

Covenant Presbyterian Church
Meeting of Session
Monday, September 11, 2023
7:00 pm
CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of August 14, 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 Meeting Minutes from August 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. August 2023 Treasurer's Report (pp. 8-9)
2. Extended Communion Report (p. 10)
3. Clerk's Communications (p. 11)

FUTURE EVENTS

- September 17 Congregational Meeting, 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary
- October 16 Elder Dinner, 6:00 p.m. gathering, 6:30 p.m. dinner/program
- October 24 Presbytery Meeting, 9:30 a.m. Zoom
- November 9-12 Covenant Impacts Charlotte
- November 13 Session Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING
AUGUST 14, 2023**

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Moderator Bob Henderson called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. A spiritual reflection was followed by prayer.

Determination of Quorum and Adoption of Agenda

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

Endorsement of Shea Watts as Inquirer

Watts, our current director of contemporary worship and arts, appeared to request Session support for his ministry inquiry. In his presentation, Watts surveyed his own faith journey, including his Pentecostal background and first association with the PCUSA in Columbus, Ohio. He expressed appreciation for the friendship and community he has found at Covenant and for the commitment to worship. He now feels a call to ordained ministry. Session then endorsed by unanimous vote Watts as an Inquirer.

Administration - Liz Ward, Chair

Ward began her report by describing a "swarm of generosity" seen in year-to-date pledge receipts which were ahead of budget. She also announced an unanticipated gift to the CDC. Scott Mollenkopf is leading a review of the CDC budget in light of the upcoming final payment of a non-recurring grant. Expense management is a priority. Ward encouraged ministry chairs to monitor their budgets and anticipated expenditures for the balance of the year.

Personnel - Burnet Tucker, Chair

Tucker announced that Miatta Thompson, our new accounting manager, has joined the staff and that Michelle Williams, staff accountant, has assumed her additional responsibilities. The only active search committee is for the organist and associate director of traditional music position. Claire Brown has agreed to continue as interim director of children's ministry.

Planning and Evaluation - Sandra Boozer, Chair

Boozer provided an update on the ongoing work of the arts task force and the Envision Covenant Team. The task force continues its deep research and engagement of experts. Envision Covenant members will begin listening sessions for ministry leadership teams on August 16, 2023. Congregation-wide listening sessions are being planned. Facilitators for the sessions are being recruited for training. Consultant Kim Spivey leads the effort.

Ministry Reports:

Congregational Life - Katie Coley, Chair

Coley reviewed the Summer activities sponsored by the ministry, noting particularly the

success of pop- up classes and supper clubs. Open Table will resume on Wednesday, September 6, 2023. Flu and COVID vaccinations are set for Wednesdays during the months of September and October.

Education - Courtney St. Onge, Chair

St. Onge noted the success of youth mission trips and book clubs. She also explained that the ministry is assessing the children's education efforts. The focus is on developing a cohesive education pathway by discerning what most kids should learn and experience during the process.

Engagement - No Report

Mission and Outreach - Tim Kendrick, Chair

Mandy Rencher, our new director of mission and outreach, was introduced. She is already at work with ministry leaders. Planning continues for Covenant's participation in the Habitat for Humanity Carter Project to take place October 2 through October 6, 2023. Covenant members have already filled the eight spots available each day, and Laura Belcher is arranging for additional spots for Covenant. Covenant Impacts Charlotte is set for November 12, 2023 and the alternative gift market will take place on December 10, 2023. Mary Kate Sykes, our pastoral resident for education, is leading this year's civil rights trip. Covenant members will be joined by members of Smallwood Presbyterian Church. On the global missions front, Kendrick reported that the recent Yucatan mission trip was a success with the team finding improvements with Accion Ministries, a mission partner that has faced challenges in recent years. The Palestine trip set for October 21 through October 30, 2023 is full. The global ministry team will be evaluating the viability of all partnerships during the fourth quarter of 2023.

Worship - Beth Koonce, Vice Chair

A single worship service on September 3 (Labor Day weekend) will be held at 11:00 o'clock. All four services, including the 8:45 chapel service and the 11:00 o'clock fellowship hall family service, will resume on September 10. Koonce announced other special worship days for the fall: World Communion Sunday on October 1, All Saints Day on November 5, and the first Sunday of Advent on December 3. Koonce also provided music ministry updates. Emily Schauer will lead Covent Ringers in the fall and Jacquelyn McAbee will lead a six-week Wednesday class on introduction to handbells. Heather Potter, director of traditional music, will lead all three children's choirs. Bob Henderson noted Potter's extra efforts since the departure of Rob Dicks.

Clerk's Report - Mark Folk, Clerk

Folk recognized the efforts of the Elder Nominating Committee, co-chaired by Tommy Lawson and Grace Williams. Other members of the Committee were: Amber Brown, Alan Atwell, Mary Clair Chinery, Richard Magrath, Carolyn Renner, Jen Thomas, Susie Vincent and Linsey Zalecki. The Elder Nominees for the Class of 2026 are: Bill Cathey, Janet Delery, Vincent DiSandro, Jim Dobbins, David Frost, Jacquelyn McAbee, John McAlister, Thomas Porter, Lou Watson, Sarah Wilson, and youth elders Payton Majors and Preston Manning. A congregational meeting to elect new elders will be held on September 17, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

Old Business/New Business - None

Grounded and Growing will be the theme of a year-long series of sermons and other programming. Kick off will take place on August 27. Representatives of all ministries described programming planned throughout the year.

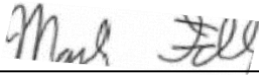
Staff Announcements/Pastoral Concerns

Henderson and Katherine Kerr led a discussion of celebrations and concerns.

Closing Prayer

Kerr led the closing prayer for the meeting which adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Folk, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Called Session Meetings August 6, 13, 20, 27, 2023

Covenant held three Called Session Meetings for the purposes of receiving new members. Lora Borrelli introduced the following new members and information:

August 6, 2023

Liam O'Hara	Reaffirmation
Lyndly O'Hara	Transfer Letter--Christ Covenant Church, Matthews, NC

August 13, 2023

Cate Cospers	Reaffirmation
James Wittmack	Reaffirmation

August 20, 2023

Irina Bridges	Transfer Letter--First Presbyterian, Lynchburg, VA
Pam Manley	Reaffirmation
Jamie McFadden	Reaffirmation

August 27, 2023

Kim McCarter	Transfer Letter--First Presbyterian, Newton, NC
--------------	---

Active (confirmed) members as of 8/31/2023: 2636

2023 new members as of 8/31/2023: 93

2023 new affiliate members as of 8/31/2023 : 1

New members since last report: 8

2023 transfers as of 8/31/2023: 7

2023 deaths as of 8/31/2023: 4

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Transferred to:</u>
None to report.	

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Action Item
Summary**

SUBJECT: October Baptisms

DATE: September 11, 2023

Report From: Baptism Committee

Background: Baptism must be approved by the Session.

Process to Date: Parents requested that their children be baptized.

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 October.

Sunday, October 15, 2023 at the 11:00 worship service in the Covenant Sanctuary
Emma Thomas Liu, child of Abby and Bo Liu

Sunday, October 29, 2023 at the 9:30 worship service in the Covenant Sanctuary
Rowan Kent McCready, child of Laura and Dan McCready

Motion: Motion to approve the baptisms of Emma Thomas Liu and Rowan Kent McCready in October 2023.

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Monthly Financial Comments August 2023

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Covenant Presbyterian Church		Period ending: 8/31/2023				Y-T-D Actual as % of Annual Budget					
INCOME STATEMENT		YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance	Annual Budget	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Income:											
1	Pledge Receipts	1,920,200	2,187,702	267,502	3,385,000	65%	58%	64%	68%	61%	59%
2	Misc Contributions	169,400	173,866	4,466	402,200						
3	Investment Income	298,100	295,458	(2,642)	302,000						
4	Other Receipts	24,800	68,294	43,494	35,000						
5	Total Schools	1,091,135	1,175,105	83,970	1,714,727						
6	Child Dev. Ctr.	874,800	974,438	99,638	1,322,392						
7	Preschool	216,335	200,667	(15,668)	392,335						
8	Food Service	93,500	109,785	16,285	150,400						
9	Recreation Wing	48,850	56,903	8,053	115,000						
10	Youth/ Adult Trips	111,100	89,116	(21,984)	135,750						
	Total Income	3,757,085	4,156,229	399,144	6,240,077	67%	59%	55%	56%	58%	59%
Expenses:											
11	Worship	70,650	74,022	3,372	117,400						
12	Congregational Life	14,380	11,784	(2,596)	30,950						
13	Engagement	5,700	5,328	(372)	9,750						
14	Mission & Outreach	390,700	390,372	(328)	622,200						
15	Education	116,428	95,722	(20,706)	159,630						
16	Total Schools	1,109,402	1,266,885	157,482	1,678,336						
17	Child Dev. Ctr.	878,022	1,032,628	154,605	1,312,284						
18	Preschool	231,380	234,257	2,877	366,052						
19	Food Service	76,400	57,340	(19,060)	134,700						
20	Recreation Ministries	33,600	29,446	(4,154)	36,660						
21	Administration	406,650	465,428	58,778	636,600						
22	Personnel	1,882,456	1,853,026	(29,430)	2,813,851						
	Total Expenses	4,106,366	4,249,354	142,987	6,240,077	68%	62%	53%	52%	62%	63%
	Net Income	(349,281)	(93,125)	256,157	-						
BALANCE SHEET			August	July	Change						
Assets:											
22	Truist Checking/Savings		2,029,295	1,995,185	34,109						
23	M&F, Towne, WF Holding & Rosebro		2,467,575	2,461,368	6,207						
24	Petty Cash		350	350	-						
25	Accounts Receivable and Advances		50,812	49,854	958						
26	Endowment Fund Mkt Value		15,355,627	15,193,867	161,760						
27	Real Estate Funds		2,025,000	2,025,000	-						
	Total Assets		21,928,658	21,725,624	203,034						
Liabilities:											
28	Accounts Payable and Misc. Accruals		(14,038)	788	(14,825)						
	Total Liabilities		(14,038)	788	(14,825)						
Fund Balances:											
29	Donor Advised		218,774	218,774	-						
30	Infrastructure Fund/Cornerstone Income		220,006	220,006	-						
31	Payable to Endowment Corpus		1,505	1,455	50						
32	Restricted End/Cornerst & Real Estate		17,380,627	17,218,867	161,760						
33	Restricted Funds		3,442,928	3,236,420	206,508						
34	Non-Budgeted Benevolences		10,531	11,661	(1,130)						
35	Section 125 Plan		(4,442)	(4,881)	439						
36	Genl Fund Balance		550,510	698,218	(147,708)						
37	Columbarium		57,688	58,742	(1,054)						
38	Reserve Fund Balances		64,570	65,575	(1,005)						
	Total Fund Balances		21,942,697	21,724,836	217,861						
	Total Liab. & Fund Balances		21,928,659	21,725,624	203,035						

**Covenant Presbyterian
Church Session Information
Item Summary**

Subject: Extended Communion Report

From: Worship Ministry

Report from: Amy Hunter, Outgoing Extended Communion Chair

Judy Grubbs & Mary Wood Stallings, Incoming Extended Communion Chairs

Extended Communion was served on Sunday, August 6, 2023.

Elders Serving:

Terry Horne
Emily Reinicker
Sally Shaw
Hank and Mary Wood Stallings
Jane H. Taylor
Sandy and Sherry Ward

Members/additional recipients served:

Mary Edwards (Pamela and Bud Hensley)
Betty Moak
Don and Brenda Moricle
Ellie Roberts
Bud and Agnes Smith

While certain circumstances intervened and not all were able to be served, each was appreciative of being contacted and remembered as part of the Covenant family.

**Covenant Presbyterian
Church Session Information
Item Summary**

Subject: Clerk Communications

From: Mark Folk, Clerk

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

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

- Union Presbyterian Seminary