

**CHURCH OF THE COVENANT**  
**MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING: MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2015**

**RULING ELDERS PRESENT:** April Betzner, Pat Boyer, Joel Braun, Gordon Core, Jerry Davison, Sue Denmead, Linda Grimm, Jessica Hickman, Jim Little, Crystal Miles, Dennis Myers, and Brian Teagarden

**RULING ELDERS EXCUSED:** Cindy Garlisi, Terri Grantz, Jackie Koman, and Steve Marriner, and David Taylor

**STAFF PRESENT:** Rev. Dr. Stuart Broberg, Rev. Emily Miller, and Stacy Phillips

**OPENING PRAYER AND DEVOTIONS**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Session of The Church of the Covenant was convened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Stuart D. Broberg, on Monday, June 1, 2015 at 7:07 p.m. in the Dining Room.

**INFORMATION RELAYED BY DR. BROBERG**

Dr. Broberg also reminded the Session that the Committee on Ministry of the Washington Presbytery will be present tonight, arriving at approximately 7:30 p.m. They will meet with the Session, and separately with the Pastors. Dr. Broberg advised that this meeting is routine and part of their regular triennial visits to each church in the Presbytery. Jonathan Pachter will be the moderator if the pastors need to leave the room with the Committee on Ministry.

**APPROVAL OF THE DOCKET**

After a motion was made by Pat Boyer and seconded by April Betzner, the docket for tonight's meeting was unanimously approved by the Session.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 4, 2015 SESSION MEETING**

After a motion was made by Jerry Davison and seconded by April Betzner, the minutes from the May 2015 regular Session meeting were unanimously approved by the Session.

**APPROVAL OF A BAPTISM**

Dr. Broberg asked the Session to approve the baptism of Sydney Bury, who was baptized on Sunday, May 31, 2015. Sydney is scheduled to be confirmed on Sunday, June 7, 2015, and did not advise Dr. Broberg about needing to be baptized until he met with her very recently in a one-on-one meeting. After a motion was made by Jerry Davison and seconded by Joel Braun, Sydney Bury's baptism as an adult was unanimously approved by the Session.

**REMINDER ABOUT THE SESSION INTREAT**

Dr. Broberg reminded the Session that they are requested to attend an Intreat to be held in the Church's Dining Room on Saturday morning, June 13, 2015, starting at 9:00 a.m., ending at noon. Dr. Broberg reviewed the purpose and process for the Intreat. The agenda will be provided after the Administration Committee meets on June 4th.

**JULY SESSION MEETING**

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Dr. Broberg suggested to forego meeting in July, noting that we could meet for a called Session meeting if needed. After a motion was made by Crystal Miles and seconded by Pat Boyer, the Session approved not meeting in July 2015 for a regular Session meeting, but would meet for a called Session meeting if needed.

#### REPORT FROM THE MAY 2015 WASHINGTON PRESBYTERY MEETING

Dr. Broberg reported that, as moderator, he feels the Presbytery is in pretty good shape. The May 2015 Presbytery meeting contained little anger, there were no churches queued to leave the Presbytery, and Mission was the most important point of discussion.

#### BARBARA REINTGEN'S RESIGNATION FROM THE SESSION

The Session was advised by Dr. Broberg that Barbara Reintgen had resigned from the Session. The Session thanked her for her service to the congregation. After a motion was made by Brian Teagarden and seconded by Sue Denmead, Barbara Reintgen's resignation was accepted by the Session with regret, and the Nominating Committee was encouraged to find a replacement for Ms. Reintgen to fill her unexpired term (2016-2017 and 2017-2018).

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CLERK

##### *Weddings or Funerals*

There were no weddings or funerals to report for May.

##### *Baptisms*

Devin Michael Reese, born January 11, 2000, and Siddaly Marie Brooks, born August 10, 2004, grandchildren of Rev. Robert and Kathy Hedges were baptized on Sunday, May 31, 2015 at the 9:43 worship service. Also baptized at the 9:43 service on May 31, 2015, was Sydney Michelle Bury, born May 17, 2000, daughter of Christopher and Heidi Knisely Bury. Devin and Sydney were baptized as adults. Dr. Stuart D. Broberg officiated.

##### *The Church Calendar*

After a motion was made by Pat Boyer and seconded by Jerry Davison, the Church's Calendar was approved as reviewed by the Session this night.

#### SESSION COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Finance Committee* – Brian Teagarden, Chairperson – Brian Teagarden noted that there were no financial numbers to report, that they will be provided at a later date after the Committee holds its next meeting. Brian reported on the recent joint meeting with the Stewardship Committee in which they discussed a process to allow electronic giving. Brian said that these Committees are just starting the process.

*Personnel Committee* – Sue Denmead, Chairperson – Sue noted that the Committee will meet on June 2nd, with staff reviews to follow.

*OAR Committee* – Linda Grimm, Chairperson – Linda advised the Session that the Rapid New Members classes will be held on June 22 and June 24, with Session to receive the new members on June 28, 2015.

*Stewardship Committee* – Dr. Broberg said that this Committee had no information to report.

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*Mission Committee* – No report.

*Worship and Music Committee* – Jackie Koman, Chairperson - Crystal Miles noted in Jackie's absence that this Committee had not report.

*Christian Education Committee* – Jessica Hickman, Chairperson – the Child Protection Policy will be discussed after the meeting with the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry.

*Nominating Committee* – Joel Braun, Chairperson – Joel said that the Committee has started reviewing the slate of officers for the 2016-2017 term.

*Building and Grounds Committee* – Jerry Davison, Chairperson – Jerry described the work being done on our "418" rental house, noting that it will be ready to lease soon. There was a discussion about the Family Promise Lease. Dr. Broberg said he will meet June 3, 2015, with the chairperson of the Family Promise program, regarding new proposals.

*Administration Committee* – Jonathan Pachter, Chairperson – he had no additional information to report beyond that already noted for the Intreat.

#### **MEETING WITH THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY**

At this time (7:38 p.m.), Pastor Emily Miller introduced two members of the Washington Presbytery's Committee on Ministry: Rev. Brian Kilburn of Center Midway Church, and Mr. Jim Simpson, and elder from Chartiers Hill Church. Dr. Broberg and Pastor Emily left the meeting at this time. Rev. Kilburn then reviewed the purpose of this meeting, which was to improve communications between the Presbytery and our congregation. They try to visit each congregation once every three years so they can stay ahead of any problems. Rev. Kilburn then prayed for this meeting, our Church and the Session.

The representatives of the Committee on Ministry then answered questions from the Session, followed by them asking questions to the Session. There was a good give-and-take. Mr. Simpson ended this meeting with prayer at 8:27 p.m., and then the Session meeting resumed at 8:30 p.m.

The Session meeting then resumed with a discussion related to the Child Protection Policy. Dr. Broberg noted that the draft Policy had been provided to a consultant for review. The consultant had provided comments on the draft, and the Christian Education Committee had incorporated all of their comments into the latest version of the Policy. The Session asked several questions about the Policy to Stacy Phillips and Jessica Hickman. After a motion was made by Pat Boyer and seconded by April Betzner, the Session unanimously approved the revised Child Protection Policy.

#### **DATES OF NOTE**

The next Communion will be held on Sunday, June 7, 2015. The next regular Session meeting will be held on Monday, August 3, 2015, starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Dining Room. The next Center Presbyterian Church, McMurray, PA. Charles Bowers and Brian Teagarden are scheduled to attend.

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ADJOURNING AND CLOSING PRAYER

After a motion by April Betzner and a second by Jerry Davison, the Session unanimously approved the motion to adjourn. The meeting was closed with a prayer by Don Nixon at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Jonathan M. Pachter**

Jonathan M. Pachter, Clerk of Session