

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**MEETING OF SESSION**  
**Monday, March 13, 2023**  
**7:00 PM**  
**CONSENT AGENDA**

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. Approval of February 13, 2023, Session Meeting Minutes (pp. 2-4). Mark Folk, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of this meeting be approved as written.
2. Approval of Called Session Meetings Minutes from February to receive new members (p. 5). Mark Folk, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of these meetings be approved as written.
3. Approval of request for changes to active roll (p. 6).
4. Approval of baptisms (p. 7).

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. February 2023 Treasurer's Report (pp. 8-9).
2. Presbytery Meeting Minutes (pp. 10-11).
3. Clerk's Communications (p. 12).

**FUTURE EVENTS**

- |            |                                     |                          |
|------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • April 2  | Palm Sunday Services                | 8:45, 9:30, and 11:00 AM |
| • April 6  | Maundy Thursday Service             | 7:00 PM                  |
| • April 7  | Good Friday Service                 | 7:00 PM                  |
| • April 8  | Children's Easter Service           | 10:00 AM                 |
| • April 9  | Easter Services                     | 8:45, 9:30, and 11:00 AM |
| • April 17 | April Session Meeting & Quest Exams | 6:30 PM                  |

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Minutes of the Session Meeting On**  
**Monday, February 13, 2023**

**Call to Order and Opening Prayer — Bob Henderson, Moderator**

The meeting, held in the Covenant Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, was called to order by the moderator at 7:03 p.m. The moderator opened with a devotion and prayer.

**Determination of Quorum and Adoption of Agenda**

The moderator declared that a quorum was present. The agenda and consent agenda were adopted as written.

**Endorsement of Perrin Tribble as Inquirer**

Tribble, a former member of staff at Covenant, appeared to request Session's support of her ministry inquiry. She offered a statement outlining her faith journey and ministry goals. After Tribble responded to several questions, the moderator offered a prayer. Session then endorsed by unanimous vote Tribble as an Inquirer.

**Administration — Liz Ward, Treasurer**

Ward reported that the presentation of the 2023 budget at the January 29, 2023, congregational meeting went well. She then reported that the budget will be reviewed on a monthly basis by the finance committee and that there will be quarterly reports to Session to be presented in April, August, October and December.

**Personnel – Burnet Tucker, Chair**

Tucker opened by reporting that the search committee formed to identify a replacement for Business Administrator Bill Keith, chaired by Drew Quartapella, is at work and hopes to make a new hire by March or April. Bill Keith has agreed to extend his employment through the end of April.

Tucker also announced the completion of the communications staff with the addition of Rosie Strawn as communications manager.

**Planning and Evaluation – Sandra Boozer, Chair**

Boozer provided an update on the effort to identify replacements for the four stained glass medallions to be removed pursuant to the November 2022 vote of Session. A new task force chaired by John Baxter has been formed. The other members of the task force are Betty Graybeal, Amanda Pipkin, Lecia Shockley, Ariel Gritter, and Bill Saunders. The group's first meeting was held on February 15, 2023.

**Ministry Reports:**

**Congregational Life – Katie Coley, Chair**

Coley informed Session that Wednesday night programming is proceeding as planned. Round 2 is set to commence on March 1. She credited food service manager Johnny Gomillion with preparation of well-received meals.

Coley also promoted two upcoming events: a blood drive on February 26, and CPR training on February 25. She concluded by offering appreciation for the ongoing knitting ministry which allows presentation of baby blankets and prayer shawls.

**Education**

**No Report**

**Engagement**

**No Report**

**Mission and Outreach - Tim Kendrick, Chair**

Kendrick reminded Session of the ongoing Wednesday night series, "A Faithful Response to Gun Violence." Lucy Crane added that the earlier sessions are available for review on the church website. The series will conclude on February 15 with presentations by Dr. Rodney Sadler, a professor at Union Presbyterian Seminary, and Tracie Campbell with the City of Charlotte.

Kendrick noted that the Charlotte Presbytery meeting held at Covenant on February 11 ran smoothly. He credited the efforts of several members of Session, including Kerry Hamilton, Stephanie Guffin, Stephen Hicks, and Tommy Lawson. He also read a note from Lucy Crane to all volunteers thanking them for their contributions. Session was then reminded that elders are expected to one to two Presbytery meetings during their three-year term.

**Worship - Ann Reed, Chair**

Reed advised Session that the current 10:45 start time for the contemporary family service has become the source of stress for staff given the brief break between the end of the 9:30 worship service and Sunday school. The committee recommended a move of the start time to 11:00 effective immediately. Because such changes must be approved by Session, a motion to adopt the recommendation was made and seconded. The motion was then approved.

**Clerk's Report - Mark Folk, Clerk**

Folk directed attention to page 22 of the consent agenda which outlines communications recently received. He highlighted a letter from the pastor of Eastminster Presbyterian Church in Columbia thanking Covenant for embracing the family of Matthew Johnson, a non-member, following his recent death. Folk added his of appreciation for the efforts of the entire staff. He then reported that Bob Henderson will be making a presentation at Union Seminary on the topic of affordable housing in Charlotte.

**Old Business/New Business**

None.

**Staff Announcements/Pastoral Concerns**

Mary Kate Sykes, pastoral residence, is nearing completion of her path toward ordination with a service of ordination expected in April. Nikki Zimmermann, pastoral resident, was recently advanced as a candidate for ordination in Atlanta.

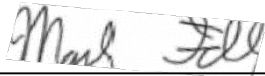
### **Closing Prayer**

Katherine Kerr announced recent deaths and congregational health concerns before concluding the meeting in prayer.

### **Post-Meeting Reception**

Bob Henderson was surprised by a presentation and reception honoring his 15<sup>th</sup> year at Covenant. Most of the 15 clerks of Session who have worked with Henderson joined in the celebration. Mark Folk offered a reflection on Bob's time at Covenant. A videotape featuring remarks by the past clerks was followed by the refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,



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Mark Folk, Clerk



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Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Called Session Meetings  
Sundays, February 3, 5, 13, 26, 2023**

Covenant held four Called Session Meetings, one on a Friday and three on a Sunday morning, for the purpose of receiving new members. Lora Borrelli introduced the following new members and information:

**February 3, 2023**

Lou Watson	Restore to active membership from affiliate membership
Jim Watson	Restore to active membership from affiliate membership

**February 5, 2023**

Ashley Dorado	Transfer Letter-Myers Park Presbyterian Church
Stuart Dorado	Transfer Letter-Myers Park Presbyterian Church

**February 13, 2023**

Devin Brown	Reaffirmation
Aj Calpo	Reaffirmation

**February 26, 2023**

Drew Wozniak	Reaffirmation
Cristina Wozniak	Reaffirmation
Jennifer Boone	Reaffirmation

**Active (confirmed) members as of 2/28/23: 2573**

**2022 new members as of 2/28/23: 21**

**2022 new affiliate members as of 2/28/23: 0**

**New members since last report: 9**

**2022 transfers as of 2/28/23: 3**

**2022 deaths as of 2/28/23: 1**

Motions of acceptance were made, seconded and approved. Each meeting adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Folk, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SESSION MEETING  
REQUEST FOR CHANGES IN THE ACTIVE ROLL**

**Removed from Active Roll Per Request**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Transferred to:</u></b>
Christine DeBiase	Remove per request--relocated to NYC
Emily Brzozowicz Jackson	Transfer to Westminster Presbyterian, Nashville, TN
Caroline Brzozowicz Williams	Transfer to Westminster Presbyterian, Nashville, TN

**Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Session Action Item  
Summary**

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**SUBJECT: April 2023**

**DATE: March 13, 2023**

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**Report From:** Baptism Committee

**Chair:** Walker Doermann

**Background:** Baptism must be approved by the Session.

**Process to Date:** Parents requested that their children be baptized in April 2023.

**Budget Impact:** None

**Actions Taken or Recommendation:** The Baptism Committee, with the support of the Ministry of Worship, recommends approval of the following baptisms at Covenant in April 2023:

April 2, at the 9:30 a.m. service in the Covenant Sanctuary  
Eve Michael Lackey and Zoe Smith Lackey  
Parents – Grace Lindvall and Matthew Lackey

April 2 at the 11:00 a.m. service in the Covenant Sanctuary  
Greer Lucy Burch  
Parents – Heather and Marty Burch

April 23, at the 9:30 a.m. service in the Covenant Sanctuary  
Noah Robert Greenwood  
Parents – Morgan and Paul Greenwood

April 30, at the 11 a.m. service in the Covenant Sanctuary  
Samuel Richard Lipsey  
Parents – Sarah and John Lipsey

**Motion:** Motion to approve the baptisms of Eve Michael Lackey, Zoe Smith Lackey, Greer Lucy Burch, Noah Robert Greenwood, Samuel Richard Lipsey.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church**  
Monthly Financial Comments  
February 2023

**Income Statement Comments**

The main impacts to the February Income Statement are outlined below.

**Income:** Income in the month of February was slightly below expectations by (\$7k), but this was primarily due to prepayments of CDC tuition received on January 31 and booked in the prior month (\$11K in prepayments). Cumulative YTD continues to be well ahead of budget and recent years. Giving was ahead of budget again in February, both with pledges and loose offerings. All other variances were minor.

**Expenses:** February expenses were approximately \$10K over budget. The major variances were higher salaries expense for both CDC and Preschool, including an increase in substitute expenses, which are supported by the NC Stabilization Grant that was received in January. The only other major variance was higher building insurance cost (\$1,800 YTD). All other variances were minor. YTD expenses continue to be (\$35K) below budget.

Grant activities included planned support for Crisis Assistance Ministry, Unified Mission, MSN and Friends of Action (Global), with more coming in March! Outreach activities were ahead of plan, showing great activity.

**The Bottom Line:** Net Income for February 2023 was (\$52K), which was only slightly below what was forecasted (\$34K). Timing of receipts and expenses played a major role. Year to date, net income is still \$192,609 above plan. We expect there to continue be some minor offsetting variances in future months, but again – continues to be a great start to the year.

**Balance Sheet Comments**

Significant changes in the Balance Sheet as of February 28, 2023, as compared with January 31, 2023, were as follows:

**Line 22:** Reflects regular change in account based on activity.

**Lines 26 & 32:** Reflects positive market performance during January.

**Line 28:** Reflects an accrual to revenue due to a lag in receipt of online donations.

**Line 36:** Reflects decrease in cash primarily from February Net Income.



Covenant Presbyterian Church					Period ending:	02/28/23						
INCOME STATEMENT		YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance	Annual Budget	Y-T-D Actual as % of Annual Budget						
						2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	
Income:												
1	Pledge Receipts	\$ 973,000	\$ 1,034,817	\$ 61,817	\$ 3,385,000	31%	27%	30%	29%	23%	21%	
2	Misc Contributions	\$ 101,900	\$ 108,069	6,169	402,200							
3	Investment Income	\$ 147,050	\$ 145,687	(1,363)	302,000							
4	Other Receipts	\$ 3,900	\$ 1,613	(2,287)	35,000							
5	Total Schools	283,735	371,882	88,147	1,714,727							
6	Child Dev. Ctr.	\$ 209,400	\$ 298,334	88,934	1,322,392							
7	Preschool	\$ 74,335	\$ 73,548	(787)	392,335							
8	Food Service	\$ 27,500	\$ 28,439	939	150,400							
9	Recreation Wing	\$ 14,400	\$ 15,349	949	115,000							
10	Youth/ Adult Trips	\$ 14,175	\$ 17,196	3,021	135,750							
Total Income		\$ 1,565,660	\$ 1,723,051	\$ 157,391	\$ 6,240,077	28%	23%	23%	25%	22%	22%	
Expenses:												
11	Worship	\$ 22,250	\$ 16,616	\$ (5,634)	\$ 117,400							
12	Congregational Life	\$ 4,050	\$ 2,890	(1,160)	30,950							
13	Engagement	\$ 2,650	\$ 2,628	(22)	9,750							
14	Mission & Outreach	\$ 88,100	\$ 88,315	215	622,200							
15	Education	\$ 22,725	\$ 21,840	(885)	159,630							
16	Total Schools	292,680	299,151	6,470	1,678,336							
17	Child Dev. Ctr.	\$ 226,630	\$ 236,388	9,757	1,312,284							
18	Preschool	\$ 66,050	\$ 62,763	(3,287)	366,052							
19	Food Service	\$ 18,650	\$ 13,616	(5,034)	134,700							
20	Recreation Ministrie	\$ 28,225	\$ 27,927	(298)	36,660							
21	Administration	\$ 107,900	\$ 95,564	(12,336)	636,600							
22	Personnel	\$ 483,574	\$ 467,040	(16,534)	2,813,851							
Total Expenses		\$ 1,070,804	\$ 1,035,587	\$ (35,217)	\$ 6,240,077	17%	15%	12%	15%	15%	17%	
Net Income		\$ 494,856	\$ 687,464	\$ 192,609	\$ -							
BALANCE SHEET			February	January	Change							
Assets:												
22	Truist Checking/Savings		\$ 2,357,245	\$ 2,457,964	\$ (100,719)							
23	M&F, Towne, WF Holding & Rosebro		\$ 2,307,319	2,305,236	2,082							
24	Petty Cash		\$ 350	350	-							
25	Accounts Receivable and Advances		\$ 55,850	52,193	3,657							
26	Endowment Funds Mkt Value		\$ 14,975,115	14,258,102	717,013							
27	Real Estate Funds		\$ 2,025,000	2,025,000	-							
Total Assets			\$ 21,720,878	\$ 21,098,845	\$ 622,033							
Liabilities:												
28	Accounts Payable and Misc. Accruals		\$ (10,028)	21,843	(31,871)							
Total Liabilities			\$ (10,028)	\$ 21,843	\$ (31,871)							
Fund Balances:												
29	Donor Advised		\$ 241,574	\$ 241,574	\$ -							
30	Infrastructure Fund/Cornerstone Inc		\$ 214,552	214,552	-							
31	Payable to Endowment Corpus		\$ 1,415	725	690							
32	Restricted Endowments & Cornersto		\$ 17,000,115	16,283,102	717,013							
33	Restricted Funds		\$ 2,771,077	2,781,359	(10,282)							
34	Non-Budgeted Benevolences		\$ 19,999	19,397	602							
35	Section 125 Plan		\$ (4,303)	(5,084)	781							
36	Genl Fund Balance		\$ 1,331,099	1,383,095	(51,996)							
37	Columbarium		\$ 61,245	58,875	2,370							
38	Reserve Fund Balances		\$ 94,135	99,408	(5,273)							
Total Fund Balances			\$ 21,730,907	\$ 21,077,002	\$ 653,905							
Total Liab. & Fund Balances			\$ 21,720,878	\$ 21,098,845	\$ 622,033							

**Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Session Information Item  
Summary**

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**SUBJECT: Presbytery Meeting Notes**

**DATE: March 13, 2023**

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Highlights of the 157th Stated Meeting of Charlotte Presbytery on Saturday, February 11, 2023.

It was with great joy and thanksgiving that we gathered at Covenant-Charlotte Presbyterian Church! The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by our 2022 Moderator, the Rev. Sonya McAuley-Allen, Pastor of Bellefonte Presbyterian Church. She then turned over the gavel to the 2023 Moderator, Rev. Dr. Steve Lindsley (Trinity). Rev. Lindsley formally thanked Moderator McAuley-Allen on behalf of the Presbytery, for outstanding service as 2022 Moderator and presented her with a certificate of appreciation from the Presbytery. Rev. Lindsley then introduced 2023 Vice-Moderator, Elder Tommy Lawson (Covenant-Charlotte). Rev. Dr. Bob Henderson, Pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church, welcomed the body and gave a brief overview of the church's history and highlighted mission and ministries of the church.

The Presbytery entered into a time of worship with Mary Kate McAlister Sykes (Covenant-Charlotte) leading the call to worship. Rev. Dr. Steve Scott led the invitation to confession and Serenity Taylor (First United) led the prayer of confession and the assurance of pardon. Woodland Church's 'Angels of Praise' Mime Dancers, Danielle Brown, Jordyn McLean, and JaNiyah Johnson, did a special presentation of 'The Creation' by James Weldon Johnson.. Rev. Sonya McAuley-Allen preached the sermon entitled, 'More Than Conquerors', based on Romans 8:28-39. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was led by Rev. Sonya McAuley-Allen (Bellefonte) and Rev. Katherine Kerr (Covenant-Charlotte). A special musical selection during communion was led by Rev. Dr. Amantha Barbee (Quail Hollow). Other worship participants included Marcellus Hoover and Rev. Gregory Busby (McClintock); Lia Benton (Caldwell); Darieon Malone (Quail Hollow); Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston and Rev. Dr. Alice Ridgill.

The Presbytery heard a special presentation on African-American Presbyterian history by the Rev. Dr. Julia Robinson-Moore, UNCC Dept. of Religious Studies and Adreonna Benette, Community Engagement Archivist, UNCC Atkins Library.

Rev. Dr. Alice Ridgill updated the Presbytery on the resources available through the MRC, including videos from the 'Nuts and Bolts' Workshop that was held in January. The MRC has updated their Grants for 2023. Information is on the Presbytery website. Rev. Ridgill also thanked the Presbytery for their prayers and support of her service as a Chaplain in the US Air Force Reserves. Rev. Dr. Whitney Bayer gave a brief update on upcoming events sponsored by the Ministry Resource Committee.

Elder Kathy Pilkington (First-Concord) and Rev. Chaz Blasdel (Gilwood) presented the report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry. Allyson Anderson (Myers Park), Sarah Dianne Jones (Sardis) and Melissa White (South Mecklenburg) were approved to be enrolled as Candidates for Ministry.

Mary Kate McAlister Sykes (Covenant-Charlotte) and Laura 'Lia' Benton (Caldwell) were examined and approved to be ordained as Ministers of Word and Sacrament. Mary Kate will be serving as a Pastoral Resident at Covenant and Laura will serve as Temporary Pastor of Meadowlake Church, pending ordination.

In part two of the COM Report, Rev. Dr. Peter Henry recognized the Honorable Retirement of the Rev. Alexander Porter, effective December 31, 2022. Rev. Porter most recently served as pastor at Bethpage United, prior to that he served at Matthews-Murkland.

Rev. Pendleton Peery (First-Charlotte), Chair of the Presbytery's Bills and Overtures Task Force presented the Consent Agenda with the Amendments to the PC(USA) Constitution. The Presbytery approved all 33 amendments.

The 158th Stated Meeting will be on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at Davidson College Presbyterian Church.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Session Information Item  
Summary**

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**Subject: Clerk Communications**

**From: Mark Folk, Clerk**

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Communication has been received from the following organizations in acknowledgement of donations:

- Faith Ministry
- Crisis Assistance
- Friends of Accion
- Supportive Housing Communities