

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Meeting of Session
Monday, April 20, 2020
7:00 P.M.
CONSENT AGENDA**

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of March 9, 2020 Session Meeting Minutes (pp. 2-4). Deana Cooper, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of this meeting be approved as written.
2. Approval of March 31, 2020 Called Session Meeting Minutes (p. 5). Deana Cooper, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of this meeting be approved as written.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Clerk's Communications (p. 6).

FUTURE EVENTS

- April 22 Town Hall via Zoom, 7:00 P.M.
- May 3 Spring Joining Meeting via Zoom, 10:30 A.M.
- May 3 Town Hall via Zoom, 7:00 P.M.
- May 11 May Session Meeting, 7:00 P.M.
- May 19 Presbytery Meeting at Davidson College PC, 9:30 A.M.

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING ON
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2020**

Call to Order – Katherine Kerr, Moderator

Moderator Katherine Kerr called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm in the Peek Music Room. She opened the meeting with scripture, a short reflection, and prayer.

Determination of Quorum and Adoption of Agenda

The moderator declared a quorum was present and the Agenda was adopted as written.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda was adopted with one amendment (on page 8 of 15, Ministry of Worship report, third bullet, change "...the Sunday after Covenant Impacts Charlotte...", to "...the Sunday of Covenant Impacts Charlotte...").

Administration

No Report

Planning & Evaluation – Jerry Jernigan, Chair

P&E representatives continue to meet with Plaza Presbyterian representatives. P&E should have a report for the Session to consider at the next meeting.

P&E brought a motion requesting the Session's approval to engage in negotiations for the purpose of acquiring property which may be beneficial to Covenant, and to prepare and convey a non-binding Letter of Intent (LOI) for the purchase. Further, before any binding offer is made, P&E shall present the terms of the same in detail to the Session for its consideration of whether or not to approve the offer.

The motion was approved by the Session.

Personal Report – Katie Stewart, Chair

An offer has been made and accepted for the Director of Children's Ministry position. The person's name will be disclosed once appropriate notification to current employer has been made. Grace Lindvall added many thanks and gratitude for the role Claire Brown has provided in the interim.

Ministry Reports:

Education

No Report

Engagement

No Report

Mission & Outreach – Derek Thomas, Chair

Mission Remarkable Results:

The very successful event raised more than \$83,000 for Mission & Outreach initiatives. While there were certainly a few large amounts, there were also examples of groups throughout Covenant that raised significant amounts, including the Wall of Love (Elementary Education) that raised more than

\$2,600, the raffle (Middle and High School Youth) that also raised more than \$2,600, and the bake sale that raised more than \$2,000. Beyond the money, there are several stories that show the success of the event, including a leading donor who also purchased a rocking chair for family (to be used in holding grandchildren!), a donor who was able to re-connect with old friends at Covenant, and a supporter who purchased a cake to take to a patient in the hospital.

2020 Goals for Mission & Outreach:

1. Identify specific opportunities to help develop social capital and build community with and among our neighbors at the Mezzanine.
2. Foster greater awareness of the impact of racial and social inequality, and offer both educational and action-oriented opportunities for growth.
3. Use storytelling and personal invitations to inspire members of Covenant to engage in outreach endeavors.

Congregational Life

No Report

Worship – Sarah Crowder, Chair

The Ministry of Worship has approved the following changes in the worship schedules and formats for Covenant for the remainder of 2020:

- The Chapel worship service (8:45 on Sundays) will pause for the summer.
 - The last Chapel worship service for the summer will be on May 17, 2020.
 - The Chapel service will not occur on the Sunday before Memorial Day (May 24, 2020).
 - Chapel Worship services will resume on September 13, 2020 (the Sunday after Labor Day).
- On Sunday, July 5, 2020, there will be one service at 11:00 AM in the Sanctuary, with a contemporary format.
- On the Sunday of Covenant Impacts Charlotte, (Date TBD) there will be one worship service, with a blended format.
- On Sunday, December 27, 2020, there will be one service at 11 AM in the Sanctuary, with a traditional format.
- Except for these changes, all other services will continue on their normal schedules throughout 2020.

Mention was made of the March and April baptisms which were approved with adoption of the consent agenda.

Katherine Kerr also briefly described the Wedding Seminar Covenant sponsors every February in anticipation of the many weddings that are scheduled during the year. These seminars are open to all couples, whether scheduled to be married at Covenant or not.

Clerk's Report – Deana Cooper, Clerk of Session

The Clerk reminded all that the date and time of the next meeting (April 20 at 6:30 pm) are different than the normal schedule. The next meeting will include examination of the Quest class.

The Clerk reminded all of the future events listed in the consent agenda.

The Clerk invited anyone interested to read various communications received since the past meeting.

Old Business/ New Business

Staff Announcements / Pastoral Concerns

For the remainder of the season, dinner for Open Table will be served via the kitchen serving line to reduce the risk of contamination and spread of disease.

Volunteers are welcome to help wipe down the sanctuary on Saturday.

The online streaming of the worship services will be enhanced by staff participation.

The Lenten Bible Study will be made available via Zoom for those who chose not to attend in person.

The Ministry of Worship is reviewing Communion procedures in an attempt to reduce risk of exposure to participants.

Many thanks to all (donors, buyers, volunteers, bakers, etc.) who helped make the Mission Festival a success.

The Quest class will be traveling to the beach for a retreat in two weeks.

Approximately 200 people attended the Storytelling program by Casey Donahue. Thanks go to the many people who were involved in publicizing and helping make the event a success.

Several Covenant members and staff traveled to Covington, Georgia to support and participate in the installation of Neeley Lane as Senior Pastor at First Presbyterian Church.

Pastoral concerns were shared.

Closing Prayer

Katherine Kerr closed the meeting with prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Deana Cooper, Clerk



Katherine C. Kerr, Moderator

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MINUTES OF THE CALLED SESSION MEETING ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020**

Call to Order – Bob Henderson, Moderator

Moderator Bob Henderson called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm via Zoom web meetings. He opened the meeting with prayer.

Determination of Quorum and Adoption of Agenda

The moderator declared a quorum was present and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to hear a report from the Finance and Personnel Committees regarding the staffing plan during the North Carolina Stay-At-Home directives.

Administration – Bill Keith, Church Administrator

Bill Keith reviewed a one-page summary of a personal cost review which had been jointly produced by the Finance and Personnel Committees. The document addresses anticipated expense and revenue for the Child Development Center, Pre-school, Recreation Wing, Food Service and other areas of church staff. Based on that analysis, Covenant will commit to pay regular employees through the month of April with intention to carry through the end of May. An additional review will be conducted in mid-April to determine whether or not to continue for the month of May.

All open position searches will be temporarily suspended except for that of the Middle School Director which is nearing completion.

A letter to staff will be written to explain Covenant's intentions.

Staff Announcements / Pastoral Concerns

Pastoral concerns were shared.

Closing Prayer

Katherine Kerr closed the meeting with prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Deana Cooper, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Information Item
Summary**

Subject: Clerk Communications

From: Deana Cooper, Clerk

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

- Crossnore School and Children's Home
- Faith Ministries
- Princeton Theological Seminary
- Heifer International
- Urban Ministry Center
- Freedom School Partners
- Personal note from Mady, QC Family Tree intern