

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MEETING OF SESSION
Monday, March 10, 2025
6:30 PM CONSENT AGENDA**

ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of February 10, 2025, Session Meeting Minutes (pp. 2-4). Janet Delery, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of this meeting be approved as written.
2. Approval of Called Session Meetings Minutes from February to receive new members (p. 5). Janet Delery, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of these meetings be approved as written.
3. Approval of request for changes to active roll (p. 6).
4. Approval of baptisms (p. 7).
5. Approval of P & E Report and Motion (p. 8).

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. 2025 Committee Leadership (pp. 9-10).
2. 2025 Congregational Life Committee Descriptions and Leadership (p. 11-12).
3. 2025 Education Committee Goals (p. 13).
4. February 2025 Treasurer's Report (pp. 14-15).
5. Extended Communion Report (pp. 16-17).
6. Presbytery Meeting Highlights (pp. 18-19).
7. Clerk's Communications (p. 20).

FUTURE EVENTS

• April 13	Palm Sunday	8:45 Chapel, 9:30, 11:00 Sanctuary, 11:00 Fellowship Hall
• April 14	April Session Meeting	7:00 PM Peek Music Room
• April 17	Maundy Thursday Service	6:30 PM Sanctuary
• April 18	Good Friday Service	6:30 PM Sanctuary
• April 19	Children's Easter Service	10:00 AM Sanctuary
• April 20	Easter Services	8:45 Chapel, 9:30, 11:00 Sanctuary
• April 21	Easter Monday, church offices closed	

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Minutes of the Session Meeting On
Monday, February 10, 2025**

Call to Order and Opening Prayer Bob Henderson, Moderator

The moderator called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Peek Music Room. The Moderator offered words of welcome and opened in prayer. The moderator also welcomed Amanda Shanks, seminary intern for Christian Education, who was in attendance.

Determination of Quorum and Adoption of Agenda

The moderator declared that a quorum was present and reviewed the agenda. After asking for any amendments or changes, the moderator made a motion to adopt the agenda and the Consent Agenda. Both were both adopted without amendments or objections.

Administration Report Ashley Friello, Treasurer

Ashley Friello briefly referenced the January 2025 Treasurer's Report as contained in the Consent Agenda. Friello then provided the bi-annual update on the Cornerstone Fund, including 2024 financial performance and disbursements. Friello presented the Cornerstone Fund 5 Year Plan, after which the moderator noted that approval of the plan was required by the Session. After discussion, a motion was brought to approve the Cornerstone Fund 5 Year Plan and associated projects. The motion was adopted without objections.

Personnel Report John McAlister, Personnel Chair
Courtney St. Onge, APNC Chair

John McAlister provided a Personnel Committee update. First, McAlister shared an update on the Children's Ministry. He reported that a decision had been made to split the Director of Children's Ministry role into two part time, Co-Director roles. Current interim Director Amber Brown will be retained as one Co-Director, while a search for the second commences.

McAlister also reported that a Sabbatical had been approved for Associate Minister for Education, Grace Lindvall. It was noted that she will enjoy the Sabbatical from end of May to first of August.

Courtney St. Onge then presented an update on the activities of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC). St. Onge referenced the work conducted to date to complete a Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP). She noted that this profile is used as a tool of input and discernment before posting the role. After discussion, the Moderator made a motion to approve the MDP for stated purpose as input to the final ministry information form. The motion was seconded, so-moved and approved without objections.

Ministry Reports

Bill Saunders, Congregational Life Chair
Sarah Wilson, Education Chair
David Frost, Engagement Chair
Jim Dobbins, Mission & Outreach Chair
Jacquelyn McAbee, Worship Chair

Bill Saunders presented an update on Congregational Life. He reflected many of the robust items noted in his report in the Consent Agenda, reflecting on the breadth of activities and events both conducted and pending within the congregation.

Sarah Wilson provided an Education update. She began by thanking the Personnel Committee for their work in support of the education goals. Wilson noted that the Education Committee is actively looking for ways to enhance volunteer engagement. She also shared the creation of an inclusion sub-committee to be led by Michelle Beatty with Amanda Shanks providing guidance. Wilson concluded her report by reading from a Lenten devotion she had written and encouraged the Session members to invest the time to write and submit their own to Mary Kate Sykes.

David Frost provided an update on Engagement. He noted member joiner/transfer counts for January (60 and 8, respectively). He described strong interest by new members to be paired with longer-term members to find pathways into the life of the congregation. The new member form will be updated with an option of seeking such a pairing and Lora Borrelli and David Frost will facilitate matches. Finally, Frost encouraged Session members to join the Sunday 10:30 new joiner gatherings in the Parlor.

Jim Dobbins shared an update on Mission & Outreach. He shared enthusiasm about the number of volunteers involved in support of Avery County. He expressed appreciation for the work of Kim Barnhardt in that community. Dobbins noted that Covenant is sponsoring two Kenya trips this year, with 6 participants per trip. He reminded the Session that Mission Remarkable, the primary fundraiser for M&O, is February 23 and encouraged spreading the word and participating. Dobbins shared about the Wednesday evening series focused on Gun Violence that Nikki Zimmerman is facilitating. Upcoming is a session featuring Jimmy Greene, a Sandy Hook parent and a Grammy nominated artist. Dobbins encouraged participation. After brief remarks on continuation of, and participation in, Room in the Inn and Kinship, Dobbins concluded with a reminder of opportunities to participate in quarterly Presbytery meetings.

Jacqueline McAbee gave an update on Worship. She expressed gratitude for the support for the various Christmas services. McAbee noted that Tameka and Ben Thomas are our February Artists-in-Residence and that their music ministry has been so noteworthy. After appealing to the session to look for opportunities to serve communion and extended communion, she concluded by encouraging Session members to provide support during Baptisms.

Planning and Evaluation No Report

Clerk's Report Janet Delery, Clerk

Janet Delery referenced the Conflict of Interest Policy as approved by the previous Session. She asked each current Session member to read the policy and to complete an annual attestation for 2025. She noted that success was 100% participation and that transparency was the goal. Delery then noted that the March 10 Session meeting will be fashioned as a “mini-retreat” to afford the Session a chance to connect on subjects that would have been covered in the Session Retreat had it not been cancelled due to inclement weather.

Old Business/New Business: None

Staff Announcements/Pastoral Concerns:

Katherine Kerr called out the upcoming “Minding our Minds” Wednesday evening series featuring Lindsay Bridges, MD, that focuses on mindfulness and encouraged participation. Kerr also joined Session member Robin Goodson in reminding all that mental health and substance abuse issues need our involvement, prayer and active support for friends, family and congregants facing them. She reminded all that the Pastors are here to help ensure people get the counseling support they need. Kerr concluded her remarks by noting several surgeries, hospitalizations, and a death in the congregation.

Mary Kate Sykes notes that Dr. Suzanne Henderson will be a featured speaker in the upcoming FAITH Talks Sunday morning session on February 16.

Closing Prayer:

Katherine Kerr closed the meeting with prayer at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Janet Delery, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Called Session Meetings
Sundays, February 2, 9, 23, 2025**

Covenant held three Called Session Meetings on a Sunday morning for the purpose of receiving new members. Lora Borrelli introduced the following new members and information:

February 2, 2025

Ray Fumo	Reaffirmation
Angie Fumo	Reaffirmation
Gage Yancey	Reaffirmation
Kate McGrath	Reaffirmation
Travis Clan	Reaffirmation
Danielle Evans-Clan	Reaffirmation
Zach Hensel	Reaffirmation
Britt Hensel	Reaffirmation

February 9, 2025

Eric Burchett	Transfer Letter--Oikos Church, Memphis, TN
Emily Rowe	Reaffirmation
Matt Hansen	Reaffirmation
Josephine Shorter	Transfer Letter--John's Creek UMC, John's Creek, Ga
Martin Shorter	Transfer Letter--John's Creek UMC, John's Creek, Ga

February 23, 2025

Betsy Weidemann	Reaffirmation
Jesse Weidemann	Reaffirmation

Active (confirmed) members as of 2/28/2025: 2752

2025 new members as of 2/28/2025: 21

2025 new affiliate members as of 2/28/2025: 0

2025 transfers as of 2/28/2025: 9

2025 deaths as of 2/28/2025: 2

Motions of acceptance were made, seconded and approved. Each meeting adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,


Janet Delery, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SESSION MEETING
REQUEST FOR CHANGES IN THE ACTIVE ROLL**

Removed from Active Roll Per Request

Name	Transferred to:
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Chelsey Oldham	Christ Episcopal Church, Charlotte, NC
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**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Action Item
Summary**

SUBJECT: Baptisms 2025

DATE: March 10, 2025

Report From: Baptism Committee

Worship Chair: Jacqueline McAbee

Background: Baptism must be approved by the Session.

Process to Date: Parents requested that their children be baptized in 2025.

Budget Impact: None

Actions Taken or Recommendation: The Baptism Committee, with the support of the Ministry of Worship, recommends approval of the following baptisms at Covenant in 2025.

On March 23, 2025 at the 11:00 Family service in the Fellowship Hall:

Billy Dal Maddalon.

Jordan Shelley Maddalon, adult son of Billy Maddalon and Brooks Shelley.

Kyah Elliana Maddalon, child of Jordan Maddalon Olivia Boyles.

Asher Jordan Maddalon, child of Jordan Maddalon and Giovyanna Weisler.

On April 6 at the 9:30 Contemporary service in the Sanctuary:

Violet June Siragusa, child of Jordan Howe Siragusa and Joseph Sylvester (Sonny) Siragusa.

On April 6, 2025 at the 11:00 Traditional service in the Sanctuary:

Herald George Vincent, child of Susan Westrup Vincent and Brian Curtis Vincent.

On May 4, 2025 at the 8:45 Traditional service in the Chapel:

Margaret Alan Sykes, child of Jenna and Ruffin Sykes.

On May 4, 2025 at the 9:30 Contemporary service in the Sanctuary:

Isabel Valencia Brown, child of Claire Johnson Brown and Allen Douglas Brown.

On June 29 at the 11:00 Traditional service in the Sanctuary:

Cleo Kathleen Yates, child of Kirby Robbins Yates and Brian Robert Yates.

Motion: Motion to approve the baptisms of Billy Dal Maddalon, Jordan Shelley Maddalon, Kyah Elliana Maddalon, Asher Jordan Maddalon, Violet June Siragusa, Herald George Vincent, Margaret Alan Sykes, Isabel Valencia Brown, Cleo Kathleen Yates.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Action Item
Summary**

SUBJECT: P&E Report and Motion

DATE: March 10, 2025

Report From: Planning & Evaluation Board

Chair: Kim Spivey

At our monthly meeting on February 24, P & E explored our continuing efforts to embrace the Envisioning Report, citing specific examples of cross-ministry collaboration, enhanced mission endeavors, and enhanced worship experiences.

In addition, P and E was updated on significant progress related to our window renovation by Willet Hauser and looks toward a late spring/summer installation date with the specifics to be determined. We will share updates on this planning at April and May Session meetings

In order to create an historical record of our work and promote the upcoming installation, P and E moves that up to \$10,000 dollars from the Rosebro Fund be approved by Session for video/photographic services, travel to the Willet studio, and other appropriate related expenses. The Rosebro Fund (currently holding a balance of more than 300K) is under the direction of P and E for strategic initiatives.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Action Item
Summary**

SUBJECT: 2025 Committee Leadership

DATE: March 10, 2025

Report From: Janet Delery, Clerk of Session

Background: The purpose of this report is to share the ministry structure and leadership as of March 2025.

Process to Date: Below is the current ministry leadership for 2025 as reported by the ministry chairs.

Administration (Chair: Ashley Friello; Vice Chair: Vince DiSandro)

CDC Advisory - Teresa Moore
Property - Rob McNeill
Budget Advisory - Vince DiSandro
Finance - Vince DiSandro
Investment - Walter Pringle
Scholarship - Brian Vincent
Audit - Joseph Jacobs

Congregational Life (Chair: Bill Saunders; Vice Chair: Judy Emken)

Bereavement - Pat Viser
Covenant Crew - Karen Willis (Staff)
Covenant Knitters - Sally Graves
Covenant Visitors - Lilli Gerardi
Health and Wellness - Erin Weeks
Intercessory Prayer - Alice Arwood
Men's Fellowship - Tommy Haughton
Outdoor Ministry - Mary Gaertner
Pet Ministry - Alex McKinnon
Presbyterian Women - Serenitye Taylor (Staff)
Prime Timers - Martha Isaacs
Soup Ministry - Serenitye Taylor (Staff)
Stephen Ministry - Gene Graziano
Support Groups - Katherine Kerr (Staff)
Surviving Our Spouses - Anne Gildea
Third Quarter - Bill Saunders
TLC (Travel, Learn, Connect) - Betty Graybeal

Education (Chair: Sarah Wilson; Vice Chair: Jordan Schriefer)

Adult Education - Kim Harclerode

Young Adult Chair - Katie Shivers
College Connection Chair - Tori Collins
High School Youth Chair - Amber Brown
Middle School Youth Chair - Lexi Frost
Elementary Education Chair - Laura Skaff
Early Childhood - Suzanne McNichol & Sara Hoover (Co-Chairs)

Engagement (Chair: David Frost; Vice Chair: Anne Gildea)

Mission and Outreach (Chair: Jim Dobbins; Vice Chair: Amanda Abrahm)

Local Partnerships:

Hunger - JD DuPuy and Coleman Wombwell
Housing - Steph Guffin and Caroline Sharp
Education - Meg Fryling and Meagan Lineberger
Vulnerable Families - Ashley Roehrig and Amy Hunter
Global Partnerships – Tripp Moore and John Kennedy
Grants – Katie Coley

Planning and Evaluation (Chair: Kim Spivey; Vice Chair: Alex Chinery)

Personnel (Chair: John McAlister; Vice Chair John Beyer)

Worship (Chair: Jacquelyn McAbee, Vice Chair: Lou Watson)

Communion - Bill Keith
Ushers - Bill Cathey

Budget Impact: None

Actions Taken or Recommendation: Contact the Ministry Chair, Ministry Vice Chair, or Committee Chair with any questions, suggestions, and/or to get yourself or someone else more engaged in one of Covenant's ministries or committees.

Motion: None

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Action Item
Summary**

SUBJECT: 2025 Congregational Life Committee Descriptions and Leadership

DATE: March 10, 2025

Report From: Congregational Life

Chair: Bill Saunders

Background: The purpose of this report is to share the Congregational Life committee descriptions and leadership for 2025.

Chair: Bill Saunders - billsaunders1963@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Judy Emken - jemken@carolina.rr.com

Staff Liaison: Katherine Kerr - katherine.kerr@covenantpresby.org

Staff Liaison: Serenitye Taylor - serenitye.taylor@covenantpresby.org

Congregational Life Committees:

Bereavement - Pat Viser - pviser@carolina.rr.com

Provides support to church members and their families at the time of death through cards, meals, hospitality supplies for the home, and support at memorial services and funerals

Covenant Crew - Karen Willis - karen.willis@covenantpresby.org

Group of volunteers who work to help members with minor home repairs/maintenance jobs

Covenant Knitters - Sally Graves - sallysgraves@att.net

Create shawls and lap blankets to be shared with Covenant members experiencing difficult life situations. Shawls/lap blankets are meant to wrap recipients with love and surround them with prayer.

Covenant Visitors - Lilli Gerardi - lillirun@hotmail.com

Members who contact and visit (when able) homebound members.

Health & Wellness Committee - Erin Weeks - erincweeks@gmail.com

Offers activities and programs which support the optimization of health in mind, body, and spirit. They offer four annual blood drives through the red cross, flu shot clinics at the church in the fall and frequent programs related to wellness.

Intercessory Prayer - Alice Arwood - arwoodalice@gmail.com

Focuses and lifts the concerns of the congregation in prayer.

Men's Fellowship - Tommy Haughton - tommy.haughton@segra.com

A time for bible study and fellowship.

Outdoor Ministry - Mary Gaertner - magaertner@carolina.rr.com

A ministry that looks to nature and the environment as a universal context to foster relationships within and beyond the Covenant Community

Pet Ministry - Alex McKinnon - damckinnon@aol.com

Hopes to offer a loving supportive community for humans and their pets.

Presbyterian Women - Serenitye Taylor - Serenitye.Taylor@covenantpresby.org

Small groups (circles) for women that focus on bible study, fellowship and mission. Also host an annual retreat.

Prime Timers - Martha Isaacs - marthaisaacs51@gmail.com

Group that focuses on members aged 85 and older. They gather for fellowship and meals on campus.

Soup Ministry - Serenitye Taylor - Serenitye.Taylor@covenantpresby.org

Offers meals and support to members during various life events.

Stephen Ministry - Gene Graziano - geno1117@carolina.rr.com

Lay leaders of the church, equipped to serve as caring presence for members in need of healing love, support, encouragement and compassion.

Support Groups - Katherine Kerr - Katherine.Kerr@covenantpresby.org

Covenant periodically hosts support groups for members and friends.

Surviving our Spouses - Anne Gildea - anne.m.gildea@gmail.com

A compassionate Christian ministry for women and men whose life partners have died, assuring them that they are beloved by God and cared for within their faith community.

Third Quarter - Bill Saunders - billsaunders1963@gmail.com

Covenant's Third Quarter ministry believes that meaningful community begins with in-person connections. We seek to help those in the 'third quarter' of life increase their sense of belonging, nurture their spirits, and discover new ways to engage in walking with God and one another.

TLC (Travel, Learn Connect) - Betty Graybeal - betty.graybeal@gmail.com

Covenant's active adult group enjoys fellowship, learning, and travel (and good food!)

Budget Impact: None

Actions Taken or Recommendation: Contact the Ministry Chair, Ministry Vice Chair, or Committee Chair with any questions, suggestions, and/or to get yourself or someone else more engaged in one of Covenant's Congregational Life ministries or committees.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Action Item
Summary**

SUBJECT: 2025 Education Committee Goals

DATE: March 10, 2025

Report From: Sarah Wilson, Education Chair

Background: The purpose of this report is to provide an update on our Education Committee goals for the year

Attachment(s): Incubation Team Recommendations

2025 Education Ministry Goals:

GOAL 1 - With guidance from the Incubation Team report and recommendations, plan and implement strategies to increase volunteer engagement in our birth-to-high school programs and build community among volunteers. (Led by Jordan Schriefer)

Progress to date: The Incubation Team presented their recommendations at our first Education Committee meeting in February. A new team has been created to coordinate the “Ask Event” which will take place in May.

GOAL 2 - In continued response to Covenant's Envision report, foster meaningful intergenerational relationships by creating and supporting life group connections and collaborative initiatives that bring different age groups together. (Led by Sarah Wilson)

Progress to date: We have 18 Lenten life groups that will begin on March 12. As part of the life group curriculum, groups will be asked to consider ways that they can support the Education ministry this spring, primarily through volunteering with our Children and Youth programs.

GOAL 3 - Continue to enhance and support Covenant's small groups for adults while introducing small group opportunities for children and youth. Small groups will provide meaningful learning experiences and foster fellowship across all age groups. (Led by RobinGoodson)

Progress to date: High School Girls have started a Bible study on Women in the Bible. Robin has met with Martin and Andy to discuss needs and ideas for other HSY and MSY populations.

GOAL 4 - At the request of the Session, work in collaboration with Mission and Outreach to explore and implement educational opportunities that examine how Covenant may have benefitted from racism and past injustices. (Led by Ben Unger)

Progress to date: A team has been formed to work on this goal; the team will work with a historian to identify learning points about Covenant's land and other resources.

Covenant Presbyterian Church
Monthly Financial Comments
February 2025

Income Statement Comments

The main impacts of the February Income Statement are outlined below.

Income: Pledge receipts were below budget in the month by \$28K, and are below budget \$129K YTD. Total Income in the month was below budget by \$10K, and is below budget \$94K YTD.

Expenses: Expenses across all ministry areas were close to or below budget, except for Mission and Outreach. In the month, Mission and Outreach spent an additional \$19K over budget in Avery County flood relief. This is offset in their income account so there's no impact to the bottom line. Total Expenses for the month were below budget by \$32K, and are below budget \$105K YTD.

The Bottom Line: The Net Loss in the month was \$154K, better than budget by \$22K. YTD Net Income is \$390K, \$11K above budget.

Balance Sheet Comments

Significant changes in the Balance Sheet for the month, as compared to the prior month, were:

Line 25: Reflects the month's operating Net Loss.

Line 29 & 35: Increase is primarily due to the increase in market value of the funds.

Line 36: Increase is primarily due to the receipt of additional 2024 Christmas Eve funds.

Line 39: Reflects the month's operating Net Loss

Covenant Presbyterian Church			Period ending:		02/28/25		Y-T-D Actual as % of Annual			
INCOME STATEMENT			YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance	Annual Budget	2025	2024	2023	2022
Income:										
1 Pledge Receipts	\$ 969,384	\$ 839,975	\$ (129,409)	\$ 3,540,980	24%	31%	31%	27%		
2 Misc Contributions	82,000	103,421	21,421	445,000						
3 Investment Income	147,767	147,867	100	300,500						
4 Transfer from Restricted Funds	13,000	31,630	18,630	356,000						
5 Other Receipts	37,400	27,560	(9,840)	156,000						
6 Total Schools	355,768	367,884	12,116	2,004,370						
7 Child Dev. Ctr.	252,398	274,375	21,977	1,550,440						
8 Preschool	103,370	93,509	(9,861)	453,930						
9 Food Service	31,113	33,750	2,638	184,675						
10 Recreation Wing	13,865	10,492	(3,373)	162,600						
11 Ministry Trip Income	31,780	38,492	6,712	150,000						
12 Ministry Other Income	\$ 26,750	\$ 13,831	\$ (12,919)	\$ 45,750						
Total Income	\$ 1,708,827	\$ 1,614,902	\$ (93,924)	\$ 7,345,875	22%	26%	28%	23%		
Expenses:										
13 Worship	\$ 23,209	\$ 25,085	\$ 1,876	\$ 124,300						
14 Congregational Life	36,963	13,503	(23,460)	76,700						
15 Engagement	1,458	1,398	(60)	9,750						
16 Mission & Outreach	192,850	224,968	32,118	857,450						
17 Education	44,131	20,460	(23,672)	173,030						
18 Total Schools	343,676	323,701	(19,976)	2,017,996						
19 Child Dev. Ctr.	251,911	241,212	(10,699)	1,547,754						
20 Preschool	91,765	82,489	(9,276)	470,242						
21 Food Service	17,000	13,756	(3,244)	108,000						
22 Recreation Ministries	37,175	15	(37,160)	53,600						
23 Administration	95,447	100,503	5,057	717,962						
24 Personnel	536,730	500,539	(36,190)	3,207,087						
Total Expenses	\$ 1,328,639	\$ 1,223,929	\$ (104,710)	\$ 7,345,875	17%	17%	17%	15%		
Net Income	\$ 380,187	\$ 390,973	\$ 10,786	\$ -						
BALANCE SHEET										
			February	January	Change					
Assets:										
25 Truist (BB&T) Checking/Savings	\$ 2,607,404	\$ 2,738,852	\$ (131,447)							
26 Wells Fargo Holding	2,841,608	2,825,708	15,901							
27 Petty Cash	350	350	-							
28 Accounts Receivable and Advances	49,953	44,632	5,321							
29 Endowment Fund Mkt Value	17,465,552	17,405,741	59,811							
30 Real Estate Funds	2,425,000	2,425,000	-							
Total Assets	\$ 25,389,868	\$ 25,440,282	\$ (50,415)							
Liabilities:										
31 Accounts Payable and Misc. Accruals	\$ (1,508)	\$ (119)	\$ (1,389)							
Total Liabilities	\$ (1,508)	\$ (119)	\$ (1,389)							
Fund Balances:										
32 Donor Advised	\$ 248,459	\$ 248,559	\$ (100)							
33 Infrastructure Fund/Cornerstone Income	193,014	215,489	(22,475)							
34 Payable to Endowment Corpus	735	550	185							
35 Restricted End/Cornerstone & Real Estate	19,890,552	19,830,741	59,811							
36 Restricted Funds	3,822,881	3,761,449	61,433							
37 Non-Budgeted Benevolences	34,502	24,502	10,000							
38 Section 125 Plan	(1,839)	(2,261)	422							
39 Genl Fund Balance	1,081,916	1,236,307	(154,391)							
40 Columbarium	41,261	45,163	(3,902)							
41 Reserve Fund Balances	79,894	79,902	(8)							
Total Fund Balances	\$ 25,391,376	\$ 25,440,401	\$ (49,025)							
Total Liab. & Fund Balances	\$ 25,389,868	\$ 25,440,282	\$ (50,415)							

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Information Item
Summary**

SUBJECT: Extended Communion Report

DATE: February 9, 2025

Report From: Judy Grubbs and Mary Wood Stallings, Extended Communion Co-Chairs

Background: Extended Communion was served on Sunday, February 9, 2025.

Process to Date: Extended communion was served on Sunday, February 9, 2025. Fourteen teams from Covenant served 32 recipients.

Budget Impact: None

Actions Taken:

Those serving:

Ann Ayers	Gwen Fox	Chuck Morgan
Sandra Boozer	Jake Grubbs	Alan Morrow
Loretta Brown	Judy Grubbs	John Pate
Mary Parrish Coley	Stephanie Guffin	Nancy Pate
Deana Cooper	David Isaacs	Hank Stallings
JD Dupuy	Martha Isaacs	Mary Wood Stallings
Allyson Easterling	Katherine Lawson	Nancy Sutton
Susan Ferone	Tommy Lawson	Sherry Ward
Bill Fox	Marilynn Mickle	

Members/Additional recipients served:

Homebound members

- Jodi Malone
- Betty Moak
- Bud and Agnes Smith, with son Roger
- Genie White, with attendant Mia
- Chubby Williams, with wife Gloria
- Rhonda Williamson

Aldersgate Retirement Community

- Frances and LeRoy Hendricks

Atrium Pineville Long-term Rehabilitation

- Lucia Tompkins

The Barclay at SouthPark

- Emma Sylvester

Brightmore of South Charlotte

- Nancy Mackey

Brookdale Carriage Club Memory Care

- Jo Ann Hobbs

Holiday Willow Grove Retirement Community

- Frank Mansfield

Merrywood Retirement Community

- Brenda and Don Moricle

The Sharon at SouthPark Chapel

- Barbara Colwell
- Delores Davis
- Kay and Bob Majeski

The Sharon at SouthPark Healthcare and Memory Care

- Helen Cathey
- Don Chamblee
- Helen Collins
- Buddy Love
- Marcia Morton
- Ada Offerdahl
- Molly Savage

The Sharon at SouthPark (Independent)

- Jerusha and Murray Fadial

The next extended communion date is scheduled for April 13, 2025.

**Highlights of the 165th Stated Meeting
of the Presbytery of Charlotte
Saturday, February 8, 2025
Theme: "Past, Present, Possible!"**

Ruling Elders in attendance: Bill Saunders, Vince DiSandro, John Beyer, Jordan Schriefer, Stephen Hicks, Tommy Lawson.

Teaching Elders in attendance: Mary Kate Sykes, Nikki Zimmermann

Other Covenant representation: Courtney Shudak, Amanda Shanks

It was with great joy and thanksgiving that we gathered at First-Charlotte Presbyterian Church! The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by our 2024 Moderator, Elder Tommy Lawson (Covenant-Charlotte). He then turned over the gavel to the 2025 Moderator, Elder Gary Blackmon (Commissioned Pastor, Statesville Avenue). Elder Blackmon formally thanked Moderator Lawson on behalf of the Presbytery, for outstanding service as our 2024 Moderator and presented him with a certificate of appreciation from the Presbytery. Moderator Lawson then introduced 2025 Vice-Moderator, Rev. Deborah Conner (Davidson College Church). Rev. Pen Peery, Pastor of First Charlotte Church, welcomed the body on behalf of the officers and members of First-Charlotte and First United Churches.

The Presbytery entered into a time of worship in honor of Black History Month. Rev. Lucy Crain led the call to worship. Tammy Davis (CN Jenkins) led the prayer of confession and Amanda Shanks (Avondale) led the assurance of pardon. Rev. Michael Marsh read the scripture, Esther 4 :1-17 NLT. Rev. Dr. Jerry Cannon preached a powerful sermon entitled "For Such A Time As This." The congregation was led in a special rendition of "Lift Every Voice and Sing" with poetry reading by Boris 'Bluz' Rogers. Courtney Shudak (Covenant-Charlotte) led the body in the Affirmation of Faith. Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston and Elder Tamara Williams did the reading of the Necrology of Ministers and Elders who passed in 2024. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was led by Rev. Dr. Julia Robinson Moore (UNCC) and Rev. Anna Dickson (First-Charlotte). Special music was rendered by the First-Charlotte Sanctuary Choir led by Director of Music, Will Young and Assistant Director Kaitlyn Davros.

General Presbyter, Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston introduced our Presbytery theme for 2025: "Past, Present, Possible!" She emphasized the need for churches to support the Presbytery through Unified Mission Giving. It is imperative that churches accurately report their membership since per Capita is based on membership. Jan also stressed the importance of churches following the guidelines of the Commission on Ministry in searching for pastoral leadership. Jan ended her GP Report with some highlights to celebrate for 2024: Over 1300 flood buckets delivered to Western NC; Ten Cents-a-Meal received and distributed \$10,000 more than expected; the MRC handed out \$86,000 in grants; a 'Housing Huddle' was held at Caldwell Church to look at ways to use church properties; we welcomed 15 new pastors and have 35 inquirers and candidates under our care.

Rev. Dr. Julia Robinson Moore, UNCC Professor, and Adreonna Benette, Community Engagement Archivist, gave a brief overview of the Archiving Catawba Presbytery Project, which is funded through a substantive grant from the Mellon Foundation to support the scanning, digitization, and documentation of historical documents related to the history of Catawba Presbytery. Rev. Rodger Sellers gave a brief update on Ministry Resource

Committee grants and plans for upcoming “Nuts & Bolts” educational opportunities coming in 2025.

Elder Edwin Shoaf presented the report of the Administration Committee. The Presbytery approved the members of the 2030 Presbytery Vision Team: Rev. Sonya McAuley Allen (Bellefonte) Co-Moderator; Rev. Matthew Conner (Newell) Co-Moderator; Rev. Delton Farmer (First United) Rev. Nikki Zimmerman (Covenant-Charlotte), Rev. Heather McIntyre (First-Wadesboro & First Norwood), Andrea Graham (Mount Olive), Gene McLaurin (First-Rockingham), Kenneth Glover (Henderson Grove), Josh Richard (Myers Park Staff). The Presbytery also approved the 2025 recommended budget as amended.

Rev. Pen Peery presented the motions from the Bills and Overtures Task Force. The Presbytery voted to approve all of the proposed Amendments to the PC(USA) Constitution except for Amendment 24-C. Rev. Lib McGregor Simmons and Rev. Lynn Thompson Bryant presented the report of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry. Tammy Davis (CN Jenkins), Amanda Shanks (Avondale), and Courtney Shudak (Covenant-Charlotte) were approved as Candidates for Ministry. The Presbytery of Charlotte approved the following four readers for the spring ordination exams: Ministers: Stephen Nickle and Casey Aldridge Elders: Andrea Graham and Paul Pedigo.

For the COM Report, Rev. Julie Bird recognized the retirement of the Rev. Fred Lyon and Rev. D. Elliott Hipp. She then led the body in a laying on of hands, by members of the Commission on Ministry, for Rev. Lyon and Rev. Hipp as they move to this next phase of their life in service to the church.

The Presbytery honored Rev. Dr. Alice Ridgill during lunch and thanked her for her 5 years of service as our Associate General Presbyter.

The 166th Stated Meeting will be on Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at Paw Creek Presbyterian Church.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
Session Information Item
Summary**

Subject: Clerk Communications

From: Janet Delery, Clerk

Communication has been received from the following organizations in acknowledgement of donations:

- Friends of Accion
- Nourish Up (formerly Loaves & Fishes/Friendship Trays)
- Roof Above
- Wayfinders
- The Center for Community Transitions