

THE CHURCH OF THE COVENANT
SPECIAL SESSION MEETING
Sunday, June 10, 2018

ELDERS PRESENT: John Artuso, Charlie Bowers, George Camlin, Ben Evans, Jim Hyland, Wayne Hunnell, Lucy Johnson, Robynne Myers, Kim O'Donnell, and Butch Richmond
STAFF PRESENT: The Rev. Dr. Stuart D, Broberg, and Rev. Kay Balderose
GUEST PRESENT: Alan Cottrill

A special meeting of the Session was held on Sunday morning, June 10, 2018, in the Parlor. The purpose of the meeting was to view a mock-up of a new statue that has been given as a gift to the congregation, and to meet the sculptor, Alan Cottrill. Dr. Broberg called the meeting to order with a prayer at approximately 12:17 p.m.

A clay mock-up of the statue, titled "Let the Little Children Come to Me", was present in the Parlor for the Session to examine. Dr. Broberg noted that an anonymous donor had committed to completely fund the statue. The statue would be placed in the open lot formerly occupied by the Family Promise building, visible from the Church and from Beau Street. Mr. Cottrill said that the Scripture-based statue would be built out of bronze, and would sit on native fieldstone. The statue would be placed on concrete. Dr. Broberg said that the congregation would only be responsible for lighting and any ongoing maintenance.

Mr. Cottrill said that the statue of Christ would be about 8' tall, about the same size as his statues on the W&J College campus. This Christ figure would be strong but gentle as he calls the children to him, with one child separated and walking toward him with open arms. His intent would be for our children to sit on the statue. The statue will express Christ's love and joy, which he said is a rare concept for statues. He noted that he dropped other work to take this commission. He has about 50 life-size statues located within one hour of Washington, PA, and about 330 in the United States. Dr. Broberg pointed out that, with Session approval, Mark O'Donnell would be our project manager for the work.

Dr. Broberg said that the statue certainly ties in perfectly to our Christian Education concepts and vision. If the Session approves this project, Mr. Cottrill would begin right away and finish in August 2019. Mr. Cottrill said that he would have no trouble meeting that deadline.

Ben Evans moved to accept the anonymous gift of this statue, and to appoint Mark O'Donnell as the Church's project manager for the statue project. John Artuso seconded the motion. There were no additional questions beyond some earlier questions about maintenance and security (no issues are expected for either). The Session then unanimously approved the motion.

Kim O'Donnell moved to adjourn this meeting, Ben Evans seconded the motion, and the Session then voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. Pastor Kay closed the meeting with prayer at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan M. Pachter

Jonathan M. Pachter, Clerk of Session