

# GEPC NOVEMBER WORSHIP TEAM MEETING - AGENDA

2/26/2025 @ 7:00pm

**Team Members:** Michael Morefield (Senior Pastor) / Kelly Hackleman, (scribe) / Tech Lead Bill Leuenberger / Tech lead Chris Schupp / Bob Williams/ Larry Harris (absent) / Carl C (absent)

## I. Opening Prayer (Michael)

## II. Opening Business

A. Additions/Corrections to Agenda: none

B. Additions/Corrections last month Minutes: none

## III. Opening Devotional – Bill “collaborative discussion” “What is worship?”

Self examination and following God’s commands.

Are we relevant/approachable to people? How are we doing? Do we need to change anything we are doing? What is worship to you? What do you connect with? How do we experience worship? What resonates with us personally?

Chris: Two things - act of worship, and how do our lives bring worship to God. The way we live our lives, we should be bringing glory to God. Sunday worship is continuing to bring glory to him. It is good for us to come together to worship God.

But what do you like?

Chris: my taste varies. It depends on what mood I’m in. Listening to Christian music now, but grew up with country music. The gift of music is there to stir emotion in us and communicates beauty to us. Resonates better than just words. Tradition is what I like about the traditional service - the organ, the hymns. The history and tradition of the catholic church has disappeared from other churches.

The contemporary service addresses different needs of my personality.

Michael - One of the most helpful things of Sunday morning is being shepherded through the service. Easier to just go through the motions which might disconnect me. Sometimes I’m just not ready to worship. Being shepherded helps me enter that space. The knowledge of WHY does this matter?

Chris: Put into the right mind space and heart space. Put everything else on the back burner.

We try to craft a service with intentionality - intentional shepherding. Sometimes there is a need to explain to someone who is new, for instance, the Apostles’ Creed. Explain the meanings - for instance, catholic with a small c.

We don’t have to change anything. We need to be sure that we are intentional.

We should choose 5 random people and ask them; we as staff are busy, so have a different experience than the congregation.

Ministry teams talk with each other, but don’t necessarily get feedback from people. Usually when you get feedback, it’s negative.

Can we put ourselves into a mental state of pre-Christian place in order to understand how it might feel? Are we open to listen, guided by what scripture says?

We want to serve the homeless, but are we ready for them to show up to a service?

Michael: We have to be ever mindful of the next generation. Intentionality in our outreach, in our pursuit. Are we expanding and contracting to make sure we are serving all?

#### **IV. Session and Pastor Reports**

##### **A. Senior Pastor-Michael Intinction or.....**

Handout: **The Lord's supper at Gashland EPC**

The Bible clearly states that the bread and the wine are separate. Theologically, the symbolism is corrupted with intinction.

Chris: when we make a change, explain this, that it's not arbitrary.

Michael will consult Session with this.

This gives us two options:

A: Still have people come forward, except they will take the bread, then second tray will be cup.

B: Keep everyone seated. Pass bread through the rows, take eat. The pass trays of juice, take, drink together.

Benefit of second way, logistically is that some people don't have to get up. Also more efficient time-wise. But some people like coming forward to the table. Problem - if you have a cane or a walker, you don't have two hands to get the juice and bread.

The book of order does have a line where the pastor asks the people come to the table, but it is not necessarily Biblical.

If we pass it out, do we have to have a bank of Elders to do it? Session has "deputized" our Deacons to help with that.

Michael would like to change this for April. Especially by Easter. Take the week before we do communion - last week of March - take 5 minutes, and give a summary as to why we're making the change. Have handouts available in the back of the sanctuary. Make a Link announcement, or have a separate email. Have a link to document.

- Ash Wednesday - it's not a sacrament, but there is value to tangibly experiencing the ashes. Don't want to make it a ritual. It is a spiritual exercise of penitence.

1. New Business/Report:

1. **Session-Senior Pastor Michael:**

2. Previous Action Items: NA

#### **V. Worship and Tech Leader Reports**

A. 1st Service: Kelly

1. Previous Action Items:  
New Hymnals - new suggestion from Larry who is not present - Trinity Hymnal. More discussion in March.
2. New Business/Report: planning music for Lent and Easter. Will eventually have meeting with Michael about order of service for Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter services.

B. 2<sup>nd</sup> Service- Carl - tabled until next time

1. Previous Action Items :
2. New Business / Report:

**Tech Leaders-Bill L and Chris**

- Recruiting/training for new tech people
- Camera at the back is still problematic - focus, and hard to get it to match up with the other cameras
- Hymn slides aren't matching up - Kelly offered to send slides to Kathy
- Previous Action Items:  
Bill still has old stuff to sell- will get money to Kathy  
Need cords - \$65, but solder the end on it's only \$34  
\$90 for 2 replacement cords - approve purchase
- One receiver that would float up and down - Chris says we'd need to train other people.
- Chris says we don't need something wireless upstairs. Not as necessary in Sanctuary. It would be nice, but especially downstairs. \$300 - approved. (Money in special account - we could pull it from there.)
- Carl's email - acoustic drum. Bad idea because the room is too echo-y. Cage wouldn't make a difference. Put weights in drum set, but drummer really kicks it. Could it be mounted? Depends on underneath stage.
- Bill will continue to do devotionals. He will keep topics in his pocket.
- Bob asked about the hearing assist devices. Bill will bring information on that next month.

A. Remote Communion: Dave Wiersma (see addendum below)

B. Baptism:

Adjourn in Prayer.

Signed: *Kelly Hackleman, scribe*

**NEXT MEETING - March 20, 2025 at 7:00**

**Addendum: From Dave Wiersma: (by email)**

Normally I send an update to worship at the end of the quarter , however second quarter will be my last quarter participating doing in home communion, as we will be relocating this summer out of state.

Our list of communicants has become smaller, and some people leave the list when they return to church in person.

First Quarter to Date:

Rosie Bateman March 12

Leroy Hansen March 12

Imojean Hansen March 12

Rod Sommer March 13

Connie Sommer March 13

Harlan May Scheduled March 17

Dee May Scheduled March 17

Edwina Cheney Scheduled March 17

Pending

Forrest Greer \*

Rosemary Greer\*

April Downey

Gene Gooding

\* They pass on this when they are able to attend church, last quarter due to Rosemary's health issues we provided in home communion.

Going forward, we would like to respond to suggestions regarding Elder and Deacon involvement in this process, and would suggest Josh Lee consider managing this service under his position title.

We would like to encourage Josh, Elders, or Deacons to join us during our second quarter visits to meet the communicants, and this may be an opportunity for Elders as a part of their under-shepherd duties.

Mercy-In the past on occasion we have requests from communicants for assistance.

This quarter we have two requests so far:

Leroy Hansen-recently he gave up his driving privileges, and would like a ride to early service once a month.

Dee May-This is an under-shepherd request, Dee is under a lot of stress due to Harlan, condition with Parkinson's and now he is in assisted living and has been given only 6 months to live by the Doctors. An under-shepherd contact to Dee would be appreciated.

It has been a complete privilege and blessing for both Marian Anderson and me to provide this these last few years. Marian would like to continue to do this on occasion, however she tends to be gone in the summer months to her cabin in Colorado, and recently some of her health challenges have limited her availability.

I hope the Leadership and Session can come up with a seamless plan to continue this in the future.

In Christ's Love,

Dave Wiersma

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