

**THE CHURCH OF THE COVENANT - SPECIAL SESSION MEETING**  
**Tuesday, June 14, 2016**

ELDERS PRESENT: Pat Boyer, Joel Braun, Gordon Core, Jessica Hickman, Jim Little, Steve Marriner, Joan McCrory, Kim O'Donnell, Crystal Miles, Dennis Myers, Chuck Neff, and Katie Wichterman

ELDERS EXCUSED: George Camlin, Jerry Davison, Cindy Garlisi, Dan Halulko, and David Taylor

STAFF PRESENT: Rev. Dr. Stuart D. Broberg and Don Nixon

A special meeting of the Session was held on Tuesday, June 14, 2016, in the dining room to introduce Rev. Kay Balderose as the candidate for the Minister of Christian Education (CE) at The Church of the Covenant. Pat Boyer summarized the selection process for this position. The Church's "conversation" group assigned to select the new Minister of CE picked her from four candidates. She comes to our Church from 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church in downtown Pittsburgh. Pat said that Rev. Balderose comes to us highly recommended by her references.

Dr. Broberg said that staff met with her today for lunch, and will meet with the Washington Presbytery's Committee on Ministry tomorrow (June 15<sup>th</sup>) if the way be cleared tonight by the Session. Dr. Broberg said that Rev. Balderose has a history of staying a long time at the places she has served, including seven years in CE at 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian in Pittsburgh. He asked the Session to review Rev. Balderose's Personal Information Form. He also asked the Session to re-examine the previously approved job description and to re-examine the proposed compensation plan. Dr. Broberg asked the Session if they had any questions for her, and to introduce ourselves.

At this time, Rev. Balderose was asked to leave the Dining Room so that the Session could consider this matter. Dr. Broberg pointed out that this personnel issue had been thoroughly vetted. He said that she is a good communicator, is very organized, and is a good speaker. He received only good comments on her from the Personnel Committee. Gordon Core then moved that the Session approve the hire of Rev. Kay Balderose as the Church's Minister of Christian Education, with the effective date of July 15, 2016. Dennis Myers seconded the motion. After some discussion, the Session unanimously voted to approve the hiring.

At this point in the meeting, Dr. Broberg outlined the sequence of events that will take place over the next few months:

1. June 15, 2016 – Rev. Balderose will meet with the Washington Presbytery's Committee on Ministry (CoM) at 1:00 p.m. The following events assume she is approved by the CoM tomorrow.
2. She will start on July 15, 2016, allowing her to give one month's notice to her present employer, 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh.

3. July 15<sup>th</sup> is also one week before Vacation Bible School starts. She will preach on VBS Sunday, July 24.
4. She will transfer her membership to The Church of the Covenant in early September 2016.
5. Rev. Balderose will be commissioned along with Jessica Hickman at Rally Day in September.

Rev. Balderose was called back to the meeting at this time, and was told that the Session had approved her as the new Minister of Christian Education. She thanked the Session, and Dr. Broberg then led the Session in prayer for Rev. Balderose and her ministry at our Church.

There were two other items of business that needed to be approved tonight. First, a motion was made by Pat Boyer to call a special Session meeting on Sunday, June 26, 2016, starting at 10:30 a.m., to receive new members at the 11:00 a.m. worship service that same morning. Chuck Neff seconded that motion, there was no discussion, and the Session unanimously approved it.

Second, a motion was made by Kim O'Donnell and seconded by Katie Wichterman to receive and approve Jessica Hickman's letter of resignation from the Session - with the Session's appreciation and regrets. Jessica had been hired as the new CE Program Director, and our bylaws prohibit a Session member from being employed by the Church. There was no discussion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Session.

Pat Boyer moved to adjourn the meeting, Crystal Miles seconded the motion, and the Session unanimously approved the motion. The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Dr. Broberg at 7:54 p.m.,

Respectfully submitted,

*Jonathan M. Pachter*

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Clerk of Session