



**STATED MEETING OF SESSION**  
**New Hope Presbyterian Church (EPC)**  
**Tuesday, June 28, 2022**  
**(Combined In-person and Zoom meeting)**

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

### Minutes

<b>Teaching Elders:</b>				<b>TE</b>	Pastor Mike Jones	P
				<b>TE</b>	Pastor Ben Borsay	EA
<b>Class of 2022</b>		<b>Active Ruling Elders Class of 2023</b>		<b>Class of 2024</b>		
Steve Boutelle	Z	Gayle Bundschu	P	Doug Keno	Z	
Sheldon Church	P	Jerry Elliott	EA	Sandy Knipe	P	
Sean Ellis	P	Jim Glatz	Z	Mark Myers	P	
Jerry Franz	P	Duane Higgins	P	Ken Walker	EA	
Ken Seim	Z	Carolyn Melton	P	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: Church Treasurer – Chuck Knox and Dan Miller - Trustee. And via Zoom, Steve McKinnon, Deacon Chair.

- 1) Convened in Room 206 at 6 PM with devotion and prayer by Bill Enslin
- 2) **MSC (Kathy O/Sean E/Unanimous)** Gave voice to any non-active elders present
- 3) **MSC (Sean E/Sandy K/U)** Approved the Minutes of the May 24th Stated Session Meeting as written.
- 4) Pastor Mike Jones (Moderator) Report
  - (a) Reported on the General Assembly meeting attended by Doug Keno, Marilyn Cox, Bill Enslin, and himself. Bill E and Doug K commented it was a great experience.
  - (b) Reported on and encouraged all session members to preview the “Prepare to Stand” presentation from Dr. Andrew Brunson in preparation for his visit with us on January 22, 2023. He described Andrew’s prophetic message as sobering and may be perceived as alarming if the hearers are not somewhat prepared. Pastor Mike and Ken Seim will also be encouraging the New Hope congregation, groups, and classes to engage the material as we get closer to the January date.
  - (c) Described his slide presentation (see attached) which included some information from General Assembly, statistical reports of our county and our church, especially the religious demographic report that states that 6 out of every 10 (63%) Lee County residents is “not religious”. He also announced that the month of February 2023 will be an “Evangelism Emphasis Month”. Doug K also offered a brief report on the “Three Circles Evangelism” method which was referred to us by the EPC as an effective method.

- 5) Clerk of Session Report:
- (a) Congregation meeting 6/19 minutes. Copies of signed minutes provided.
  - (b) Report on June 1<sup>st</sup> email vote on a Nominating Committee slate. (See attached)
  - (c) Membership Report
    - (i) Membership Report “RptMS01 Monthly Statistics” summary for May. (See attached)
    - (ii) Membership Committee - David M
      - 1. Reported the committee has gone through the bulk of the current list of “dormant” members and, while there could be some memberships changes by members’ requests, the committee intended to do future reviews of membership status only two times a year to bring to Session, and
      - 2. The committee is updating its procedures for inclusion in the next Elder Handbook review later this year.
    - (iii) MC (David/U) Approved the removal of 2 members at their request. (No second needed as the motion came from a committee), and
    - (iv) MC (David/U) Approved moving 8 members from active to inactive status Session to address. (See attached Committee Report)
    - (v) David led in prayer for these members.
- 6) Standing Committee Reports
- (a) Finance Committee Report – Chuck Knox – (See May Financials attached)
    - (i) Chuck added that while May ended with a deficit, June was looking a little better and he is still hoping for a breakeven at year end.
    - (ii) Sheldon C, Finance Committee Chair, reported the committee was working on a Finance Committee Policy and Procedures handbook and planned to have it ready to present to Session for review in August.
  - (b) Personnel Committee Report - Bill E – No report
- 7) Nominating Committee
- (a) MSC (Gayle B/Kathy O/U) Elected Jim Glatz Chair and Doug Keno Vice-Chair of the 2022 Nominating Committee.
  - (b) A motion was made by the committee (read to Session by the clerk) to formalize some previously followed practices which would be followed by the 2022 Nominating Committee, and, should Session approve, be included in a section on Nominating Committee Policies in the next revision of the Elder Handbook. After discussion, it was adopted unanimously as revised below in two motions:
    - (i) MC (Jim G/U) Session will not normally recommend a non-active elder member to the Congregation for the Nominating Committee, until at least two years have elapsed since that member was elected to serve on a Nominating Committee. The two active elders required to be on the committee and recommended to the Congregation should be from different elder classes, and though they will need to be elected to serve each year, should serve for two years, generally the first year serving as the vice-chair and the second as the chair, and,
    - (ii) MC (Jim G/U) The Nominating Committee, in addition to all considerations given in the By-laws, Art. IV, Sec. 3, shall consider candidates for Deacon only those who have been active members in New Hope for at least one year and candidates for Elder only those who have been active members in New Hope for at least three years. Exception to

these experience requirements could be made based on a candidate's prior experience in a similar reformed church, upon consultation with Session.

(c) Gayle B prayed for the Lord's will in the work of the Nominating Committee.

8) Unfinished Business

(a) Christian Education Committee proposal – Duane H

(i) Duane distributed a proposal for a Christian Education Council (See attached)

(ii) MSC (Gayle B/Mark M/U) Approved the concept and established a working group of Pastor Ben, Rodney W, Bill E, Carolyn M and Duane to propose implementation details to Session at the August Stated meeting.

(b) Elder Prayer Ministry Teams Committee – Jerry F

(i) Jerry distributed a revised "Elder Prayer Ministry" proposal (See attached), described how it would work, asked for Session suggestions, and Steve McKinnon announced some deacons are willing to be a part of this ministry.

(ii) Jerry will revise the plan from suggestions made, Kathy O will work with Brad to determine how to utilize ELI for the ministry scheduling purposes, and Jerry will bring the proposal to the August Stated meeting for further review.

9) Other Reports – Committees/Council/Ministries Minutes & Reports

(a) Deacons – Steve McKinnon – No minutes

(b) Exec. Director of Family & Discipleship – Michelle Myers –(See attached)

(c) Exec. Director of Finance & Administration – Brad Starner

i) Facilities – Ed Harger – Property Council – (See attached)

ii) Missions – Jim Mayer – Mission Council – (See attached)

(d) Exec. Director of Worship Ministries – Ben Ball – (See attached)

MSC (Duane H/Carolyn M/U) Approved Ben's proposal for one combined worship service on two Sundays at 10:00 AM: Sunday, Dec. 25, 2022, and on Sunday, Jan. 1, 2023.

(e) Youth Director Search Committee – Steve Boutelle reported hiring Alexander Palmari as a Summer Fellow on an hourly basis with the hope that he could become our full-time Youth Director as soon as some employment details can be worked out with Executive Pastor Ben after he returns.

(f) Care Network – Kathy Orr – No report

10) New Business

(a) Elder volunteers for Communion service, Sunday, July 3rd, 9:30 & 11 AM Services. Sandy K got volunteers from those present, and she will ask past elders to get enough to serve at both services this coming Sunday.

(b) Several elders reported wonderful results and connections from being available to pray with the congregation at the close of each worship service.

(c) The November Stated Session meeting date was changed to Tuesday, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> from Tuesday, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> to move it out of Thanksgiving week.

(d) A workshop meeting of active ruling elders who have prepared to work on the Pastor Ben assigned Senior Pastor Job Description document will be held on Sat., July 9<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM –

12:00 PM at a room to be announced, with Pastor Ben as facilitator. The draft job description may be brought to Session in August. In addition, the clerk of session will work with Brad Starner to create a draft CIF for Session review at the August Stated meeting, both documents needed as we move toward a new Senior Pastor Search Committee.

- 11) MSC (David M/Sean E/U) The meeting was closed in prayer by Rodney W at 8:46 PM.

Signed by:

Pastor Mike Jones, Moderator

Gayle Bundschu, Clerk of Session