



STATED MEETING OF SESSION
New Hope Presbyterian Church (EPC)
Tuesday, Feb. 22, 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	Z	Jerry Elliott	P	Sandy Knipe		P
Sean Ellis	P	Jim Glatz	P	Mark Myers		P
Jerry Franz	P	Duane Higgins	P	Ken Walker		P
Ken Seim	P	Carolyn Melton	Z	Rodney Woosley		P
Bill Enslen	P	David Milligan	P			
		Kathy Orr	P			
P=In-person; Z=Zoom; EA= Excused Absence; A=Absent				Quorum		Y

Also Present: Staff – Ed Harger, Guest – Bob Welsh

- 1) Convened in Room 206 at 6:10 PM with a devotion and prayer by Ken Seim.
- 2) **MSC (Gayle B/Ken S/Unanimous)** gave voice to those present who were not active elders.
- 3) **MSC (Ken W/Jerry E/U)** approved the Minutes of the Jan. 25th Stated Session Meeting as written.
- 4) **Pastor Mike Jones (Moderator) Report**
 - (a) Reported that on Wednesday, Feb. 16th a commission of Session being TE Mike Jones and RE's Sean Ellis, Sheldon Church, David Milligan, and Rodney Woosley heard the testimonies of 15 potential new members who had been attending the new member Connections classes. After hearing those testimonies and, after hearing the affirmative answers to the questions of membership, a motion to receive them as members was made by Sean, seconded by Rodney, and passed unanimously. Elder Sean Ellis reported it was a wonderful and moving experience.
 - (b) Requested approval to baptize Elijah Schultz at the 11 AM service on March 20th. **MSC (Jerry E/Ken W/U)** approved Elijah Schultz, infant son of David and Katie Schultz, baptism on 3/20 at the 11 AM service
 - (c) Stated that the new staff organizational structure announced to Session in January's meeting is working out well in addressing the structure/organization need. The full staff meets on the fourth Monday of each month and the Executive Team meets weekly on Tuesday. Individual teams meet as the team leader deems necessary.
 - (d) Requested approval to add communion to the Maundy Thursday service in addition to our regularly first Sunday of each month communion.
MSC (Bill E/Mark M/U) approved Maundy Thursday communion.

- (e) Requested Session consider the appropriateness of the current COVID restrictions since the cases in our area have fallen so dramatically and with the understanding of the transmission of the virus transmission being better understood to be air borne, not surface borne. After discussion, by **MSC (Ken S/Ken W/U)** rescinded our remaining COVID restrictions and we will return to using Friendship Pads, Collection Plates/Baskets and Communion Plates. This change will be announced to the congregation and will be introduced starting with the Friendship Pads and Collection Plates/Baskets and Communion on March 6th.
- 5) **Pastor Ben Borsay (Vice Moderator) Report**
 - (a) Stated the Elder Retreat he led last Saturday went very well and reminded Session members their assignment was to be the very best elder they could be and pray.
 - (b) Requested that elders get in touch with him directly with any questions or issues.
 - 6) **Clerk of Session Report**
 - (a) Membership Statistical Reports RptMS01 for Jan. 2022 (See attached)
 - (b) The Clerk asked David M as chair of the Membership Committee to report on their progress and dormant members list in lieu of RPT09H. A list of possible dormant members to contact was distributed to each elder along with a Call Conversation Guide. He suggested that the intent is to have conversation with members who have not been attending for some time and encourage them. He requested that the elders complete their contacts and turn in the lists with the noted results to Angel's staff in-box by March 6th. It is intended that Session will act on the results of these contacts in the March stated meeting.
 - (c) The Clerk thanked David and his committee for their work.
 - 7) **Standing Committee Reports**
 - (a) **Finance Committee Report** - Sheldon C – As Brad Starnier, Director of Finance, has been out of the office due to his surgery, there is no financial report this month. Sheldon also reported on the unfinished business of creating a Finance Committee Capital Expenditure Process that a policy of approvals for varying dollar value amount expenditures already exists and that staff needs to be reminded of that policy.
 - (b) **Personnel Committee Report** - Bill E - (See attached February report)
 - 8) **Unfinished Business**
 - Mission Council** – Samaritan's Purse Afghanistan Refugee Program – Ken S provided more information about the need and the program. In discussion Pastor Ben offered the idea of three levels of church support for a ministry: to bless, to catalyze and to own. Session action to "bless" would communicate a decision by Session to empower the Mission Council to "test the waters" for the level of ongoing and robust congregational support for this ministry but does not yet imply New Hope "ownership" of this ministry.
 - M/S/C (Sean E/Doug K/Carried)** blessed the Mission Council to take the next steps in the Samaritan's Purse Afghan Refugee Program to seek out church members who may be interested in being a part of a core support group for the program.

- 9) **Other Reports – Committees/Council/Ministries Minutes & Reports**
- (a) **Presbytery Commissioners’ Reports** – Sheldon C., Bill E., Kathy O., Jerry F. – Pastor Mike reported that the meeting went smoothly, and all business was completed by 11 AM on Saturday.
 - (b) **Deacons** – Steve McKinnon – (See attached October & January minutes)
 - (c) **Exec. Director of Family & Discipleship** – Michelle Myers (See report attached)
 - (d) **Exec. Director of Finance & Administration** – Brad Starner
 - i) **Facilities** – Ed Harger – Property Council (See attached Minutes 2/8/22). In addition, Ed announced that a church member had proposed to pay for the installation of a cross steeple on the sanctuary exterior, which had always been a part of the plan, but was not done due to cost. By the next Session meeting he intended to have the actual cost estimate and request Session approval to go forward. He will also provide an estimate of the cost of lighting it, though it had not been initially planned.
 - ii) **Missions** – Jim Mayer – Mission Council (See attached Minutes 1/17/22)
 - (e) **Exec. Director of Worship Ministries** – Ben Ball (See attached February Report)
 - (f) **Youth Director Search Committee** – Steve Boutelle – No progress to report.
 - (g) **Care Network** – Kathy Orr – While the training program is ready to go, she has no Care Network Advocates volunteers to start the program.
- 10) **New Business**
- Elder Duane H. announced he intends to bring to Session next month a motion to start a Christian Education Committee to oversee the education curriculum offered to children and adults and asked any elders interested to contact him.
- 11) **MSC (Jerry E./Mark M./U)** closed the meeting in prayer by Kathy O. at 8:20 PM

Signed by:

Pastor Mike Jones, Moderator

Gayle Bundschu, Clerk of Session