and procedural guidelines for those concerns.
3. Pastor Cable provided Session with a general outline of his proposed sabbatical leave in 2019. He will make a formal request in January for sabbatical leave in 2019. The proposed sabbatical will address the following goals and objectives for Pastor Cable, his family and the Church:
  - Strengthen and renew his personal spiritual growth
  - Strengthen and grow his marital relationship
  - Strengthen and grow his family spiritually and relationally
  - Strengthen and grow him personally outside of ministry

Pastor Cable was then excused from the meeting to attend to a personal, family obligation. The meeting continued with Elder Chris Taylor moderating.

**C. BUSINESS REPORTS and DISCUSSION:**

1. **Old Business/follow-up items – None.**

2. **New Business –**

**a. Membership Roll Update** – Mark Lancaster led a discussion of the members who should be removed from the church roll, moved to inactive status or returned to active status from inactive. Each Elder gave input as to the status of each person on the list assigned to their respective under-shepherding group. The Session took the following action:

***\*Move to Inactive Roll – Paul and Jennifer Binner; Carli Boen; Michael Douthat; Dave and Kaci Kennedy; Chad and Heidi Lane; Polly McCann.***

***\*Remove from Church Roll – Bill Booth; Dale, Sandi, Cooper, Garrison and Rio Brown; Dan and Natalie Clair; Paul and Peggy Delury; Mike and Maggie Martinie; Samantha Schmitz; Chandler and Sam***

**Smith; Dorothy Sweet; Robert and Jenny Yocklin. A letter will be sent to those people designated for removal from the Church roll.**

**b. Christmas Eve Offering** – The Outreach Team recommends designating this year’s offering to the EPC Disaster Relief Fund to benefit California wildfire victims. This recommendation was in the form of a motion from the Team, no second required. A voice vote was held –

**\*All Yes – Motion passed!**

**c. Gashland Elementary School Lunch Money** – The Outreach Team proposed funding a shortage in the school lunch fund for those children unable to afford lunch. Permission was sought to make an announcement from the pulpit on December 16<sup>th</sup>, collect donations on that day and give the money to the school the next week prior to the end of the school semester. After discussion, the Outreach Team agreed to fund the need from their own 2018 budget with funds already designated for community outreach.

**d. Communion for Shut-ins** – Jeff Van Der Weele gave an update on this ministry and his meeting with the Team that has been shepherding this ministry. There are currently ten shut-ins receiving communion, most on a quarterly basis. Jeff noted that the Team was appreciative of and receptive to the oversight and involvement of the Session with this ministry.

**c. Gift Cards** – Dave Smith expressed concern about a recent Church sponsored ministry asking specific individuals to provide donations and gift cards as Christmas gifts for clients of the ministry and the accountability for those gifts. The specific ministry involved has internal financial accountability measures in place that are part of the ministry which helped to assuage these concerns.

**2. Ministry Team Reports –**

**a. Worship Team** – This team reported on the Advent schedule, completion of their ministry library and plans for incorporating the Apostle’s Creed into the worship services.

**b. Outreach Team** – The planned mission trip to Guatemala in March has been fully funded for all participants.

**c. Relationship Team** –The Re-Shape Today ministry is planned to be incorporated into the sermon on December 30th. The Nursery ministry will be renamed “Little Lambs” with more intentional ministry focus.

**d. Discipleship Team** – A celebration of the “Read through the Bible in a Year” initiative is being planned for January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**e. Coordinating Team** – This Team reported on recruitment of the 2018 Audit team, planned personnel evaluations, continuing work on creating a church-wide emergency response plan and subsequent staff and ministry team training in this area and recruitment of a Capital Campaign team.

**3. Clerk’s Report -**

**a.** The November 2018 Session Meeting Minutes were summarized and approved by unanimous voice vote.

**b.** The next meeting of the Session was scheduled for January 10, 2019 at 6:30 PM.

**D. CONSENT REPORTS:**

**1. Board of Deacons** – Monthly report for November 2018 received.

**2. Financial Report** – Financial report for the month of November 2018 received.

**E. ADJOURNMENT:** Dave Smith moved that the meeting adjourn, seconded by Peter Marshall. The voice vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 PM with prayer by Peter Marshall.

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Paul Weatherford  
Clerk of Session

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Pastor Ritchey Cable  
Moderator