

CHURCH OF THE COVENANT
MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING: MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2017

ATTENDING:

ELDERS PRESENT: Pat Boyer, Gordon Core, Ben Evans, Cindy Garlisi, Steve Marriner, Joan McCrory, Robynne Myers, Kim O'Donnell, Connie Simon, Katie Wichterman and Jeremy Zajdel

ELDERS EXCUSED: Charles Bowers, George Camlin, Jason Dille, Dan Halulko, Jim Hyland, Jim Little and Chuck Neff

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, with devotions (from 2 Timothy) and prayer on Monday, June 5, 2017 at 7:05 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 Pat Boyer and seconded by Robynne Myers, the June 2017 Session docket was unanimously approved by the Session. After a motion was made by Ben Evans and seconded by Kim O'Donnell, the minutes from the May 2017 regular Session meeting were unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CLERK

There were no baptisms, funerals or weddings to report for May 2017.

DR. BROBERG'S NOTES AND REQUESTS

Dr. Broberg requested that the next regular Session meeting should be held on Monday, August 14, 2017, to allow folks who are going on the mission trip to WV to return and rest. Pat Boyer moved to approve and Jeremy Zajdel seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved by the Session. Dr. Broberg told the folks in attendance that the Session and the Deacons will meet with the staff for our Intreat in July. The Administration Committee will be meeting soon to set the July date for the Intreat.

The Session was reminded that elders are supposed to wear their red lanyards on Sunday morning and to greet visitors.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

Report from the APNC

Kim O'Donnell provided an update on the work of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC). Kim noted that the APNC had held its first meeting with Rev. Bruce Stevens, who is the advisor hired to help with the APNC search. Rev. Stevens and the APANC are going to hire Holy Cow Consulting (HCC) to use their Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) to survey the congregation for the Visioning Day process. The overall APNC budget of \$5,000 will not be exceeded by hiring HCC. The results of the CAT will be provided to the APNC for use in structuring the Visioning Day, now to be held late in the summer 2017. The results of the CAT

will also be useful to any APNC candidate, and to the Session and others in leadership positions at our Church. Dr. Broberg said that he has successfully used HCC before. Joan McCrory asked that the APNC make sure that the Washington Presbytery's Committee on Ministry (CoM) concurs with using HCC; Kim said that she would get Rev. Stevens to mention that to the CoM.

Washington Presbytery's Mission Dinner in October 2017

Dr. Broberg the Washington Presbytery's finances with the Session. He said that he felt that there could be difficult financial times for the Presbytery in two years. He asked that the Session "purchase" three tables at the Presbytery's Mission Dinner, to be held in October 2017. Dan Halulko and Charlie Bowers agreed to lead our efforts at this dinner. The cost will be \$20/person, or \$160/table. All money raised at this dinner will be used to help fund the Presbytery's Unified Mission Budget, and it is hoped to raise between \$6,000 and \$8,000 at the dinner. The Unified Mission Budget helps provide for things like Pine Springs, Leaderfest and Ethiopian sister churches.

Confirmand Breakfast – June 25, 2017

Don Nixon mentioned that the breakfast for the confirmands will be held on June 25, 2017, starting at 8:30 a.m., with a called Session meeting to follow at 9:30 a.m. The confirmands will be received into membership in the Church at this Session meeting. They will be presented to the congregation at the 9:43 and 11:00 a.m. worship services. Dr. Broberg appointed Pastor Balderose to moderate this Session meeting. Dr. Broberg and Mr. Nixon described how the confirmation classes would be made part of Mission Washington during the week of June 19 through June 24. They also answered questions about how the confirmands' efforts to prepare their Statements of Faith will be combined with Mission Washington, and earlier sessions with Dr. Broberg.

Camp Pine Springs Dining Hall Dedication

Dr. Broberg asked the Session to participate in the formal dedication of the new Dining Hall at Camp Pine Springs to be held on Saturday, June 24, 2017, starting at 11:00 a.m. He asked for responses by June 12. He reminded the Session that we contributed \$25,000 from the Light the Fire campaign, and much more over the years to Camp Pine Springs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee

Steve Marriner, chairperson advised that new budget spreadsheets will be provide at the August Session meeting, and asked all to discard the May spreadsheets. He noted that the approved checking account changes have taken place; i.e., moving our checking account to PNC. So far, the budget is looking good but the summer is always a low time and we should take a wait-and-see attitude.

Personnel Committee

Cindy Garlisi (chairperson) referred the Session to her Committee's written report. Cindy asked the Session to approve some part-time additions to Ralph Farabee's maintenance staff to replace work done by Tom Hickman. The funds needed for these part-time positions fall within the approved Personnel budget. Since the motion came from Committee, a second is not needed. The Session unanimously approved the request.

OAR Committee

Don Nixon noted that the Men's Breakfast held on May 13, 2017 went very well.

Stewardship Committee

Gordon Core (chairperson) referred the Session to his Committee's written report and to the fall 2017 Stewardship Campaign outline that he provided. The fall campaign will be renamed as Covenant Fund 2018, and that name change will be announced to the congregation in August. He hopes to be able to have electronic pledging and credit card giving in place for use in this fundraising campaign.

Mission Committee

Joan McCrory (chairperson) said that the Change for Change giving in May provided \$462.84 for Mission Washington, and she hopes to be able to do this activity again in July. Any funds raised in July would be given to the summer feeding program at the Lemoyne Center. The Finance Committee had approved the July effort, which would occur on Vacation Bible School Sunday. Joan said that a follow-up per capita letter will be sent out to the congregation in July.

Worship and Music Committee

No report.

Christian Education Committee

Katie Wichterman (chairperson) referred everyone to her Committee's minutes. She pointed out that VBS will be held in July and volunteers are still needed.

Nominating Committee

Pat Boyer (chairperson) said that an initial round of letters asking people to be willing to be placed on the slate of officers was sent out, with an approx. 60% positive response rate so far.

Building and Grounds Committee

Ben Evans (chairperson) referred the Session to his written report. He advised the Session that the roof replacement project for our 35 North Wade property was completed on time and within the approved budget. Ben said that more security locks have been installed around the Church, and that security cameras will be installed. He also said that locks and keys will be changed, and security codes will be changed. Additional plans are in the works to evaluate the security of our Pre-School.

Administration Committee

Jonathan Pachter (chairperson) said that the Committee will be meeting again later in June to prepare for the July Intreat.

Endowment Committee and Memorial Committee

No report for the Endowment Committee or the Memorial Committee. The APNC's issues were addressed earlier in the meeting.

PASTORAL CARE REPORT

Mary Wichterman was thanked for her greeting card ministry. Rebecca Aizupitis' husband passed away on June 4, and she will be moving back to the Washington area. Grace Roe passed away and the funeral will be held on June 7 at 1230 p.m. in the sanctuary.

DATES OF NOTE

The next Stated Session meeting will be held on Monday, August 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. A called Session meeting to receive confirmands will be held on Sunday morning, June 25, 2017, in the dining Room starting at 9:30 a.m. The next Stated Presbytery Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2017 at 10:00 a.m., at Camp Pine Springs. Charlie Bowers and Steve Marriner are scheduled to attend.

ADJOURNING AND CLOSING PRAYER

Pat Boyer moved and Ben Evans seconded a motion to adjourn, which the Session approved unanimously. Rev. Balderose closed the meeting with a prayer at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan M. Pachter

Jonathan M. Pachter, Clerk of Session