

## CHURCH OF THE COVENANT

### MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

CURRENT RULING ELDERS PRESENT: John Artuso, Charlie Bowers, Sue Denmead, Jason Dille, Ben Evans, Wayne Hunnell, Lucy Johnson, Dan Halulko, Patty Mounts, Robynne Myers, Chuck Neff, Butch Richmond, Katie Wichterman and Jeremy Zajdel

CURRENT RULING ELDERS EXCUSED: George Camlin, Jim Hyland, Kim O'Donnell, and Connie Simon,

STAFF PRESENT: Rev. Kay Balderose (previously approved by Session as Interim Moderator in Dr. Broberg's absence)

#### OPENING PRAYER AND DEVOTIONS

Pastor Kay convened the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Session of The Church of the Covenant with prayer and devotions on Monday, September 10, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the Dining Room. She read from Habakkuk 3:17-18, which tells us how to keep faith through all of life's difficult times.

#### APPROVAL OF THE DOCKET

After a motion was made by Charlie Bowers and seconded by Ben Evans, the docket for tonight's meeting was unanimously approved by the Session.

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM MAY 2018

After a motion was made by John Artuso and seconded by Dan Halulko, the minutes from the August 6, 2018 regular monthly Session meeting were unanimously approved by the Session (with minor corrections).

#### APPROVAL OF BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS

One baptism was presented to the Session. It did not need individual Session approval since it complied with the Church's baptism policy.

- **Patrick J. and Chaleece (McCracken) Trapuzzano** requested to have their infant son, Nico Joseph Trapuzzano baptized at the 11:00 a.m. service on September 16, 2018 with The Rev. Dr. Stuart D. Broberg officiating.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CLERK

There were no communications from the clerk.

#### BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

##### *Baptisms*

**Adam Laine Jurovcik**, son of **Paul and Kara Rae (Schultz) Jurovcik**, born on September 13, 2012, was baptized on August 12, 2018, at the 9:43 worship service with The Rev. Dr. Stuart D. Broberg officiating.

*Weddings*

**Lindsay Smith and Nicholas Wall** were married in the church sanctuary on Saturday, August 18, 2018, with The Rev. Dr. Stuart D. Broberg officiating.

*Funerals*

**The Reverend Dr. Nat Roe** died on Wednesday, August 1, 2018. A funeral service was held at The Church of the Covenant on Saturday, August 4, 2018, with The Rev. Dr. Stuart D. Broberg officiating.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION CALENDAR

There were no Special Consideration Calendar items to report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Finance Committee*

Jason Dille, chairperson, advised the Session that the monthly income for August 2018 was not as good as projected but was better than experienced in August 2017. He also pointed out that unpledged income has lagged somewhat in 2018, but he expected it to pick up later in the year, as it usually does.

Jason also advised the Session that 2019 budget requests will be sent to Committee chairpersons soon. He noted that the actual 2019 budget will depend on the total pledged by the congregation during the upcoming 2019 stewardship campaign.

Jason also moved to ask the Session to approve buying a new safe in the amount of \$1,295.00. The new safe will be placed in the office suite on the second floor. This new safe had not been included in the 2018 budget, so the Finance Committee felt that it needed to get Session approval for the expenditure. Since the motion came from Committee, no second was needed. Discussion items included: 1) Will the old safe be kept at its current location? *Yes.* 2) Why is the new safe needed? *The new safe has more security measures, and will be placed in a location that is more secure. Offerings can be counted in that more private location next to the safe.* The Session voted unanimously to approve the motion.

*Personnel Committee*

Sue Denmead, chairperson, moved that the Session approve reimbursing Dr. Broberg for the \$625 he provided to Kayla Goncalves for a moving allowance. Sue pointed out that there was no moving allowance included in Kayla's previously approved agreement with the Church. He gave Kayla this money because she had no savings to fall back on for moving expenses since this is her first job after graduating from Waynesburg University in the spring of 2018. Since this motion came from Committee, no second was needed. There was some discussion. The Session voted unanimously to approve the motion.

*Membership and Fellowship Committee*

Lucy Johnson, speaking for the excused Kim O'Donnell (chairperson), thanked everyone for helping during the Social Hour in September and October. She noted that this interim approach would suffice until a more permanent solution can be formulated.

*Stewardship Committee*

Chairperson Dan Halulko congratulated everyone in the Session and the congregation for the great response to the recently concluded capital campaign. Dan then noted that it is now time to start up the 2019 stewardship campaign. He reviewed the time frame for when the campaign will be implemented. He passed out pledge cards with related information to the Session.

*Mission Committee*

Chuck Neff, chairperson, referred all to his Committee's written report. He asked everyone to review the mission letter from Rev. Craig Kephart, Executive Presbyterian of the Washington Presbytery. In that letter, Rev. Kephart asked our church to consider doubling its mission gift to the Presbytery to \$10,000, from the \$5,000 given in 2018. According to Chuck, the 2018 amount was much less than the average amount given over the years of \$20,000.

Chuck also advised that the Mission Committee would be asking the Session to pledge giving 7% of all pledged income in 2019 to the overall Mission budget.

*Worship and Music Committee*

Charlie Bowers, speaking for the excused George Camlin (chairperson), asked all to read the written report from the Committee's last meeting. Charlie noted that the Committee had approved Don Roths to preach on October 7, 2018.

*Christian Education Committee*

Katie Wichterman, chairperson, said that Rally Day will be held on Sunday, September 16, 2018. Katie said that adult help is needed for Rally Day, for the parent/student sign-in area and for helping in Sunday School classes. If there are not at least two adults in each children's class, then the class will need to be shut down. Katie also asked Session members to volunteer to assist with the upcoming Trunk and Treat event for children, and for the Youth Group meetings and activities.

*Nominating Committee*

Charlie Bowers, chairperson, said that this Committee hopes to finalize the slate of nominees next week.

*Building and Grounds Committee*

Ben Evans, chairperson, referred the Session to his Committee's written report. Ben asked if we could loan some extra chairs to Ralph Farabee's home church. The Session approved this request by consensus. He noted that the Security upgrades would be starting soon; Gina Johnston donated all the hardware. Ben also noted that the annual Church Cleanup Day will be held on October 6, 2018.

Ben advised the Session that the Committee has observed that we are not fully compliant with the American Disabilities Act requirements for handicapped-accessible entries. Dan Halulko asked if we must have a church campus that is fully compliant with ADA requirements. Ben said that the Committee is evaluating this matter and will provide the Session with a report.

*Administration Committee, Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, Endowment Committee and Memorial Committee* - there were no reports from these Committees.

PASTORAL REPORT

Pastor Kay noted cares, concerns, and joys. Ben Evans passed out a volunteer sign-up sheet for helping with Home Communion, to be held on October 7, 2018, starting at 2:00 p.m.

DATES OF NOTE

The next Stated Session meeting will be held on Monday, October 1, 2018, starting at 7:00 p.m. The next Communion is scheduled for Sunday, October 7, 2018. The next Stated Presbytery Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cokeburg United Presbyterian Church. Charles Bowers and Robynne Myers are scheduled to attend.

ADJOURNING AND CLOSING PRAYER

After a motion by Charlie Bowers and a second by Jeremy Zajdel, the Session unanimously approved the motion to adjourn. Pastor Kay adjourned the meeting with a prayer at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jonathan M. Pachter*

Jonathan M. Pachter, Clerk of Session