

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Meeting of Session
Sunday, April 17, 2016
6:00pm
CONSENT AGENDA**

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of March 14, 2016 Session Meeting Minutes (pgs.2-4). Alan Atwell, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of this meeting be approved as written.
2. Approval of Called Session Meetings Minutes from March to receive new members (pg. 5). Alan Atwell, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of these meetings be approved as written.
3. Approval of request for changes to active roll (pg. 6).
4. Approval of baptisms (pg. 7).
5. Approval of weddings (pg. 8).

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Clerk's Communications (pg. 9).

FUTURE EVENTS

- | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| • April 27 | Taize Service in the Chapel, 12pm |
| • May 6-8 | Church Wide Retreat |
| • May 9 | Next Session Meeting, 7pm |

Minutes of the Meeting of Session
Monday, March 14, 2016
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order – Moderator, Bob Henderson

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

Opening Worship – Bob Henderson

Rev. Henderson led the Session Meditation focusing on Luke 19:28-40, Palm Sunday and the walk down the road.

Determination of Quorum and Adoption of Agenda

Rev. Henderson declared a quorum and there was a motion offered and accepted to adopt the agenda as provided in advance of the meeting.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was adopted as presented.

Personnel Report

Chris Lam

Mr. Lam shared that searches continue for the Assistant Music Director and the Communication Director.

Administration

Treasurer's Report – Tom Coley

Mr. Coley reported that the strong financial performance continued in February with net income being \$92,000 better than budget.

Pat Burgess and Tom Coley – Lighting Project

Mr. Burgess presented an overview of a potential project that would replace current lighting at Covenant with 100% LED lighting. Based on a survey conducted by Net Zero, the annual savings to Covenant for electricity and for replacing bulbs would be approximately \$50,000. The initial recommendation was for the project to be broken into four phases. The effort would be completed over three years and the final three phases would be self-funded. Several questions from Session members were answered before voting unanimously for the Finance and Property Committees to further research the project, before making a recommendation to Session.

Planning and Evaluation

Capital Campaign -Will Summerville

Will spoke about the need for any and all communications concerning a Capital Campaign to be intentional and consistent. He provided language for all Session members to use when explaining what P&E has done and continues to do as a result of the “listening sessions” conducted last year. Until P&E is ready to make a recommendation to Session, any communications should be consistent to avoid any confusion.

Ministry Reports:

Education

No Report

Worship

Holy Week Updates – Sally Graves

Ms. Graves provided a handout that highlighted the activities scheduled for Holy Week and she also asked the Session to encourage attendance for the shared Good Friday service at University Baptist Church.

Summer Worship Schedule – Sally Graves

After explaining the proposed schedule for the inclusive period of Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend, Ms. Graves made a motion to provide services at 9:30 and 11:00 in the sanctuary and 11:00 in the Fellowship Hall, which was approved unanimously.

Congregational Life

Time and Talent – Nancy Sutton

Ms. Sutton explained that responsibility for the time and talent survey and follow up has been transferred from Congregational Life to Engagement, where Lora Borrelli will be responsible. She thanked the ministries for their diligent follow-up with those who volunteered as part of this past year's stewardship efforts.

Mission and Outreach

Holy Land Trip – Anne Gildea

Ms. Gildea provided an update on the recent trip to the Holy Land by over 20 Covenant members and staff. She reviewed the itinerary and shared her view on the many Non-Government Organizations (NGO) and people they interacted with while on the trip. She personally had three key take aways from the trip: 1) traveling with and getting to know Covenant members, 2) experiencing where Jesus had walked, preached, and prayed, 3) and learning about the ongoing conflict in the area.

Mission Festival – Tricia Smith

Ms. Smith shared the top ten reasons for supporting the revamped Mission Celebration this year. She explained there will be an increased emphasis on music and art. There will also be a change in format with a shorter live auction, more black box auction items, and no silent auction this year. The Worship Team is finalizing a CD that will be made available for sale at this year's celebration.

Engagement

New Member Report – Lora Borrelli

Ms. Borrelli provided a look at many of the new members who have joined Covenant in the past six months. Rather than statistics, she focused on telling the group a little about each individual, where they live, and how they have connected at Covenant. The themes that were obvious; most are young adults and many live in the South End area.

Hospitality and Visitors Report – Kate MacKenzie

Ms. MacKenzie provided the February visitors' report and asked for elders to note anyone they recognize.

Clerk's Report - Return on Ministries Update - Alan Atwell

Mr. Atwell reported that he and Randy Ripple have been meeting with leadership teams from each Ministry in preparation for the ministry chairs updating the Session in April and May on the priorities for each ministry.

Old Business/New Business

There was no old or new business.

Staff Announcements/Pastoral Concerns

Ms. Watson reminded everyone that sign up is under way for the Congregational Retreat on May 6-8.

Rev. Watson and members of Session shared several pastoral concerns, including a funeral next week where there would be an elder call. She also asked for prayers for a number of members of our congregation and their friends and families who are dealing with illnesses, surgeries or injuries.

Closing Prayer

There being no further business, Ms. Watson closed the meeting in prayer at 8:55 PM.



Alan Atwell, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Called Session Meetings
Sundays, March 7, 20 and 27, 2016**

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

March 7, 2016

Jeffrey Hudson Reaffirmation
Lisa Hudson Transfer Letter--Abingdon UMC, Abingdon, VA
Charles Edwards (Chad) Affiliate Membership
Keely Edwards Transfer Letter--First Presbyterian, Shelby, NC

March 20, 2016

Sarah Hankinson Reaffirmation
Robert Hankinson Reaffirmation

March 27, 2016

Alan Morrow Reaffirmation
Lynn Morrow Reaffirmation
Erin Flower Reaffirmation
Jon Flower Reaffirmation
Anne Rogers Transfer Letter--Myers Park Presbyterian Church
Brad Rogers Transfer Letter--Myers Park Presbyterian Church
Ellie Good Transfer Letter--Myers Park Baptist Church

Active (confirmed) members as of 3/31/16: 2173

2016 new members as of 2/29/16: 33

New members since last report: 13

2016 transfers YTD: 0

2016 deaths YTD: 6

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

Respectfully submitted,



Alan Atwell, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Meeting
Request for Changes in the Active Roll
April 17, 2016**

Removed from Active Roll Per Request

<u>Name</u>	<u>Transferred to:</u>	<u>Date</u>
--------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------

None to Report.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Action Item
Summary**

SUBJECT: April 2016 Baptisms

DATE: March 14, 2016

Report From: Baptism Committee

Chair: Mary Clare Bracey

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 recommends approval of the following baptisms at Covenant in April and May 2016:

April 17, 2016 at the 9:30 am service in the Covenant Sanctuary

Evelyn Elizabeth Hunter

Parents- Jace and Meg Hunter

James Calvin Rissler

Parents- Austin and Caitlin Rissler

April 24, 2016 at the 9:30 am service in the Covenant Sanctuary

Caroline Rosabelle Call

Parents-Creighton and Lauren Call

Lauren Friday Call

April 24, 2016 at the 11:00 am service in the Covenant Sanctuary

Benson Reid Maslanka

Parents-Nick and Casey Maslanka

May 8, 2016 at the 9:30 am service in the Covenant Sanctuary

Landry Powers Brown

Parents-Tony and Amber Brown

May 8, 2016 at the 11:00 am service in the Covenant Sanctuary

Zachary Harrison Hull, Jr

Parents-Zach and Emily Hull

Clara Jane Gritter

Parents- Brad and Ariel Gritter

The Baptism Committee retroactively recommends approval of the following baptisms at Covenant in April, 2016:

April 10, 2016 at the 9:30 am service in the Covenant Sanctuary

Laney Elizabeth Silvers

Parents- Brandon and Meghan Silvers

Motion: Motion to approve the baptisms of Evelyn Elizabeth Hunter, James Calvin Rissler, Caroline Rosabelle Call, Lauren Friday Call, Benson Reid Maslanka, Landry Powers Brown, Zachary Harrison Hull, Jr, Clara Jane Gritter and retroactively approve the baptism of Laney Elizabeth Silvers.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Action Item
Summary**

Subject: 2016 Weddings

Date: April 5, 2016

Report From: Worship Ministry/Wedding Committee

Chair: Barbara Ann Zizzi

Background: According to The Book of Order: The marriage service is under the direction of the teaching elder and the supervision of the Session. (W-4.9003)

Process to Date: Having presented the following weddings to the Wedding Committee and the Worship Ministry and in accordance with the Book of Order, the Wedding Committee would like to bring the following motion from the Worship Ministry for approval and transmittal to the April session meeting.

Budget Impact: None

Actions Taken or Recommendation: The Wedding Committee and Worship Ministry recommends the approval (some retroactively) of 11 weddings to take place at Covenant in 2016:

- The wedding of Katie Pressly and Joey Raborn on April 2, 2016
- The wedding of Leah Holland and Nicholas Fischer on April 30, 2016
- The wedding of Alison Hoggard and Kevin Moody on June 18, 2016
- The wedding of Jaryn Pulice and Chris Phelps on June 25, 2016
- The wedding of Marli Johnston and Andrew Boyd on July 30, 2016
- The wedding of Kate MacKenzie and Chris Carter on September 10, 2016
- The wedding of Alexandra Ringenberg and Sean Korchmar on September 17, 2016
- The wedding of Jenny Turnbull and Scott Coblentz on October 15, 2016
- The wedding of Lauren Nejberger and Mark Schiavone on October 22, 2016
- The wedding of Mackenzie Ball and Ryan Marosy on October 29, 2016
- The wedding of Stephanie Wheeler and Jason Cooper on October 29, 2016

Motion: The Wedding Committee moves that the weddings are approved (some retroactively) by Session to take place at Covenant Presbyterian Church.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Information Item
April 17, 2016**

Subject: Clerk Communications

From: Alan Atwell, Clerk

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

- Union Presbyterian Seminary