



Session Bylaws, approved April 25, 2012

1. The name of this organization shall be the Session of New Hope Reformed Church, and shall operate under the authoritative propriety of the Constitution of New Hope Reformed Church.
2. The Membership of Session shall consist of all ordained Pastors and Elders of New Hope Reformed Church.
3. The session shall meet regularly four times a year, and shall follow the procedures outlined in the current edition of Roberts Rules of Order.
4. The Moderator of the Session shall be the Senior Pastor, who shall have a vote. One member of session, not the moderator, shall be designated Clerk of Session, and shall keep orderly records of Session meetings.
5. Other meetings of the Session may be called upon need, upon the decision of three Session members, or two thirds of the Session, whichever is greater, with timely notice to all members.
6. The work of the Session shall consist in having authoritative oversight over the activities, officers, ministries, property and spiritual development of New Hope Reformed Church, and its members and attendees, as guided by the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, which Scriptures shall be held as normative for all of Session's work. This work is delegated to it by the voting membership of the Congregation of New Hope Reformed Church, and may be nullified by action of the Congregation, meeting in a lawful Congregational Meeting called according to the church's Constitution.
7. Session shall have the right, if it deems it proper, to nullify an act of the Voting Congregation, save for the act of removal of officers so removed according to the stipulations for such removal outlined in the church's Constitution.
8. All work conducted shall be open to examination and review by the voting members of the Congregation, with the exception of discussions having to do with the sensitive details of congregants and attendees lives and circumstances discussed with a view of the spiritual shepherding of said congregants and attendees. These details shall be kept private.
9. Of special note is the work of the session in recommending new members for New Hope Reformed Church, and also recommending the use of discipline concerning members of New Hope Reformed Church, as detailed in the church's Constitution. Both of these activities shall be strictly advisory to the Voting Membership of the Congregation met in a lawfully called Congregational Meeting, and shall be exempt from the requirements of privacy noted in paragraph 8.
10. Session shall be opened with prayer, as Christ is the King of both Session and New Hope Reformed Church; and it shall also be closed in a season of prayer, seeking the grace of Almighty God for all congregants and attendees. It shall also include the singing of a psalm or hymn together in worship, save when circumstances render this unseemly.