

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Meeting of Session**  
**Monday, November 11, 2024**  
**7:00 pm**  
**CONSENT AGENDA**

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. Approval of September 9, 2024, Session Meeting Minutes (pp. 2-4). Terry Horne, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of this meeting be approved as written.
2. Approval of September 15, 2024, Congregational Meeting Minutes (p. 5). Terry Horne, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of this meeting be approved as written.
3. Approval of October 23, 2024, Session Meeting Minutes (pp. 6-7). Terry Horne, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of this meeting be approved as written.
4. Approval of Called Session Meetings Minutes from September and October to receive new members (pp. 8-9). Terry Horne, Clerk of Session, moves that the minutes of these meetings be approved as written.
5. Approval of request for changes to active roll (p. 10)
6. Approval of baptisms (p. 11)

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. September 2024 Treasurer's Report (pp. 12-13)
2. October 2024 Treasurer's Report (pp. 14-15)
3. Minutes from October Presbytery Meeting (p. 16)
4. Clerk's Communications (p. 17)

**FUTURE EVENTS**

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|-------------------------|---|
| • November 28-29        | Church office closed for Thanksgiving holiday   |
| • December 1            | First Sunday in Advent  |
| • December 8            | Alternative Gift Market, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Welcome Center<br>Lessons and Carols at 5:00 pm, Sanctuary  |
| • December 9            | Session Meeting and Elder Examinations, 6:30 pm, Peek Music Rm  |
| • December 11           | Wholeness and Healing worship service at 6:30 pm, Chapel  |
| • December 24           | Children's Christmas Eve service at 10:00 am, Sanctuary<br>Christmas Eve worship with contemporary music, communion, and candles at 3:00 pm, Sanctuary<br>Christmas Eve worship with traditional music, communion, and candles at 5:00 pm, Sanctuary<br>Christmas Eve worship with traditional music, communion, and candles at 5:00 pm, Chapel |
| • December 25-26        | Church office closed for Christmas holiday  |
| • December 29           | One worship service, 11:00 am, Sanctuary  |
| • January 1, 2025       | Church office closed for New Year holiday   |
| • January 10 & 11, 2025 | Session Retreat, beginning at 6:00 pm Friday  |
| • January 12, 2025      | Elder Ordination and Installation   |

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING ON  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**

**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 opened the meeting with a reflection and prayer.

**Determination of Quorum and Adoption of Agenda**

The moderator declared that a quorum was present and reviewed the agenda and consent agenda. The consent agenda was adopted without objection. The agenda was amended to include a report from the Administration Ministry. The amended agenda was adopted without objection.

**Administration** – Amy Hunter, Treasurer

Hunter provided an update that the audit has been completed, and Covenant received the reports back from the auditor. Covenant received a clean opinion and a clean internal control letter.

**Personnel** – No Report

**Planning and Evaluation** – No Report

**Ministry Reports:**

**Congregational Life** – Grace Williams, Chair

Williams provided highlights of the Fall Kickoff which was held on Sunday, August 26. Williams expressed gratitude to Serenity Taylor and all the volunteers who supported the many joyful events happening inside and outside throughout the day.

Williams shared that Open Table dinner and a full slate of Wednesday evening programs resumed on September 4, 2024 with excellent volunteer and staff support, strong attendance, and a high number of advance sign-ups.

**Education** – Robin Goodson, Chair

Goodson began her report celebrating the work of the Education Ministry to prepare for and launch a new church education year. Goodson highlighted the September education offerings focused on the theme of “All in ... with all your heart”, the high energy, attendance, and volunteer/committee support in the Children’s Ministry, and the Youth Ministry which welcomes over 40 youth on campus for Sunday and Wednesday fellowship and ministry. She encouraged continued investment and participation in the Children’s and Youth Ministries as we grow the future leaders and Elders of the church.

Goodson concluded her report discussing the opportunities to participate in Covenant Life Groups. She encouraged Session participation in Life Groups and asked Session members to connect with Lou Watson to join a Life Group.

**Engagement** – Whitney Bouknight

Bouknight reminded everyone to wear their Covenant nametag whenever on campus. Weekly new member meetings continue in the Parlor on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Session members encouraged to attend these meetings to connect with our new members. Bouknight reminded Session that Covenant enjoys strong visitor participation on Wednesday nights and asked that all Covenant

members be alert to opportunities to offer hospitality and assistance, especially to our visitors and families with small children.

### **Mission and Outreach** – Stephen Hicks, Chair

Hicks reported on the 2023 Christmas Eve Offering. He reminded Session that the congregation generously funded field trips for every student at Highland Renaissance Academy and a feeding program at refugee camps through Tomorrow's Youth Organization. A surplus of \$15,509 remained. The Mission and Outreach Committee unanimously approved a motion to donate \$15,000 to Bright Stars of Bethlehem to support their feeding, shelter, and therapeutic work in the Holy Land. The donation was used to co-sponsor a fundraiser for Bright Stars, which raised over \$400,000 to support feeding and housing ministries.

Hicks next reported on the Affordable Housing Task Force which is focused on establishing a plan for a significant donation which has been received to help address homelessness in Charlotte. The task force has delivered "Letters of Interest" to existing mission partners to determine their interest and proposals for joining in this endeavor. Final responses are due in October.

Hicks then called on Nikki Zimmerman who celebrated that Highland Renaissance Academy was one of ten of the 103 CMS elementary schools who have exceeded growth on state tests for three consecutive years.

Hicks concluded his report announcing that there will be another study group focused on Jemar Tisby's new book beginning in October.

### **Worship** – Beth Koonce, Chair

Koonce highlighted the return of four worship services on Sunday, September 8. The new sound and hearing loop systems in the Chapel were active. The Worship Arts Team created new banners and displays in the Fellowship Hall featuring children's art as well as multiple sets of new paraments for the communion tables. Koonce expressed gratitude to Carla Leaf, Emily Reinicker, and the Worship Arts Team for their time, leadership, and talent to create these meaningful additions to the worship experience.

Koonce then reported that rehearsals have resumed for all musical groups, and both voice and handbell workshops are being offered in the coming weeks.

Koonce concluded her report by lifting up World Communion Sunday which will be on Sunday, October 6. The 1st graders will celebrate communion together at the 9:30 a.m. service, culminating their study of communion as part of the Ready, Set, Worship program.

### **Clerk's Report** – Terry Horne

Horne highlighted the first of the monthly Community Forum series which was held on Sunday, September 8 and thanked the planning committee and the support from Jason Graffis.

Horne then reminded Session about upcoming Session Meetings:

- October: There will not be a Session meeting on Monday, October 14. Instead, Covenant's annual Elder Dinner will be that evening, starting at 6:30 p.m.
- November: The November 11 Session Meeting will be held at The Rise following a dinner with the residents.

- December: The December 9 Session Meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will include the examination of the elders elected to join the Session in 2025.

**Old Business/New Business:**

The session unanimously approved the motion to appoint the 2024 Committee on Assignments as listed in the consent agenda to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in Covenant's Operations Manual.

**Staff Announcements/Pastoral Concerns:**

Mary Kate Sykes highlighted the upcoming Footsteps of Paul trip. Mandy Rencher highlighted the upcoming mission trip to Reynosa in October and Covenant Impacts Charlotte which will involve projects on October 24-27. Katherine Kerr announced a date change to September 29 for the upcoming blood drive. Katie Coley asked Session members to relink their VIC cards to support our mission partner schools.

Ministers and Session members shared pastoral concerns.

**Closing Prayer:**

Katherine Kerr closed the meeting with prayer at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Terry Horne, Clerk



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Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MINUTES OF THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024**

**Call to Order and Opening Prayer**

Moderator Bob Henderson called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. and determined that a Quorum was present.

**Purpose**

The Moderator stated that the purpose of the meeting was to elect ten Elders and two Youth Elders. All Covenant members present are eligible to vote. The Moderator summarized the Elder nomination process, highlighting the formation of an Elder Nominating Committee (ENC) and the solicitation of nominees from the congregation for consideration by the ENC. Grace Williams and Burnet Tucker served as co-chairs of the ENC. Bob introduced Grace.

**Report from the ENC and Election of Officers**

Grace thanked representatives from the various ministries and committees that worked with her and Burnet on the ENC. The ENC members were Lauren Batten, Shannon Brennan, JD DuPuy, Meg Fryling, Gene Graziano, Thomas Lineberger, Kelli McAlister, and Don Upton. Bob Henderson served as staff liaison.

Grace reviewed the criteria for Elder Emeritus: any Elder who has faithfully served three full terms or at least nine years at Covenant Presbyterian Church and has attained the age of 70. Sarah Crowder and Tommy Lawson both agreed to accept the ENC's nomination for Elder Emeritus. The motion was made and seconded and unanimously approved.

Grace reviewed attributes from The Book of Church Order that individuals should have in order to serve as Elders in the Presbyterian Church. She outlined the process the ENC used to nominate ten Elders and two Youth Elders. The following individuals were nominated to serve in the Elder Class of 2027: Amanda Abraham, John Beyer, Alex Chinery, Judy Emken, Anne Gildea, Vince Hindman, Philip James, Abby Liu, Jordan Schriefer, and Kim Spivey. The following individuals were nominated to serve in the Youth Elder Class of 2025: Hope Kluttz and Alexa Reynolds. The motion was made. The Moderator called for nominations from the floor and none were made. The ENC motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

**Close**

The Moderator thanked the committee for its work, thanked the congregation for their attendance, and closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,



Terry Horne, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
MINUTES OF THE SESSION MEETING ON  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2024**

**Call to Order and Opening Prayer** – Bob Henderson, Moderator

The moderator called the meeting to order at 7:47 p.m. in Fellowship Hall Room 203. The moderator opened the meeting with a reflection and prayer.

**Determination of Quorum and Adoption of Agenda**

The moderator declared that a quorum was present and reviewed the agenda. The agenda was adopted without objection.

**Administration** – Amy Hunter, Treasurer

Hunter provided an update on the Cornerstone Fund and referred Session members to the Cornerstone Fund Report included in the agenda. Hunter reported that the projects for 2024 are on-track for completion, and expenditures are in alignment with expectations.

**Personnel** – John McAlister, Chair

McAlister shared that Personnel is seeking Session's endorsement of a staffing proposal that grew out of Covenant's Envision Task Force. McAlister reviewed the Envision process and shared how the Envision Report has informed and guided the work of the Personnel Committee. McAlister shared that the Personnel Committee is proposing that Covenant elevate the current position of Pastoral Resident for Congregational Life and Care to an installed Associate Pastor for Congregational Life position. McAlister reviewed the proposed job responsibilities, highlighting focus areas of congregational partnerships, fellowship, friendship, and stewardship. McAlister then reviewed funding and timing components of this proposal.

Following a period of discussion, the Session unanimously approved a motion to endorse this direction as recommended by the Personnel Committee and approve a request to the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery of Charlotte for authority to elect an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee for the position of Associate Pastor for Congregational Life.

**Planning and Evaluation** – No Report

**Ministry Reports:**

**Congregational Life** – No Report

**Education** – No Report

**Engagement** – No Report

**Mission and Outreach** – No Report

**Worship** – No Report

**Clerk's Report** – Terry Horne

Horne highlighted that the November 11 Session Meeting will take place at The Rise and asked that Session members use the forthcoming Signup Genius to sign up to support the dinner which Session will share with the residents of The Rise prior to the Session Meeting.

Finally, Horne highlighted the ongoing Community Forums which are taking place each month this fall at 9:30 a.m. The November 10th session will focus on Finance.

**Old Business/New Business:** None

**Staff Announcements/Pastoral Concerns: None**

**Closing Prayer:**

Bob Henderson closed the meeting with prayer at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'T. Horne', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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Terry Horne, Clerk

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Henderson', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Called Session Meeting**  
**Sunday, September 8, 2024**

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

**September 8, 2024**

Caroline Roten	Transfer letter--Myers Park Baptist Church--Charlotte, NC
Josh Roten	Transfer letter--Church of Charlotte
Will Adams	First Presbyterian, Rocky Mount
Eileen Adams	First Presbyterian, Rocky Mount
Stacy Carter	Profession of Faith
Chris Carter	Profession of Faith
Autumn Carter	Profession of Faith
Tristan Carter	Profession of Faith

**Active (confirmed) members as of 9/30/2024: 2733**

**2024 new members as of 9/30/2024: 86**

**2024 new affiliate members as of 9/30/2024: 2**

**2024 transfers as of 9/30/2024: 20**

**2024 deaths as of 9/30/2024: 19**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Terry Horne, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Called Session Meetings**  
**Sundays, October 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2024**

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

**October 6, 2024**

Kim Sutton	Reaffirmation
Mark Sutton	Reaffirmation

**October 13, 2024**

Lee Kresovsky	Transfer Letter--Christ Church UMC, Louisville KY
Joe Kresovsky	Transfer Letter--Christ Church UMC, Louisville KY
Mary Kate Bowers	Reaffirmation
Maggie Richards	Reaffirmation
Rich Richards	Reaffirmation

**October 20, 2024**

Georgeann Watts	Reaffirmation
Brett Watts	Reaffirmation
Laura Winfree	Reaffirmation

**October 27, 2024**

Kate Pearson	Reaffirmation
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**Active (confirmed) members as of 10/31/2024: 2737**

**2024 new members as of 10/31/2024: 97**

**2024 new affiliate members as of 10/31/2024: 2**

**2024 transfers as of 10/31/2024: 24**

**2024 deaths as of 10/31/2024: 22**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Terry Horne, Clerk



Robert W. Henderson, Moderator

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Session Meeting**  
**Request for Changes in the Active Roll**

**Removed from Active Roll Per Request**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Transferred to:</u></b>
Jim Martin	Davidson College Presbyterian Church
Dottie Martin	Davidson College Presbyterian Church
Jessica Chandler	Transfer to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Winston Salem
Paul Chandler	Transfer to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Winston Salem
Byron Falls	CrossFix, Belmont, NC
Ashley Falls	CrossFix, Belmont, NC

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Session Action Item**  
**Summary**

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**SUBJECT: Baptisms in November and December**

**DATE: November 11, 2024**

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**Report From:** Baptism Committee

**Background:** Baptisms must be approved by the Session.

**Process to Date:** Parents and individuals have requested that they or their children be baptized in worship at Covenant.

**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:

Sunday, September 29, 2024, in the Covenant Sanctuary at the 9:30 worship service

Emily Brooklyn Bridges

Parents: Marina and Brad Bridges

Sunday, November 17, 2024, in the Covenant Sanctuary at the 9:30 worship service

Wilson MacLean Chinery

Parents: Mary Clare and Alex Chinery

Sunday, December 1, 2024, in the Covenant Sanctuary at the 11:00 worship service

Karen Gray

Sunday, December 8, 2024, in the Covenant Sanctuary at the 11:00 worship service

Dean Allen Stipp and Darcie Eleanor Stipp

Parents: Maddie and Spencer Stipp

**Motion:** Motion to approve the baptisms of Emily Brooklyn Bridges, Wilson MacLean Chinery, Karen Gray, Dean Allen Stipp, and Darcie Eleanor Stipp.

**Covenant Presbyterian Church**  
Monthly Financial Comments  
September 2024

**Income Statement Comments**

The main impacts of the September Income Statement and for the Year to Date are outlined below.

**Income:** Pledge receipts were above budget in the month bringing the Year to Date (YTD) results to \$139K above the budget. Overall, YTD Pledge Receipts as a % of the annual budget are slightly above last year. YTD Miscellaneous contributions are below budget due to contributions without pledge trailing the budget, although this YTD is above last year. YTD Other Receipts is \$66K above budget with \$14K of this variance coming from Facility Income and \$52K from Interest Income.

*School Ministry Update:* The Child Development Center's (CDC) tuition income was below budget in the month but still above YTD budgeted tuition by \$19K. There was \$26K of state grant income received in the month (not expected or budgeted) which will be paid out as bonuses for the CDC by year end which is in accordance with the expected use of the grant funding. The Preschool's income was above budget in the month and for YTD is \$17K above budget.

**Expenses:** Expenses across most ministry areas continue to track close to or below the budget. Below are some additional explanations -

- For the Education ministry, the unfavorable variance to budget is due to the unbudgeted Footsteps of Paul trip expenses of \$166K. The income for this trip is included in lines 2 and 10 and offsets the expenses so there is no impact on the bottom line.

**The Bottom Line:** Net Income for the month was \$165K favorable to the budget primarily due to pledge receipts above budget by \$91K and other income above budget by \$31K. Year to date, Net Income is positive at \$182K, which is \$517K above the budget for this point in the year.

**Balance Sheet Comments**

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

**Line 28 & 34:** Changes due to the increases in the market value of the portfolio.

<b>Covenant Presbyterian Church</b>		<b>Period ending:</b>			<b>09/30/24</b>				
<b>INCOME STATEMENT</b>		<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Y-T-D Actual as % of Annual</b>			
		<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Income:</b>									
1	Pledge Receipts	\$ 2,338,804	\$ 2,477,425	\$ 138,621	\$ 3,441,192	72%	68%	63%	69%
2	Misc Contributions	272,050	249,679	(22,371)	542,000				
3	Investment Income	296,956	296,168	(788)	300,500				
4	Other Receipts	73,800	139,919	66,119	100,000				
5	<b>Total Schools</b>	<b>1,383,679</b>	<b>1,465,852</b>	<b>82,173</b>	<b>1,894,261</b>				
6	Child Dev. Ctr.	1,110,279	1,175,146	64,867	1,489,821				
7	Preschool	273,400	290,706	17,306	404,440				
8	Food Service	122,993	122,789	(204)	163,880				
9	Recreation Wing	114,130	133,058	18,928	155,000				
10	Youth/ Adult Trips	98,250	311,165	212,915	135,750				
11	Congregational Life Ministry	-	13,072	13,072	-				
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 4,700,662</b>	<b>\$ 5,209,127</b>	<b>\$ 508,465</b>	<b>\$ 6,732,583</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>59%</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>									
12	Worship	\$ 90,081	\$ 82,007	\$ (8,074)	\$ 122,300				
13	Congregational Life	23,650	30,713	7,063	30,950				
14	Engagement	7,562	6,116	(1,447)	9,750				
15	Mission & Outreach	489,786	506,562	16,775	622,200				
16	Education	149,934	286,471	136,537	173,030				
17	<b>Total Schools</b>	<b>1,423,536</b>	<b>1,342,417</b>	<b>(81,119)</b>	<b>1,922,499</b>				
18	Child Dev. Ctr.	1,128,224	1,063,570	(64,654)	1,503,890				
19	Preschool	295,311	278,846	(16,465)	418,609				
20	Food Service	68,291	79,021	10,730	95,500				
21	Recreation Ministries	34,212	24,807	(9,405)	49,000				
22	Administration	470,308	485,555	15,247	673,878				
23	Personnel	2,278,604	2,183,689	(94,915)	3,033,476				
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 5,035,965</b>	<b>\$ 5,027,357</b>	<b>\$ (8,607)</b>	<b>\$ 6,732,583</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>61%</b>
	<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ (335,303)</b>	<b>\$ 181,770</b>	<b>\$ 517,072</b>	<b>\$ -</b>				
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>			<b>September</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>Change</b>				
<b>Assets:</b>									
24	Truist Checking/Savings		\$ 2,030,680	\$ 1,978,436	\$ 52,244				
25	Wells Fargo Holding		2,315,271	2,309,512	5,759				
26	Petty Cash		350	350	-				
27	Accounts Receivable and Advances		32,011	27,517	4,494				
28	Endowment Fund Mkt Value		17,553,591	17,272,061	281,530				
29	Real Estate Funds		2,025,000	2,025,000	-				
	<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$ 23,956,904</b>	<b>\$ 23,612,876</b>	<b>\$ 344,027</b>				
<b>Liabilities:</b>									
30	Accounts Payable and Misc. Accruals		\$ 12,060	12,556	(496)				
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>\$ 12,060</b>	<b>\$ 12,556</b>	<b>\$ (496)</b>				
<b>Fund Balances:</b>									
31	Donor Advised		\$ 289,914	\$ 268,221	\$ 21,693				
32	Infrastructure Fund/Cornerstone Income		70,681	85,681	(15,000)				
33	Payable to Endowment Corpus		5,380	3,165	2,215				
34	Restricted End/Cornerst & Real Estate		19,578,591	19,297,061	281,530				
35	Restricted Funds		3,016,785	2,999,610	17,176				
36	Non-Budgeted Benevolences		17,786	17,786	-				
37	Section 125 Plan		(1,653)	(2,387)	733				
38	Genl Fund Balance		859,414	822,433	36,982				
39	Columbarium		41,788	42,093	(305)				
40	Reserve Fund Balances		66,157	66,658	(500)				
	<b>Total Fund Balances</b>		<b>\$ 23,944,844</b>	<b>\$ 23,600,320</b>	<b>\$ 344,523</b>				
	<b>Total Liab. &amp; Fund Balances</b>		<b>\$ 23,956,904</b>	<b>\$ 23,612,876</b>	<b>\$ 344,027</b>				

**Covenant Presbyterian Church**  
Monthly Financial Comments  
October 2024

**Income Statement Comments**

The main impacts of the October Income Statement and for the Year to Date are outlined below.

**Income:** Pledge receipts were above budget in the month bringing the Year to Date (YTD) results to \$151K above the budget. Overall, YTD Pledge Receipts as a % of the annual budget are slightly above last year. There is approximately \$708K of pledges left to be received in November and December to meet budget. YTD Other Receipts is \$69K above budget with \$14K of this variance coming from Facility Income and \$55K from Interest Income.

*School Ministry Update:* The Child Development Center's (CDC) income was below budget in the month but still above YTD budgeted income by \$60K. The Preschool's income for YTD is \$15K above budget.

**Expenses:** Expenses across most ministry areas continue to track close to or below the budget. Below are some additional explanations -

- For the Education ministry, the unfavorable variance to budget is due to the unbudgeted Footsteps of Paul trip expenses of \$170K. The income for this trip is included in lines 2 and 10 and offsets the expenses so there is no impact on the bottom line.
- For the CDC, the favorable variance to budget is due to staff attrition and the timing related to rehiring to full staff.

**The Bottom Line:** Net Income for the month was \$79K favorable to the budget primarily due to lower Mission and Outreach expenses in the month resulting from using the Hearts for Highland restricted fund for YTD Highland related expenses, as well as timing of M&O grant payments and lower Personnel expenses due to timing. Year to date, Net Income is positive at \$162K, which is \$556K above the budget for this point in the year.

**Balance Sheet Comments**

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

- Line 24:** This line primarily reflects the net of cash from operations and certain donor restricted receipts relating to (a) support of an affordable housing project (Embrace at Dorton – selected by Mission and Outreach Ministry through a request for proposal process) and (b) Avery County flood relief.
- Line 28 & 34:** Changes due to the decreases in the market value of the portfolio.
- Line 35:** This line reflects receipts relating to an affordable housing project (Embrace at Dorton) and Avery County flood relief.
- Line 38:** Reflects the month's net operating loss.

<b>Covenant Presbyterian Church</b>		Period ending:			10/31/24	Y-T-D Actual as % of Annual			
<b>INCOME STATEMENT</b>		<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>YTD Variance</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Income:</b>									
1	Pledge Receipts	\$ 2,581,583	\$ 2,733,075	\$ 151,492	\$ 3,441,192	79%	75%	72%	79%
2	Misc Contributions	297,033	278,045	(18,989)	542,000				
3	Investment Income	297,956	298,269	313	300,500				
4	Other Receipts	82,533	151,097	68,563	100,000				
5	<b>Total Schools</b>	<b>1,553,874</b>	<b>1,628,968</b>	<b>75,094</b>	<b>1,894,261</b>				
6	Child Dev. Ctr.	1,236,794	1,296,811	60,017	1,489,821				
7	Preschool	317,080	332,158	15,078	404,440				
8	Food Service	138,067	145,366	7,299	163,880				
9	Recreation Wing	147,145	157,497	10,352	155,000				
10	Youth/ Adult Trips	121,750	317,625	195,875	135,750				
11	Congregational Life Ministry	-	13,083	13,083	-				
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 5,219,941</b>	<b>\$ 5,723,025</b>	<b>\$ 503,084</b>	<b>\$ 6,732,583</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>68%</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>									
12	Worship	\$ 98,921	\$ 93,759	\$ (5,161)	\$ 122,300				
13	Congregational Life	26,771	32,596	5,825	30,950				
14	Engagement	8,292	6,629	(1,662)	9,750				
15	Mission & Outreach	542,141	514,360	(27,781)	622,200				
16	Education	158,073	302,348	144,275	173,030				
17	<b>Total Schools</b>	<b>1,586,877</b>	<b>1,500,243</b>	<b>(86,634)</b>	<b>1,922,499</b>				
18	Child Dev. Ctr.	1,250,594	1,177,740	(72,853)	1,503,890				
19	Preschool	336,283	322,502	(13,781)	418,609				
20	Food Service	77,916	87,411	9,495	95,500				
21	Recreation Ministries	37,284	24,807	(12,477)	49,000				
22	Administration	538,283	572,847	34,563	673,878				
23	Personnel	2,539,894	2,425,923	(113,971)	3,033,476				
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 5,614,452</b>	<b>\$ 5,560,923</b>	<b>\$ (53,529)</b>	<b>\$ 6,732,583</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>69%</b>
	<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ (394,510)</b>	<b>\$ 162,102</b>	<b>\$ 556,612</b>	<b>\$ -</b>				
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>			<b>October</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>Change</b>				
<b>Assets:</b>									
24	Truist Checking/Savings		\$ 2,366,844	\$ 2,030,680	\$ 336,164				
25	Wells Fargo Holding		2,319,010	2,315,271	3,739				
26	Petty Cash		350	350	-				
27	Accounts Receivable and Advances		33,086	32,011	1,074				
28	Endowment Fund Mkt Value		17,204,448	17,553,591	(349,143)				
29	Real Estate Funds		2,025,000	2,025,000	-				
	<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$ 23,948,738</b>	<b>\$ 23,956,904</b>	<b>\$ (8,166)</b>				
<b>Liabilities:</b>									
30	Accounts Payable and Misc. Accruals		\$ 14,260	\$ 12,060	\$ 2,200				
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>\$ 14,260</b>	<b>\$ 12,060</b>	<b>\$ 2,200</b>				
<b>Fund Balances:</b>									
31	Donor Advised		\$ 284,414	\$ 289,914	\$ (5,500)				
32	Infrastructure Fund/Cornerstone Income		70,681	70,681	-				
33	Payable to Endowment Corpus		1,225	5,380	(4,155)				
34	Restricted End/Cornerst & Real Estate		19,229,448	19,578,591	(349,143)				
35	Restricted Funds		3,384,811	3,016,785	368,026				
36	Non-Budgeted Benevolences		17,786	17,786	-				
37	Section 125 Plan		(688)	(1,653)	966				
38	Genl Fund Balance		839,746	859,414	(19,668)				
39	Columbarium		41,335	41,788	(453)				
40	Reserve Fund Balances		65,720	66,157	(438)				
	<b>Total Fund Balances</b>		<b>\$ 23,934,478</b>	<b>\$ 23,944,844</b>	<b>\$ (10,366)</b>				
	<b>Total Liab. &amp; Fund Balances</b>		<b>\$ 23,948,738</b>	<b>\$ 23,956,904</b>	<b>\$ (8,166)</b>				

## **Highlights of the 164th Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of Charlotte Tuesday, October 29, 2024**

It was with great joy and thanksgiving that we gathered at Sardis Presbyterian Church! The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by our 2024 Moderator, Elder Tommy Lawson (Covenant-Charlotte). Rev. Dr. Joe B. Martin Pastor of Sardis Church, welcomed the Presbytery on behalf of the officers, staff, and members of the church.

The Presbytery entered into a time of worship. Music was provided by the Sardis Church Contemporary Worship Team. Allyson Anderson led the call to worship. Sarah Scoggin led the prayer of confession and Emily Hall gave the assurance of pardon. Shea Watts led the prayer for Illumination and read the scripture. Rev. Dr. Alice Ridgill preached the sermon based on Isaiah 43:14-19 (NIV). Rev. Anita Wright lifted the Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was led by Rev. Dr. Joe B. Martin and Rev. Dr. Allysen Schaaf.

In the General Presbyter's report, Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston shared information about the upcoming Brick by Brick Symposium: Exploring How to Use Church Property to House Our Neighbors, which will be held on Saturday, November 23rd at Caldwell Church. During the "Lunch & Learn" time at today's meeting, we will hear from Rev. Mark Eldson, author of "Gone For Good".

During the Associate General Presbyter's Report, Rev. Dr. Alice Ridgill introduced Rev. Ardy Skidmore, who shared updates about the work of the Disaster Response Team and the ongoing relief efforts for western NC. Rev. Skidmore thanked the Presbytery for their continuing support and asked for folks to volunteer to help with cleanup buckets at the DRT Warehouse at Locust Church on Wednesdays.

Elder Harry Greyard presented the report of the Committee on Representation. Elder Gary Blackmon (Statesville Avenue) was elected as the 2025 Presbytery Moderator and Rev. Deborah Conner was elected as the 2025 Vice-Moderator. Elder Tamara Williams was elected as Stated Clerk and Elder Adrian Boyd was elected as Recording Clerk for 2025 Rev.

Dr. Whitney Bayer presented the Ministry Resource Committee Report and gave a brief update about plans the MRC has for providing resources and training events in 2025. Stay tuned as they are seeking input from our congregations about what topics folks are interested in and what resources may be required.

Elder Kathy Pilkington and Rev. Chaz Blasdel presented the report of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry. Emily Hall (Selwyn Avenue) and Shea Watts (Covenant-Charlotte) were approved as Candidates in the preparation for ministry process. Allyson Anderson (Myers Park) and Sarah Scoggin (Hopewell) were examined and approved to be ordained as Ministers of Word and Sacrament.

During the COM Report, Rev. Ellen Crawford True called on Renda Brinson and Rev. Rebecca Davis to recognize Rev. Lindsey Odom (South Mecklenburg) upon her completion as a Certified Christian Educator.

The Presbytery welcomed Rev. Anita Wright, Pastor-Elect at Grier Heights Church. We also welcomed back to Charlotte Presbytery, Rev. Jane Summey, as a retired member. Allyson Anderson was approved to serve as Pastoral Resident at Selwyn Avenue and Quail Hollow Churches, pending ordination. Sarah Scoggin was approved to serve as Associate Pastor at Hopewell Church, pending ordination. The 165<sup>th</sup> Stated Meeting will be Saturday, February 8, 2025, at First PC, Charlotte.

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**Session Information Item**  
**Summary**

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**Subject: Clerk Communications**

**From: Terry Horne, Clerk**

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

- Roof Above
- Princeton Theological Seminary
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