

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Meeting of Session
Monday, August 14, 2017
7:00pm
CONSENT AGENDA**

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of June 12, 2017 Session Meeting Minutes (pgs.2-4). Randy Ripple, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of this meeting be approved as written.
2. Approval of Called Session Meetings Minutes from June and July to receive new members (pg.5). Randy Ripple, 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 communion at wedding (pg.8).

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Extended Communion Report (pg. 9)
2. Clerk's Communications (pg.10).

FUTURE EVENTS

- August 19 Presbytery Meeting, 9:30am Quail Hollow Presbyterian
- August 27 Blessing of the Backpacks, "Rediscover" even with lunch following worship, Youth kickoff
- September 6 Open Table kickoff
- September 10 Full worship schedule resumes
- September 11 Session Meeting, 7pm
- September 13 Open Table regular programming resumes

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Minutes of the Meeting of Session on
Monday, June 12, 2017**

Call to Order and Opening Worship – Moderator, Bob Henderson

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm and opening worship was led by Rev. Henderson.

Determination of Quorum, Adoption of Agenda and Adoption of Consent Agenda

Rev. Henderson declared a quorum, and a motion to adopt the Agenda, which was distributed prior to the meeting, was made and approved. A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made and approved unanimously.

Request to Become an Inquirer – Lucy Crain

Rev. Henderson opened by describing the extensive commitment required to attend seminary and introduced Ms. Crain. Ms. Crain described her faith journey from her college years forward to seeking to become an Inquirer. She expressed her thankfulness for her Covenant community and its positive impact on her faith journey. Throughout her faith journey, Lucy has asked God for guidance as to his will and sought to follow God's path for her. Ms. Crain asked for the endorsement of Session to become an Inquirer as she continues to discern where God is leading her. Session members asked Ms. Crain several questions about her seminary experience to date, which she answered with grace and humor.

A motion was made to endorse Lucy Crain as an Inquirer to the Charlotte Presbytery and was passed unanimously. It was noted that Marilyn Mickle will act as Covenant's Session liaison to Ms. Crain as Covenant seeks to support Ms. Crain on her journey as an Inquirer. Rev. Watson led the Session in prayer for Ms. Crain.

Administration – Gene Wood

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Wood reviewed the May financials and reported that Covenant's overall operating performance is good, and the balance sheet continues to be healthy.

Personnel Report – Philip James

High School Youth Director

Levi Bannerman has been hired as Covenant's High School Youth Director. His first day is June 19th. Many thanks to Mike Ferone and his search team. Also, please thank Perrin Tribble if you see her on campus for doing double duty with middle school and high school youth for many months.

Three Open Positions

Mr. James reported that each of the three search committees is being dutiful and intentional in its search process and hopes to have good news related to the open staff position it is seeking to fill in the coming months.

Other Items

- Many thanks to Katie Stewart and Joe Poole for planning Daniel Heath's farewell event which was a huge success and very touching.
- Heidi Biermann, Covenant's Education Summer Intern, started May 30 and has already added much value in worship and other endeavors. Heidi has completed her first year of a Masters of Divinity at Princeton.
- Anna Rainey Dickson, Covenant's Summer Associate, started May 31 and has already added much value in worship and other endeavors.
- Jessica Patchett is enjoying her sabbatical with many new experiences and will return in the fall rejuvenated and refreshed.
- Joan Watson will take a sabbatical this fall.
- Bill Keith was recognized for earning a certification from the National Church Administrators organization and for being nominated to sit on the Board of Pensions. It was also noted that Mr. Keith sits on the BOD of Sharon Towers. Mr. Keith continues to raise the bar for Covenant and for himself in service of Covenant and our community. Thank you Bill for all you do and who you are.

Planning and Evaluation – Nancy Falls

Update on Potential Capital Campaign

Nancy Falls gave a brief update on P&E's progress since last month's Session meeting. The Affordable Housing task force continues to seek the best path for Covenant to address affordable housing needs in Charlotte. As part of its efforts, this team recently issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to three local firms and will receive response presentations on July 11 and 12. Session was reminded that if there was an easy solution, it would have already been done, and assured that both straight-forward and complex solutions are being thoroughly considered and vetted. P&E continues to work on other elements of a potential capital campaign and will keep Session updated.

Ministry Reports:

Education – No Report

Mission and Outreach – Will Summerville

Mr. Summerville read a touching and heartfelt thank you letter from The Epiphany School of Charlotte, Inc. Board of Directors to the Covenant Community.

Congregational Life – No Report

Engagement – Anne Gildea

Ms. Gildea reminded Session members to review the visitor's report, noting visitors who they know, and to return the marked report at meeting's end. Ms. Gildea noted how important it is for our community to welcome new members and participate in helping new members make connections and become involved. Ms. Gildea then gave an example of an established member emailing a new member, helping the new member to feel welcomed by offering friendship and inviting the new member to join in a community outreach event which matched the new member's interests.

Worship – No Report

Clerk's Report – Randy Ripple

Mr. Ripple reported that Bill Preston's graduation ceremony from Union Seminary, Charlotte will be at 2 pm on June 17, 2017 at Sharon Presbyterian Church. All Session members are invited to attend.

Mr. Ripple reported that the Elder Nominating Committee (ENC), chaired by Alan Atwell and Mary Lynne Calhoun, is fully staffed and begins meeting this month. Please consider nominating at least one member (or two or three) for elder, as it is helpful for the ENC to have a good pool of candidates as it seeks to nominate a group of elders.

Old Business/New Business - None

Staff Announcements/Pastoral Concerns

Rev. Henderson announced that David Watson will be ordained at Covenant on August 13 during the 11 am worship service, which will be a joyful event and day.

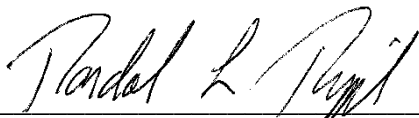
Three Covenant mission teams will depart over the next few weeks to Kenya, the Yucatan, and Chicago.

Several pastoral concerns and celebrations were shared.

Closing

Following a prayer led by Rev. Joan Watson, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Randy Ripple, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Called Session Meetings
June 4, 11, 25, and July 16, 30, 2017**

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

June 4, 2017

Daniel De La Pena Reaffirmation

June 11, 2017

Mary Lynn Larson Reaffirmation
Steve Larson Reaffirmation
Adam Larson Reaffirmation
Jones Pharr Transfer Letter--Forest Hill, Charlotte NC
Jackie Pharr Transfer Letter--Forest Hill, Charlotte, NC

June 25, 2017

Allison Menius Transfer Letter--White Memorial, Raleigh, NC

July 16, 2017

Hannah McSwain Reaffirmation
Ross McSwain Reaffirmation

July 30, 2017

Ben Mallicote Transfer Letter-- First Broad Street UMC, Kingsport, TN
Jessica Mallicote Transfer Letter--First Baptist Church, Forest City, NC

Active (confirmed) members as of 7/31/17: 2264

2017 new members as of 7/31/17: 73

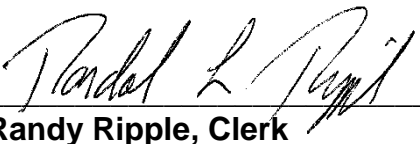
New members since last report: 11

2017 transfers as of 7/31/17: 17

2017 deaths as of 7/31/17: 13

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

Respectfully submitted,



Randy Ripple, 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>
Marion "Dusty" Pritchett	Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond, VA

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Action Item
Summary**

SUBJECT: August 2017 Baptisms

DATE: August 14, 2017

Report From: Baptism Committee

Mary Clare Bracey, Chairperson

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 August 2017:

August 20th at the 9:30 am service in the Covenant Sanctuary:

Amelia Rose Graybeal

Parents – Cindy and Brian Graybeal

August 20th at the 11:00 am service in the Covenant Sanctuary:

Margaret Elizabeth French

Parents - Taylor and Julianna French

Benjamin Finley Isaacs

Parents – Matt and Amanda Isaacs

Motion: Motion to approve the baptisms of Amelia Rose Graybeal, Margaret Elizabeth French and Benjamin Finley Isaacs.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Action Item
Summary**

SUBJECT: 2017 Wedding- Communion

DATE: August 14, 2017

Report From: Wedding Committee

Chair: Barbara Ann Zizzi

Background: According to The Book of Order, Session must approve celebrating the sacrament of communion at weddings.

Process to Date: Kaitlin Powers and Michael Coletta have requested that communion be served at their wedding on September 16, 2017. Therefore, in accordance with the Book of Order, the Wedding Committee would like to bring the following motion to the Worship Ministry for approval and transmittal to the August session meeting.

Budget Impact: None

Actions Taken or Recommendation: The Wedding Committee recommends the approval of celebrating the sacrament of communion at the wedding of Kaitlin Powers and Michael Coletta on September 16, 2017. The Reverend Jessica Patchett will officiate.

Motion: The Wedding Committee moves that the sacrament of communion be celebrated at the wedding ceremony of Kaitlin Powers and Michael Coletta on September 16, 2017 at Covenant Presbyterian Church with the Reverend Jessica Patchett officiating.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Information Item
Summary**

SUBJECT: Extended Communion

DATE: August 14, 2017

Report From: Extended Communion Committee **Chairs:** Betty Graybeal & Marilyn Mickle

**Extended Communion Report
Covenant Presbyterian Church- Worship Ministry**

Extended Communion was served on August 6, 2017.

Elders serving

Pat Arnold	Mary Utting
Carol & John Baxter	Emily Reinicker
Deana Cooper	Kay Tawney
Betty Graybeal	Jane H. Taylor
Sally Shaw	Ann Ayers
Nancy Sutton	Terry Horne
Amy Hunter	Randy & Louise Ripple

Members served

Orpha Baxter	Bob Taylor
Dick McClintock	Jim Patterson & 2 friends
LaRue Perry	Trish Johnson
Edna Hamilton	Ruby Taylor
Roy & Patricia Joslin	

Sharon Towers Health Care

Lou Crites
Martha Mitchell
Ann Blinn

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Graybeal & Marilyn Mickle
Extended Communion Co-chairs

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Information Item
Summary**

Subject: Clerk Communications

From: Randy Ripple, Clerk

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

- Princeton Theological Seminary