

Session Minutes
Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church
June 13, 2019

A meeting of the Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church Session was held on June 13th at 6:37 PM at the church.

Elders:	<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
	Mike Brink (excused)	Peter Marshall	Aaron Kleinmeyer (Excused)
	Mark Lancaster	Mark Blakley (Excused)	Derek Williams
	David Smith	Dennis King	Jeff Van Der Weele

Moderator: Pastor Michael Morefield called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM after confirming a quorum.

PRAYER: Michael opened the meeting with prayer.

A. AGENDA ADOPTION: The agenda was approved by unanimous voice consent after adding item “b. Financial Status” under Old Business.

B. PASTOR’S REPORT:

1. Pastor Morefield began the meeting by discussing plans for ministry coverage while he was at General Assembly the latter part of June. Phil Pace will be preaching on June 23rd. Jeff Van Der Weele, Dennis King, David Smith and Mark Lancaster will be available during the 18th thru 21st while Michael is gone to respond to ministry and office needs.
2. Pastor Morefield announced he still needs Elder assistance with handling announcements on June 30th and July 14th.
3. Pastor Morefield shared a pastoral concern regarding an elderly church couple who may need some assistance with daily living needs and decision making on future living arrangements. The under-shepherd assigned to the couple will contact the family to offer assistance.

C. BUSINESS REPORTS and DISCUSSION:

1. Old Business/follow-up items –

- a. **Next Church** – Mark Lancaster suggested that the Session set a date for the fall planning retreat during the July Session meeting.
- b. **Financial Update** - Peter Marshall gave a report on his meeting with the Finance Team to discuss the current budget projections, cash flow and revenue projections. There are several factors impacting the current situation such as large expenditures at the start of the year for annual contracts, large snow removal costs, and many people making annual contributions later in the year as funds are disbursed from their retirement accounts. Confidence was high that the financial situation would improve during the second half of the fiscal year.

2. New Business

- a. **Little Lambs Ministry** – A proposal to remodel and upgrade the Little Lambs Ministry area is being presented to the Property Team for their review and will then be presented to the Session for consideration in July
- b. **Guest Preachers** - Three guest preachers will be preaching during Pastor Cable’s sabbatical to give Michael a break. Phil Pace will preach June 23rd, Michael’s brother Steven will preach July 7th and the third guest will be determined while Session considers whether or not they want to pay an honorarium to someone or find someone else to fill in on August 28th.
- c. **Under-Shepherding process and assignments** – Mark Lancaster asked each Elder to discuss one positive and negative aspect of their involvement with the under-shepherding program to date. The consensus was that overall we need to do a better job of connecting with people and encouraging them to participate more fully in the life and ministry of the church. On the positive side many of the Elders shared how they had been blessed by being involved with some of the members of their groups.

The following Under-shepherding assignments were made for the following people who were accepted into membership of the church at this meeting and who will be introduced to the congregation on June 23rd:

Name	Under-shepherd
Dan and Jennifer Scheneman	Mike Brink
Suzanne Whitt	David Smith
Josiah and Brittany Colle	Mark Lancaster
Nancy and Bob Williams	Jeff Van Der Weele

d. Baptisms – Pastor Morefield reported the following baptisms and been performed.

Emma Evans – May 12th **Asher Morefield – June 2nd**

e. American Flag – Pastor Morefield brought up a concern about the proper display of the flag in the sanctuary. Should it be on the stage up front, in the back or in the lobby? There was much discussion about the appropriate use and display of the flag with the consensus being that it was acceptable to have it remain on display in the back of the sanctuary but not to have it up front on the stage.

3. **Ministry Team Reports**

a. Worship Team – Jeff Van Der Weele gave a report on the serving of communion to shut-ins during the past quarter. Mike Brink gave an update on the Stewardship Team and plans to once again give periodic instruction on the various aspects of stewardship. He will make an announcement about this at both services on June 23rd.

b. Outreach Team – Mark Lancaster reported on the meeting between our church and Gashland Methodist and Baptist churches with Gashland Elementary School. The meeting was very positive and encouraging about ways the three churches can partner with the school in the fall.

c. Relationship Team – The Team did not meet this month.

d. Discipleship Team – The book of the month will be the Westminster Confession.

e. Coordinating Team – The Safety Team is in the process of providing training to the First Team in the area of safety protocol and response.

4. **Clerk's Report -**

a. The May 2019 Session minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

b. The July 2019 Session meeting was scheduled for July 9th at 6:00 PM at the church and will be a joint meeting with the Deacons.

D. **CONSENT REPORTS:**

1. **Board of Deacons** – May 2019 meeting minutes received.

2. **Financial Report** – May 2019 report received.

E. **ADJOURNMENT:**

David Smith moved that the meeting be adjourned, second by Dennis King. A voice vote to adjourn was unanimous. Pastor Morefield closed the meeting with prayer at 9:00 PM.

Paul Weatherford (Clerk)

Pastor Michael Morefield (Moderator)