

CHURCH OF THE COVENANT
MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING: MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017

ATTENDING:

ELDERS PRESENT: Charlie Bowers, Pat Boyer, George Camlin, Gordon Core, Jason Dille, Ben Evans, Cindy Garlisi, Dan Halulko, Jim Hyland, Jim Little, Steve Marriner, Joan McCrory, , Chuck Neff, Kim O'Donnell, Connie Simon, Katie Wichterman, and Jeremy Zajdel

ELDERS EXCUSED: Robynne Myers

STAFF PRESENT: Rev. Dr. Stuart Broberg, Rev. Kay Balderose, and Don Nixon

OPENING PRAYER AND DEVOTIONS

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Session of The Church of the Covenant was convened by the Rev. Dr. Stuart Broberg, on Monday, April 3, 2017 at 7:39 p.m. in the Dining Room.

APPROVAL OF THE DOCKET AND MINUTES

The docket for this meeting was reviewed next. After a motion was made by Chuck Neff and seconded by Dan Halulko, the April 2017 Session docket was unanimously approved by the Session. After a motion was made by George Camlin and seconded by Jeremy Zajdel, the minutes from the March 2017 regular Session meeting and the March 26, 2017 called congregational meeting were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CLERK

There were no funerals or weddings to report for February 2017.

Bennett Alexander Osbourne, born September 30, 2016, infant son of Alexander and Kelsey Osbourne, was baptized on March 12, 2017, with the Rev. Dr. Stuart Broberg officiating.

Olivia Rose Gault, born July 27, 2016, infant daughter of **Lindsey Julia Gault** and granddaughter of **Marilou Gault**, was baptized on March 19, 2017, with the Rev. Dr. Stuart Broberg officiating.

Kathleen Brennan requested to have her name removed from the official church roll. Jim Little moved to approve that request, Kim O'Donnell seconded the motion, and the Session unanimously approved the motion to remove her from our Roll.

PRESBYTERY REPORT

Charlie Bowers gave a report from the last Presbytery meeting, which he attended.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Steve Marriner, chairperson, noted that pledged income was good, while unpledged income needs to improve. He referenced the joint meeting held with other committees in March. There

was a discussion about how to plan for future needs of the Church (short term and long term). He presented the need for a Capital Campaign to be held in 2018.

Personnel Committee

Cindy Garlisi (chairperson) deferred to Pat Boyer, who reviewed the status of her discussions with Tom Hickman. Pat said that Tim would be moving to the Thomas Campbell Apartments. She will meet soon with Ralph Farabee to address Tom's current opening and closing responsibilities. Pat also said that she recently attended a meeting about the changes to the Board of Pensions health care costs for non-ordained personnel. Pat noted that those costs will increase, but that the amount of the increases will likely not be learned until at least July 2017.

OAR Committee

Jim Little (chairperson) stated that the Men's' Breakfasts have been successful, and that the next one will be held in May. He said that Volunteer Appreciation Sunday will be held on April 30, and that plans for displaying our volunteer opportunities and demonstrating appreciation for those folks are being finalized.

Stewardship Committee

Gordon Core (chairperson) said that the Committee has started to look at ideas for the fall 2017 campaign, as well as a potential capital wish list.

Mission Committee

Joan McCrory (chairperson) referred all to her Committee's minutes. She noted that the effort to achieve our per capita budget goals have started pretty well. The Committee will send out a letter to the congregation in June to reinforce this effort.

Joan reviewed the WV Mission project, which will take place in early August 2017, with flood repair projects in Roncevorte, WV. The cost is \$150 per person, and people will be staying at the Roncevorte Presbyterian Church. This trip will replace the Menaul School trip to NM.

Pat Boyer said that help is requested for the Vendor Fair on April 29, 2017. Baskets for the Chinese auction are needed.

Joan mentioned that the Church youth are planning to hold a "Change for a Change" fundraiser on May 21, 2017. This item was referred to the Finance Committee for consideration, and, if Finance approves, it will then be taken to the Session at the May 1, 2017, Session meeting.

Joan asked the Session to approve the Mission Committee's plan to discuss donating our parcel on 41 North Avenue to the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity (HH). Considerable discussion ensued about this request, and how to proceed. Points of discussion included: 1) the need for an overall property plan; 2) the need to consider issues related to the East Washington Historic District; and, 3) why should we keep properties for which we no longer have a compelling reason to keep. Chuck Neff moved to proceed with the Committee's request and solicit the information from HH. That motion was changed to add that our Building and Grounds Committee should develop an overall property plan. In discussion of the motion, Gordon Core urged that the motion be defeated because he felt it was premature, more information was needed

before a vote should be taken, and that the Session is divided on the motion. Jim Little noted it would be useful to get this information from HH. Jason Dille agreed with Jim's point, and said that it would help us learn more about our options for this property. Dan Halulko said we need to be careful about calling this a partnering opportunity with HH. The vote was held, and the motion passed by a 13Y, 3N, and 1 abstaining count.

Worship and Music Committee

George Camlin (chairperson) referred everyone to his Committee's minutes. George moved from Committee to approve Rev. Louise Corbett to serve communion to the Friend of Jesus on Thursday, April 20, 2017. The motion came from Committee, and therefore no second was needed. There was no discussion on the motion. The Session voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Christian Education Committee

Katie Wichterman (chairperson) referred everyone to her Committee's minutes. She pointed out that Rally Day, the traditional starting point for the new Sunday school year, will be held on Sunday, September 17, 2017.

Nominating Committee

Pat Boyer (chairperson) said her Committee had no report, and is gearing up for the effort to develop the slate of officers for election in the fall of 2017.

Building and Grounds Committee

Ben Evans (chairperson) read his report, and noted that the costs for demolishing the Campbell House still remain at \$16,500. The Committee hopes to finish that project by Thanksgiving, 2017. Ben also discussed building security, as previously requested by the Session. He noted that locks need to be replaced and upgraded. Some cameras need to be installed. He also pointed out that there have been some robberies inside the building recently.

Administration Committee

No report.

Endowment Committee

Dr. Broberg said that this Committee would like to develop a recognition plan for large-scale contributors (>\$5,000). He envisions some type of tree-type statue with brass leaves that would be located near the Memorial Garden. The Committee feels this will cause an increase in memorial giving. Annual reports would be given on All Saints Sunday. This concept was moved by the Committee, and no second was needed. The Session voted unanimously to approve the development of a memorial "tree."

Deacons

No report.

PASTORAL REPORT

Dr. Broberg said that there have been 62 visitations made since the last Session meeting in February. He has made 27 visits, with others (including Pastor Kay and Linda Grimm) making 35 visits.

DATES OF NOTE

The next Stated Session meeting will be held on Monday, May 1, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. The next Stated Presbytery Meeting Tuesday, will be held on May 9, 2017 at 7 PM at the Pigeon Creek Presbyterian Church, Eighty Four, PA. Charlie Bowers and Jim Little are scheduled to attend.

ADJOURNING AND CLOSING PRAYER

George Camlin moved and Pat Boyer seconded a motion to adjourn, which the Session approved unanimously. Rev. Balderose closed the meeting with a prayer at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Jonathan M. Pachter](#)

Jonathan M. Pachter, Clerk of Session