



STATED MEETING OF SESSION
New Hope Presbyterian Church (EPC)
Tuesday, April 26, 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	EA	Sandy Knipe		P
Sean Ellis	P	Jim Glatz	P	Mark Myers		P
Jerry Franz	P	Duane Higgins	A	Ken Walker		P
Ken Seim	P	Carolyn Melton	P	Rodney Woosley		P
Bill Enslin	P	David Milligan	P			
		Kathy Orr	Z			
P=In-person; Z=Zoom; EA= Excused Absence; A=Absent				Quorum		Y

Also Present: Debbie Norris, Director of Christian Education K-5, Elementary Confirmands, their Confirmation teacher Tabitha Dillehay, some of their Sunday School teachers, and families of the Confirmands. Church Treasurer Chuck Knox and Director of Facilities Ed Harger joined the meeting after the later Executive Session concluded.

- 1) Convened in Room 216 at 6 PM with prayer by Pastor Mike
- 2) **MSC (Ben B/Mark M/Unanimous)** gave voice to staff and confirmands present.
- 3) Debbie Norris gave a devotion and introduced the Confirmands to Session. The list of Confirmands and a description of their Confirmation course study is attached. As a group they recited the Apostles' Creed. Each Confirmand then gave his/her testimony, and the group answered all membership questions in the affirmative. Upon **MSC (Mark M/Bill E/U)** Session accepted all confirmands as members in New Hope. Four of the new members requested baptism by immersion and by **MSC (Ken W/Carolyn M/U)** approved baptism by immersion in accordance with EPC practices by Pastor Mike on May 1st at 5 PM in the Scales family pool. All other confirmands had been baptized as infants. Steve B prayed for the new members as well as their families.
- 4) Session members only then moved to Room 206 for the combined in-person and Zoom portion of the meeting.
- 5) By **MSC (Jim G/Ken S/U)** went into Executive Session and by **MSC (Doug K/Sandy K/U)** approved the minutes of the April 5th Called Executive Session meeting. There being no further business to conduct in Executive Session, by **MSC (Sean E/Jerry F/U)** returned to the Stated Session meeting.

- 6) By MSC (Ken W/Sean E/U) approved the Minutes of the March 29th Stated Session Meeting as written.
- 7) Pastor Mike Jones (Moderator) Report – Updated Session on some members’ health issues
- 8) Pastor Ben Borsay (Vice Moderator) Report – (See attached handout) Announced the following on his “Path Forward”:
 - (a) Culture Task Force – Added Steve McKinnon to the committee of Sheldon Church, Ken Seim and himself. They are just starting to work and welcome elders’ input of ideas, concerns, and suggestions. Will report more at the next meeting.
 - (b) Staff stuff – In his new role as PT Executive Pastor, Ben reported that he is leading the staff meetings so that Pastor Mike may focus on preaching, teaching, other pastoral duties, and visitation. Additionally, Pastor Ben reported that Michelle is no longer doing communication but will continue doing Family Ministry. The rest of the staff have volunteered to handle different portions of the communications work. Other changes may be coming to report on at the next meeting.
 - (c) Pulpit Nominating Committee – Stated Session might be in the position to start the process as soon as the June Stated meeting. Ben asked that the Elders be in prayer about this. He also reported that he is seeking clarity from General Assembly as to what role he can take in that committee.
- 9) Clerk of Session Report:
 - (a) Membership Report
 - (i) Membership Statistical Reports “RptMS01 Monthly Statistics” summary and “RPT09G Adjustments to Membership” detail for March 2022 (See attached).
 - (ii) David Milligan reported the Membership Committee is continuing to work on the Session contacts of the large backlog of dormant members.
 - (iii) By MSC (David M/Mark M/U) Session approved removals from membership per the April 12th Membership Removals A. list attached. Jim G led in prayer for these. The Clerk will notify each in writing if a current address is known.
 - (iv) By MSC (David M/Ken S/U) Session approved the inactive status of those members per the April 12th List B. attached. Ken W led in prayer for those on this list. This is an internal membership status change only.
 - (v) By MSC (David M/Gayle B/U) Session reinstated active membership to two members who had been shown in error last month as having requested removal from membership. The Clerk will notify the members and the church office of this correction.
 - (b) Reported a Session Commission meeting for the purpose of accepting new members held on 3/29/22 (See attached).
- 10) Standing Committee Reports
 - (a) Finance Committee Report – Chuck Knox – (See March Financials attached)
 - (b) Personnel Committee Report - Bill E – No meeting on which to report this month

- 11) Unfinished Business
 - (a) Mission Council – No change in the status of possible Afghanistan refugee sponsorship with Samaritan’s Purse – Ken S
 - (b) Christian Education Committee proposal – Duane H – No proposal presented this meeting.

- 12) Other Reports – Committees/Council/Ministries Minutes & Reports
 - (a) Deacons – Steve McKinnon – No minutes received.
 - (b) Exec. Director of Family & Discipleship – Michelle Myers (See attached report)
 - (c) Exec. Director of Finance & Administration – Brad Starner
 - i) Facilities – Ed Harger – Property Council - (See attached 4/12 minutes)
 - ii) Missions – Jim Mayer – Mission Council (See attached 3/21 minutes)
 - (d) Exec. Director of Worship Ministries – Ben Ball (See attached report)
 - (e) Youth Director Search Committee – Steve Boutelle – Reported they will be starting interviews with a new batch of applicants this Sunday. Requested prayers for the process.
 - (f) Care Network – Kathy Orr – Reported having met with Stephen Ministry and Deacons about the Care Network and is moving forward with the plan to promote it and train providers.

- 13) New Business
 - (a) Nominating Committee for Trustee, Elder and Deacon class of 2025 -Reviewed New Hope By-Laws pgs. 14-17 and noted we need two active elders on the committee per the EPC BOG. Elders were asked to be prepared for nominations of a five-member slate at the May Stated meeting.
 - (b) Elder volunteers for Communion service, Sunday, May 1st, 9:30 & 11 AM Services – Sign-up sheet for volunteers to serve on May 1st passed around. Sandy K will contact inactive elders to fill the spots needed.
 - (c) General Assembly in Detroit, June 21 -24 Commissioners – Doug K and Bill E elected to attend. We can have four ruling elders attend. Elders to check their calendars and advise the Clerk by Sunday May 1st.
 - (d) Presbytery Meeting in DeBary, Florida, May 20 & 21 Commissioners – Elders to check their availability and notify the Clerk by Sunday, May 1st.
 - (e) Jerry F presented an idea of an elder prayer ministry based on James 5 which would be available upon request to church members hospitalized or with other needs. He suggested teams of 3 elders available to the Care Network on a rotating basis. This suggestion was thought worthy of discussion and will be on the agenda at the next Stated meeting.

- 14) There being no further business, upon **MSC (Mark M/Jim G/U)** the meeting was adjourned with the closing prayer by Carolyn M at 8:30 PM.

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