



STATED MEETING OF SESSION
New Hope Presbyterian Church (EPC)
Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2022
(Combined In-person and Zoom meeting)

Our mission: To glorify God and make disciples by living out the gospel together.

Minutes

Teaching Elders:				TE	Pastor Mike Jones	P
				TE	Pastor Ben Borsay	P
Class of 2022		Active Ruling Elders Class of 2023		Class of 2024		
Steve Boutelle	P	Gayle Bundschu	P	Doug Keno		P
Sheldon Church	P	Jerry Elliott	P	Sandy Knipe		P
Sean Ellis	P	Jim Glatz	Z	Mark Myers		EA
Jerry Franz	P	Duane Higgins	A	Ken Walker		P
Ken Seim	P	Carolyn Melton	EA	Rodney Woosley		P
Bill Enslin	P	David Milligan	P			
		Kathy Orr	P			
P=In-person; Z=Zoom; EA= Excused Absence; A=Absent				Quorum		Y

Also Present: Treasurer – Chuck Knox; Staff – Ed Harger; Guests – Bob Welsh, Art Hunkins

- 1) Convened in Room 212 at 6:45 PM with a devotion by Pastor Mike and prayer by Jerry F. after the joint meeting and dinner with Deacons thanking all outgoing Deacons and Elders.
- 2) **MC (Pastor Mike/Unanimous)** approved the Minutes of the Nov. 30th Stated Session Meeting as written.
- 3) **MSC (Gayle B/Ken S/U)** to give voice to the non-elder staff and guests present.
- 4) Pastor Mike Jones (Moderator) Report
 - (a) Handed out a report prepared by Angel showing attendance and giving statistics with a “Current Structure” of the staff. (See attached) A chart showing an “Executive Team Structure” proposed to try was shown on the overhead and a copy will be provided to Session (See attached).
 - (b) The 2022 Bible Reading Plan has been promulgated and is in use.
 - (c) The February Mission Weekend is coming up Feb. 4th – 6th and Rev. Brady Hayes, our Presbytery’s church planter in Saint Augustine and EPC Church Planter, will bring the message in worship on the 6th.
 - (d) Greeters are needed for the 9:30 and 11:00 services. Elders, please consider and contact Cindy Lawrence to help with this.
 - (e) Reported he had received requests to return to using the paper Friendship Pad. After discussion, it was the consensus to begin to use the Friendship Pads again but hold off on passing the offering or communion plates for now.
 - (f) Requested four commissioners for the Feb. 18th and 19th Presbytery meeting.
MSC (Gayle B/Sean E/U) elected commissioners Elders Sheldon C., Kathy O., Bill E., and Jerry F. Bob Walsh was elected as an alternate if any cannot attend.

- (g) Announced the next General Assembly would be in Detroit on June 21-24. Doug K. indicated interest in attending.
 - (h) Asked elders to attend the retreat to be led by Pastor Ben on Feb. 12th from 9 AM to 12 PM in Room 212 and asked for an indication of who planned to attend. All present indicated they planned to attend.
- 5) Pastor Ben Borsay (Vice Moderator) Report
- (a) Stated the purpose of the upcoming retreat is to share with elders what he has learned in his time and work here and he will not be asking for any action to be taken.
 - (b) He added that he is very bullish on New Hope's future but that need we need to work on trust by:
 - (i) Getting a clear view of the past, which
 - (ii) Takes time, and
 - (iii) The elders need to be faithful in all they do. 1 Tim 3
- 6) Clerk of Session Report
- (a) Minutes of the Dec. 5th Congregational Meeting (See attached)
 - (b) Correspondence to Session from Pam Poland and Stephen Ministry (See attached). Questions were asked about the cessation of that ministry. Discussion resulted in the consensus that we allow Stephen Ministry to go "fallow" for a season until such time as the Care Network is functioning and there is a congregational response for the ministry.
 - (c) Membership Statistical Reports RptMS01 and RPT09G for November and December 2021 and Membership Committee Report of Inactive Members in lieu of RPT09H (See attached). **MSC (Gayle B/Doug K/U)** approved the removal of members Chris and Mindy Rutherford at their request by letter received in December. David M. explained the Membership Committee list attached and said it should be considered a possible "Dormant" members list, rather than "Inactive". He asked elders to review the list, mark through any names they know should remain as Active members and return the list to Angel by next Friday, Feb. 4th.
- 7) Standing Committee Reports
- (a) Finance Committee Report - Chuck K/Sheldon C: (See attached) Chuck pointed out that we ended the year with a surplus that will be added to the "Rainy Day Fund", and that Finance was working on developing personnel cost benchmarks relative to other churches of our size, noting our personnel costs were about 55% of our total budget. Elder David M. reminded Finance also to work on a procedure to approve capital expenditures, even if the amount was within a department's budget, to avoid in the future the issue that came up regarding the recent playground equipment purchase and installation.
 - (b) Personnel Committee Report - Bill E reported only that the committee had been working on the proposed new staff structure.
- 8) Unfinished Business – None
- 9) Other Reports – Committees/Council/Ministries Minutes & Reports
- (a) Mission/Outreach Council: Ken Seim – Nov. 15th & Dec. 13th minutes attached.

- i) Ken S. reported on the upcoming Mission Weekend that many of our mission partners will be here, particularly on Saturday, and encouraged elders to attend.
 - ii) Ken S. and Art Hunkins provided a handout (See attached) from the Council regarding the Afghan Re-settlement Program in conjunction with the Samaritan's Purse. They also showed a video provided by Samaritan's Purse about the program. They asked Session to read and pray about this program and asked if Session wants the Mission Council to proceed any further investigating the program.
MSC (David M./Bill E./U) approved the Council to move forward getting more information and report to Session in the February Stated meeting.
- (b) Property Council – Ed Harger reported that the Mission Statement wall revisions are completed, that funding for the electrical work and fans to the Room 212 canopy structure was provided recently, and that they have placed the order to get the playground finished.
 - (c) Youth Director Search Committee – Steve Boutelle reported that Jackie and the other staff and volunteers are doing a great job with the youth, citing the recent youth retreat at Lake Placid with 86 in attendance. But the search committee is not bearing a lot of fruit right now. The committee is still working and looking for ways to continue the search and asks for prayer for the search committee and for all those working with the youth now.
 - (d) Children Ministries - Debbie Norris – January report attached
 - (e) Deacons: No approved minutes since September meeting
 - (f) Early Childhood Ministries – Pam Poland – No report
 - (g) Connect Groups – Angel Dobson – No report
 - (h) Youth and Student Ministries – Jackie Elliott – No report – See Item (c) above.
 - (i) Care Network – Kathy Orr – Working, and expect to have a report in February
- 10) New Business
- (a) New Members' Testimonies & Acceptance at Connection Class Feb. 16th – Elders David M., Sean E., Rodney W., and Sheldon C. volunteered to give and hear testimonies to accept new members.
- 11) **MSC (Jerry E/Doug K/U)** adjourned the meeting with a closing prayer by Kathy O. at 8:42 PM.

Signed by:
Pastor Mike Jones, Moderator
Gayle Bundschu, Clerk of Session