

Covenant Presbyterian Church
Meeting of Session
Monday, June 14, 2021
7:00 p.m.
CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of May 10, 2021 Session Meeting Minutes (pp. 2-5). Phil Koonce, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of this meeting be approved as written.
2. Approval of Called Session Meetings Minutes from May to receive new members (p. 6). Phil Koonce, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of these meetings be approved as written.
3. Approval of request for changes to active roll (p. 7)
4. Approval of baptisms (pp. 8-9)
5. Approval of weddings (pp. 10-11)
6. Approval of worship services (p. 12)

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. May 2021 Treasurer's Report (pp. 13-14)
2. Clerk's Communications (p. 15)

FUTURE EVENTS

- July 4 Unified Worship Service, 11:00 a.m.
- August 8 Session Retreat/Meeting, tentatively 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. – details to follow
- August 21 Presbytery Meeting by Zoom

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Minutes of The Session Meeting on
Monday, May 10, 2021**

Call to Order and Opening Prayer – Bob Henderson, Moderator

The Moderator called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM via Zoom web meeting and opened the meeting with prayer.

Determination of Quorum, Adoption of Agenda and Consent Agenda

The moderator declared that a quorum was present. The Agenda and the Consent Agenda were approved as presented with an amendment to Session minutes: **The 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge** report page 1 line 5 to be corrected to “7th grade from 7th grad”.

21-Day Racial Equity Challenge - Jessica Hindman

Jessica gave a moving report on her experience with the **21-Day Racial Equity Challenge**. She expressed the shame, complicity and guilt she felt for not understanding how privileged a life she had lived versus the lack of privilege individuals of color had experienced. She stated her commitment to be active in bringing change to our society and challenged all present be active and not remain silent.

Order of the Day

Request to Become a Candidate - Mary Kate McAlister

Mary Kate began by expressing thanks for the support Covenant had provided as she grew up in the Church, as an Inquirer and during her time at Columbia Seminary. She also stated her appreciation of the emotional support Ann Ayers had provided. She discussed her faith formation, commitment to ministry, her student internship and her desire to move from her current status as an Inquirer to Candidate for the Ministry. A motion was made and seconded to endorse Mary Kate as a Candidate for Ministry. The motion was approved unanimously. Bob Henderson led Session in prayer for Mary Kate’s success in her journey.

Administration

Covenant Capital Campaign Final Update - Randy Ripple/ Tom Coley

Randy Ripple provided a historical overview of our capital campaign beginning with Session’s approval of a \$10 million campaign on August 28, 2017. He discussed the objectives of the campaign and how final pledges of \$12.4 million exceeded everyone’s expectations. He discussed the challenges of adjustments to budget caused by escalating construction costs, adding an addition \$1million for CDC scholarships and \$500,000 for affordable housing. He reflected on how the Implementation Team got off to an early start and how that allowed campus construction to be completed on schedule with functional new Welcome Center, Child

Development Center, Educational Building, Fellowship Hall and Dilworth Entrance. The CDC opened in November 2019 four months early and the Mezzanine on Freedom was built and fully leased on November 2020.

Tom Coley reviewed the original cost estimates which totaled \$10 million, the changes which added \$5.3 million, the revised budget which totaled \$15.3 million and the final costs of \$15,263,154. Session accepted the report and the campaign is closed save the expected receipt of approximately \$85,000 in pledges.

Katie Cornwell reported that Covenant had be notified that our PPP loan had been forgiven. The funds will be moved to P&E and CDC endowment per previously approved by Session.

Planning and Evaluation - Betty Graybeal

Betty Graybeal presented a proposal to up-grade our audio-visual equipment in the Fellowship Hall, the Sanctuary, the Chapel, and in Hybrid Rooms. The total cost of the project is \$432,949.09. We have received a bequest of \$225,000 that can be used to reduce the out-of-pocket costs to \$207,949. The motion was moved, seconded and approved.

Personnel - Paul Steffens, Chair

Paul reported that the new Director of Contemporary Worship and Arts, Shea Watts, will start work the first week of June. We are beginning a search for a leader of children's programs. Ian Clark's three years with Covenant will end shortly and we will have his commission ceremony here.

Ministry Reports:

Congregational Life - No Report

Education - John Downs, Chair

John thanked Martin Pruitt and Alyssa Pacheco for their great work with our youth during the last difficult year and for the wonderful Youth Sunday services. John also thanked Ian Clark for his 3 years of service to Covenant. John provided an update on the continuing educational efforts around racial justice including a planned walk through up-town and a summer book read. John also provided information on Vacation Bible School and fall programming.

Engagement - No Report

Mission and Outreach - Allen Brown, Chair

Allen requested four volunteers to attend the Tuesday, May 18 meeting of the Presbytery of Charlotte. The meeting will be a Zoom web meeting.

Worship - Ashley Roehrig, Chair

Ashely reported that we will offer in person worship beginning Sunday, June 6th with 9:30 and 11:00 services. Social distancing will be required and the number of worships may be limited to 200 persons. Communion will not be served. Meaningful updates are planned for our on-line efforts including a hybrid process where portions services may be pre-recorded in order to maintain the highest quality presentation.

Clerk's Report - Phil Koonce, Clerk of Session

Phil provided information on a meeting he, Bob Henderson and Bill Keith had with representatives of Atrium to discuss the new Atrium Wake Forest School of Medicine that will be located on Baxter Street several blocks from Covenant. Rezoning is required and Atrium is seeking Covenant's support at the July 19 public hearing. We have concerns about traffic flow, ability to safely cross Morehead Street (hopefully gaining a new traffic light) and potential to add affordable housing to the project.

Covenant will host the Presbytery of Charlotte's February 12, 2022 meeting.

Session will have a retreat on August 8, 2021. P&E will plan the retreat which will include our August Session meeting.

The re-opening task force has expanded the number of conference rooms in the Welcome Center that are available for meetings as we return to campus.

Old Business/New Business

Staff Announcements/Pastoral Concerns

Katherine Kerr reported that new parish nurse, Laura Capranica, is now on board. She also asked that we pray for Kathryn and John Martin on death of Kathryn's mother Gale Gillock Hancock on May 3. Additionally, pray for Bob Blythe and Liz Welchman. Bob Henderson reported that Amy Sullivan has been diagnosed with cancer.

Closing Prayer

Katherine Kerr closed the meeting with prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Phil Koonce, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Called Session Meetings
May 2, 16, 23, 2021

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

Members of 2021 Confirmation Class (April 25, 2021)

Mary Quinn McIntyre	Declaration of Faith
Anna Longshore	Declaration of Faith
James Batten	Declaration of Faith
Yls Virkler	Declaration of Faith
Payton Majors	Declaration of Faith
Rachel Guffin	Declaration of Faith
Preston Manning	Declaration of Faith
Sena Thorsland Everett	Declaration of Faith
Gunnar Thorsland Everett	Declaration of Faith
Hank Hanus	Declaration of Faith
Walter McCann	Declaration of Faith
Maggie Davis	Declaration of Faith
Reid Wilson	Declaration of Faith
Garrett Baer	Declaration of Faith
Lindsay Bello	Declaration of Faith
Hal Demarest	Declaration of Faith
Everett Harriss	Declaration of Faith
Walker Darnell	Declaration of Faith
Camille Becker	Declaration of Faith
Caroline Lam	Declaration of Faith
Wade Thompson	Declaration of Faith
Shade Burgess	Declaration of Faith

May 2, 2021

Megan Lawson	Transfer Letter--Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago
Janice Price	Transfer Letter--First United Methodist Church, Charlotte, NC

May 16, 2021

Tracy Newson	Reaffirmation
Drew Newson	Reaffirmation

May 23, 2021

Morgan Stapp	University Presbyterian Church, Chapel Hill, NC
Andrew Sawyers	Reaffirmation
Lauren Sawyers	Reaffirmation

Active (confirmed) members as of 5/31/21: 2463

2021 new members as of 5/31/21: 40

2021 new affiliate members as of 5/31/21: 0

New members since last report: 29

2021 transfers as of 5/31/21: 7

2021 deaths as of 5/31/21: 12

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

Respectfully submitted,



Phil Koonce, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Session Meeting
Request for Changes in the Active Roll

Removed from Active Roll Per Request

Name	Transferred to:
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None to report.

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION ACTION ITEM
Summary**

SUBJECT: June, July, August 2021 Baptisms

DATE: June 14, 2021

Report From: Baptism Committee

Chair: Casey Unger

Background: Baptism must be approved by the Session.

Process to Date: Parents request that their children be baptized in June, July and August 2021.

Budget Impact: None

Actions Taken or Recommendation: The Baptism Committee recommends approval of the following baptisms that will occur in June, July, and August 2021.

June 13, 2021

Truett John Fischer, child of Leah and Nicholas Fischer at 9:30
Audrey Grace Visco, child of Mary Ripple and Gray Visco at 11:00
Rachel Claire Hankinson, child of Sarah and Rob Hankinson at 11:00

June 20, 2021

Aiden Ndelo Murray, child of Cynthia Ndelo Murray and Terance Murray at 9:30
Samuel Leaf Leitner, child of Hannah and Zach Leitner at 9:30
Zachary Sprock Leitner at 9:30
Liam Rio Bridges, child of Marina and Brad Bridges at 9:30
Raegan Elizabeth Newsome, child of Tracy and Drew Newsome at 11:00
Myers Jo Gibson, child of Meredith and AJ Gibson at 11:00
Gray Steven Young, child of Sarah and Brent Young at 11:00
Olivia Rose Jacobs, child of Jessica and Joseph Jacobs at 11:00

June 27, 2021

Edith Emery Morrison, child of Susan and Andrew Morrison at 11:00
Margaret Reid Ketner, child of Katherine and Bo Ketner at 11:00

July 18, 2021

Rives Louise Breeding, child of Katie and Matt Breeding at 11:00

August 8, 2021

Robert Fox McQuiston, child of Peter and Corey McQuiston at 9:30
Harriet Mae Brown, child of Katie and Barrett at 9:30

Motion: Motion to approve the baptisms of Truett John Fisher, Audrey Grace Visco, Rachel Claire Hankinson, Aiden Ndelo Murray, Samuel Leaf Leitner, Zachary Sprock Leitner, Liam Rio Bridges, Raegan Elizabeth Newsome, Myers Jo Gibson, Gray Steven Young, Olivia Rose Jacobs, Edith Emery Morrison, Margaret Reid Ketner, Rives Louise Breeding, Robert Fox McQuiston, Harriet Mae Brown.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Session Action Item
Summary

SUBJECT: Approval of Weddings Scheduled in 2021 and 2022;
Changes in Previously approved Wedding Schedule

DATE: June 14, 2021

Report From: Ministry of Worship

Chair: Ashley Roehrig

Background: Weddings held at Covenant must be approved by the Session.

Process to Date: The Wedding Committee has worked with couples to schedule and re-schedule their weddings at Covenant.

Budget Impact: None

Actions Recommended: The Ministry of Worship, upon the recommendation of the Wedding Committee, recommends approval of the following weddings at Covenant and the following changes in schedule for previously approved weddings, as follows:

- Ellison Cleghorn and Thomas Ledbetter Vow Renewal: June 26, 2021
 - NOTE: This wedding was originally scheduled at Covenant for June 20, 2020 and was approved by session (including request for guest officiant) in January 2020. Couple was married offsite on June 20, 2020. This is a vow renewal.
- Catherine (Cate) Scharf and David Cosper: July 17, 2021
- Judith Crews and Justin Kanera: August 21, 2021
 - NOTE: This wedding was originally scheduled for June 5, 2021 and was approved by session in November 2020. The wedding has been rescheduled.
- Abby Young and Bo Liu Vow Renewal: October 16, 2021
 - NOTE: This wedding was originally scheduled at Covenant for October 17, 2020 and was approved by session (including request for guest officiant) in January 2020. Couple was married offsite on October 17, 2020. This is a vow renewal.
- Abbie Henderson and Gray Cherry: December 4, 2021
 - NOTE: This wedding was originally scheduled for December 5, 2020 and was approved by session in January 2020. The wedding has been rescheduled.
- Mary Kate McAlister and Marshall Sykes: February 19, 2022
- Rachel Simmons and Riley Wilson: March 19, 2022 (request for guest officiant is forthcoming)
- Mollie Strawn and Margo DeBot Vow Renewal: April 2, 2022

- NOTE: This wedding was originally scheduled at Covenant for November 14, 2020 and was approved by session in January 2020. Couple was married offsite in December 2020. This is a vow renewal.
- Jenna Baker and Ruffin Sykes: April 23, 2022
- Lacy McAlister and Nate King: April 30, 2022

Motion: The Ministry of Worship moves approval of the above listed weddings.

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION ACTION ITEM
SUMMARY**

SUBJECT: Worship Services

DATE: June 14, 2021

Report From: Worship Committee

Chair: Ashley Roehrig

Background: Worship schedule changes must be approved by Session.

Budget Impact: None.

Actions Taken or Recommendation: The Worship Committee recommends approval of the following worship service plans for the remainder of 2021.

July 4 — One Service - 11:00 a.m.; Traditional

September 5 — One Service — 11:00 a.m.; Contemporary

September 12 — Resumption of four weekly service schedule

November 14 — One Service — 11:00 a.m.; Blended/Combined — Stewardship
dedication/Covenant Impacts Charlotte (CIC)

December 26 — One Service — 11 a.m.; Traditional

January 2 — Resumption of four services schedule

Motion: Motion to approve the worship service information as listed.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Monthly Financial Comments

May 2021

Income: As of May, income was under budget by (\$249,506), resulting in year-to-date total income being \$2,047,994. There was a continued income shortfall of (\$212,046) related to the CDC not being at full enrollment (the budget assumes full enrollment for both income and expenses). Currently, the CDC is at approximately 70% enrollment, and income remains above expenses.

Year-to-date pledge receipts are unfavorable to budget by (\$7,917) and remain aligned with historic trends.

Expenses: CDC expenses for May were lower than budget by (\$131,946), due to not being at full staff or full enrollment (see above). May's Personnel expense was also favorable to budget, by (\$91,945), due to open positions and some staff not working while the campus has been closed. Like with the CDC, Personnel expenses are budgeted as if all roles are filled, but most open positions are not being filled at this time to partly offset income shortfalls. Expenses for Ministries were below budget for the month, due to the campus being closed.

The Bottom Line: The May YTD bottom line reflected \$17,103 favorable to the budget due primarily to lower Personnel, Administration, and CDC expenses.

Covenant Presbyterian Church		Period ending: 05/31/21				Y-T-D Actual as % of Annual Budget					
INCOME STATEMENT		YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance	Annual Budget	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Income:											
1	Pledge Receipts	\$ 1,450,000	\$ 1,442,083	\$ (7,917)	\$ 3,010,000	48%	51%	45%	43%	44%	47%
2	Misc Contributions	\$ 96,500	\$ 73,108	\$ (23,392)	\$ 346,700						
3	Investment Income	\$ 141,000	\$ 141,612	\$ 612	\$ 280,000						
4	Other Receipts	\$ 7,000	\$ (1,039)	\$ (8,039)	\$ 35,000						
5	Food Service	\$ 21,500	\$ 25,563	\$ 4,063	\$ 70,000						
6	Recreation Wing Re	\$ 6,000	\$ 3,244	\$ (2,756)	\$ 85,500						
7	Child Development	\$ 562,500	\$ 350,454	\$ (212,046)	\$ 1,350,000						
8	Preschool Receipts	\$ 9,500	\$ 8,720	\$ (780)	\$ 128,000						
9	Youth Trips	\$ 3,500	\$ 4,250	\$ 750	\$ 82,600						
10	Adult Trips	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000						
Total Income		\$ 2,297,500	\$ 2,047,994	\$ (249,506)	\$5,395,800	38%	41%	43%	42%	45%	48%
Expenses:											
11	Worship	\$ 26,650	\$ 17,637	\$ (9,013)	\$ 109,850						
12	Congregational Life	\$ 4,700	\$ 2,021	\$ (2,679)	\$ 34,850						
13	Engagement	\$ 1,350	\$ 772	\$ (578)	\$ 7,500						
14	Mission & Outreach	\$ 245,000	\$ 241,484	\$ (3,516)	\$ 573,000						
15	Education	\$ 17,460	\$ 10,161	\$ (7,299)	\$ 147,500						
16	Preschool	\$ 17,000	\$ 19,755	\$ 2,755	\$ 169,450						
17	Administration	\$ 225,275	\$ 211,547	\$ (13,728)	\$ 619,997						
18	Food Service	\$ 25,600	\$ 17,041	\$ (8,559)	\$ 69,500						
19	Recreation Ministri	\$ 225	\$ 124	\$ (101)	\$ 19,650						
20	Child Development	\$ 462,450	\$ 330,504	\$ (131,946)	\$ 1,191,117						
21	Personnel	\$ 979,390	\$ 887,445	\$ (91,945)	\$ 2,453,386						
Total Expenses		\$ 2,005,100	\$ 1,738,491	\$ (266,609)	\$5,395,800	32%	35%	41%	40%	41%	40%
Net Income		\$ 292,400	\$ 309,503	\$ 17,103	\$ -						
BALANCE SHEET											
			May	April	Change						
Assets:											
22	Truist (BB&T) Checking/Savings	\$ 3,630,838	\$ 4,325,423	\$ (694,585)							
23	M&F, Towne, WF Holding & Rosebro	\$ 1,215,141	\$ 1,215,094	\$ 47							
24	Petty Cash	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ -							
25	Accounts Receivable and Advances	\$ 44,444	\$ 18,040	\$ 26,404							
26	Endowment Fund Mkt Value	\$ 17,463,691	\$ 16,272,847	\$ 1,190,844							
27	Real Estate Funds	\$ 2,025,000	\$ 2,025,000	\$ -							
Total Assets		\$24,379,465	\$23,856,754	\$ 522,711							
Liabilities:											
28	Accounts Payable and Misc. Accruals	\$ 25,040	\$ 539,040	\$ (514,000)							
Total Liabilities		\$ 25,040	\$ 539,040	\$ (514,000)							
Fund Balances:											
29	Donor Advised	\$ 312,674	\$ 259,081	\$ 53,593							
30	Infrastructure Fund/Cornerstone Incc	\$ 252,924	\$ 252,924	\$ -							
31	Payable to Endowment Corpus	\$ 3,540	\$ 3,190	\$ 350							
32	Restricted End/Cornerst & Real Estate	\$ 19,488,691	\$ 18,297,847	\$ 1,190,844							
33	Restricted Funds	\$ 3,285,351	\$ 3,207,684	\$ 77,667							
34	Non-Budgeted Benevolences	\$ 71,501	\$ 199,986	\$ (128,485)							
35	Section 125 Plan	\$ (4,907)	\$ (5,126)	\$ 219							
36	Genl Fund Balance	\$ 814,064	\$ 973,005	\$ (158,941)							
37	Columbarium	\$ 48,249	\$ 47,494	\$ 755							
38	Reserve Fund Balances	\$ 82,337	\$ 81,628	\$ 709							
Total Fund Balances		\$24,354,425	\$23,317,713	\$1,036,712							
Total Liab. & Fund Balances		\$24,379,465	\$23,856,753	\$ 522,712							

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION INFORMATION ITEM**

Summary

Subject: Clerk Communications

From: Phil Koonce, Clerk

Communication has been received from the following organizations in acknowledgement of donations: None to report.