

**July 2022** 

#### **COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**AUGUSTA, GEORGIA** 

#### Notes from Session

June 7, 2022

All the ruling elders and teaching elder Katelyn Gordon Cooke were present. Teaching elder Andy Cooke was excused. Also attending were Treasurer Aubrey Moore and Music Director Lyn Patterson. Moderator Katelyn called the meeting to order. After all the motions necessary to begin the meeting, she opened the meeting.

Katelyn informed Session that the devotions focusing on the Book of Order were ending and The Book of Confessions would be the focus of the devotions beginning in August. Her devotion returned to the beginning of Book of Order using The Foundations of Presbyterian Polity: God's Mission F-1.01. Each sentence of this section was read by a different elder. Katelyn then played a song by Ben Rector: Thank you. She asked the Session to think of 3 things they are thankful for as they listened to the song. Katelyn opened the meeting with a prayer asking those present to offer what they are thankful for as part of the opening prayer.

The Consent Calendar consisting of minutes from Stated Session meeting May 3, 2022, and Called Session Meeting May 15, 2022, were approved.

From Our Pastor



"If you have a body, you are entitled to the full range of feelings. It comes with the package." – Anne Lamott

If you are reading this article right now, then you probably have a body. You may or may not like your body, but you have one. It follows then, according to Anne Lamott, that you also have a full range of feelings. You may or many not like all of them, but you have them.

In the Christian faith, there are certain feelings that we have come to believe are more acceptable than others. Joy, love, peacefulness – those emotions get God's stamp of approval.

There are other emotions, though, that we aren't supposed to have – much less express toward God. Anger, disappointment, and distrust all fit in that category.

Wherever we got the idea that some emotions are acceptable to God and others are not, that idea is not found in Scripture. In fact, Scripture shows us the opposite reality, and the full range of feelings is especially on display in the Psalms. Within the collection of 150 songs and poems, we hear words of thanksgiving, cries of distress, pronouncements of blame, calls for revenge, shouts of anger, and whispers of hope.

During the month of July, Andy and I will be preaching on the Psalms in a Psunday Psalms Pseries. We'll read and explore together some of our favorite praise psalms as well as some of the lesser-known psalms that venture into some less familiar but still honest emotional and spiritual terrain. For Presbyterians who often manage our emotions, it might be surprising – and maybe even a little freeing – to see the depth and diversity of feelings in the Psalms and to be reminded that God is big enough to handle all of it. Thanks be to God!

Grace and peace, Katelyn

(See "Session Notes," page 2)

### <u>VIDEOS FROM JUNE 19</u> SERMON

Because we have a digital version of the Chimes this month. I thought that you might be interested to see the videos created by the Presbyterian Church (USA) that tell the story of Kevin and Danielle Riley, the Co-Pastors at Mount Baker Presbyterian Church in Concrete, Washington. The first video tells their story of recovery and becoming pastors. The second video tells the story of Pastor Kevin baptizing the officer who had arrested him years earlier. Each video is only about five minutes long and is well worth watching.

Andy

#### **CHURCH STAFF**

Ministers: All Covenant Members Co-Pastors:

The Rev. Katelyn Gordon Cooke and

The Rev. Andy Cooke

**Director of Music and Organist:** 

Lyn M. Patterson **Parish Associate:** 

The Rev. Karla Conditt Daniels
Nursery Caregivers: Sherry Nash
Church Secretary: Judy Strogonoff
Finance Secretary: Jenn Harrison

Covenant Presbyterian Church 3131 Walton Way Augusta, GA 30909 (706) 733-0513 info@covenantaugusta.org www.covenantaugusta.org www.facebook.com/ covenantaugusta

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. Mon-Fri

#### Session Notes

(continued from page 1)

#### The Clerk reported

#### 1. Four facility uses:

- Augusta Moms Connection, Playground two Saturdays a month 10-12:30 to the end of 2022.
- Antique Violins of Augusta May 20, 2022, recital in the Sanctuary
- 6-8:30 p.m. Dalton Cooper, Fellowship Hall June 18, 2022. baby shower for Katie and Dalton Cooper
- Girl Scouts Middle School Room at noon 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays
- 2. There are four new members at Covenant: Naomi Gillies, Miller Cooke, Blake Rogers, and Audrey Baldwin.
- 3. Commissioners from the May 13-14, 2022, Presbytery meeting Brock Daniels and Judy Grieve reported the weekend had been a great reunion for the Presbytery.
- 4. Communion servers for July 3, 2022, are Vernon Barnes, Judy Grieve, Brock Daniels, and Mary McCarter.

Treasurer Aubrey Moore reported he had sent April and May financial statements to Session by email. He informed session that Covenant continues to have a strong economy. We currently have a surplus of \$27,477.00, down slightly from the previous month.

The Preschool continues to show a surplus of \$8,891.00. As expected, this figure is down from the previous month due to continuing expenses and decreased revenue as the school approaches year-end

#### TASK FORCES

Open the Gates Task Force did not have any recommendations and would continue to monitor conditions.

#### **Capital Campaign Task Force:**

Chris Henry reported the task force had no recommendations and continues to meet to work on defining the campaign.

#### MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

**Worship:** Communion discussion continues.

#### **Sustainability:**

- Recommended to Session the approval of the 2022-2023
   Preschool budget. This needed no second and the motion passed. Katelyn informed
   Session that enrollment is higher than last year, and a class has been added. She stated that the 2022-2023 school year looks very good.
- Recommended to Session approval of Lyn Patterson's request for 28.5 hours of unpaid leave. This also needed no second and the motion passed.

#### Mission:

- Vernon informed Session the Matthew 25 task force along with Christ Presbyterian Church is sponsoring a poverty awareness program, *Take Up the Cause*, September 10, 2022, 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. at GAP ministry.
- A nature walk in Reed Creek Park will be held October 8, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

#### **Education:**

 Recommended to Session the approval of a revised version of Children, Youth and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy. This needed no second and passed.

(See "Session Notes," page 3)

#### Session Notes

(continued from page 2)

#### **Congregational Life:**

- Baseball outing June 17, 2022
- Movie night for children in July.

#### **Building and Grounds:**

 Mary McCarter reported an indoor workday would be July 23, 2022.

#### **DEACONS**

Katelyn reported that the Diaconate met June 6. The prayer action team will be participating in the Lemonade on the Lawn. Deacons are exploring the possibility of resuming home communion in August.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

How to celebrate John McCrosky's graduation: Judy Grieve shared a picture of the stole that had been purchased to give to John in recognition of his graduation. Katelyn asked for ideas of how Covenant would like to celebrate John's graduation and present him with the stole. Following discussion it was decided that Katelyn would ask John if he is able to preach at Covenant this summer and a reception for John would be held following this service. If John cannot come to Covenant, the youth will take the stole to John at Montreat. Discussion followed suggesting the idea of cards from the congregation and/or video of the congregation saying Congratulations to John which the youth would take with them to Montreat. Katelyn will work on these details when she knows John's response.

#### **CO-PASTORS REPORT:**

Katelyn reported Andy is at Ghost Ranch near Albuquerque, New Mexico for his Doctoral program. The emphasis of this session is writing and the wonder of words. Katelyn said she is celebrating the smooth transition to the new worship schedule and attendance so far. She and Andy will be on vacation for the service July 3, and Amy Hobby Rickard will preach this Sunday. She reminded Session of the elementary school Compassion Camp June 24 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. and June 25, 9:00 a.m.- 1p.m.. She was pleased to share that families from the preschool would be attending this camp, and recent college grads Ava Moore and Lillie DeLecuona will be helping with this camp. In July the middle school youth will be attending the Middle School Montreat at Maryville and the High School youth at Montreat. Katelyn reiterated that the preschool registration is going very well.

#### **Open Forum**

Katelyn informed Session that Kim Ball, a preschool teacher, is borrowing 19 chairs from Covenant for the March for our Lives event on June 11. She has asked if Session would allow Covenant Presbyterian Church to be thanked for their support. Following discussion, Session agreed to this request.

Chris Henry made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded and passed.

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

The next stated session meeting is August 2, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor.

Remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Thessalonians 1: 3

Judy Grieve, Clerk of Session

#### Diaconate

#### HOME COMMUNION

Celebrating the sacrament of communion is an important part of worship for many of us, and we want to include members of our church who may not be able to join us on Sunday mornings.

Deacons are in the process of resuming home communion, which we had just begun when the pandemic started. If you or someone you know would be interested in knowing more and/or receiving home communion, please contact Katelyn

(kcooke@covenantaugusta.org or 706.733.0513). Thank you!

### JULY MEETING SCHEDULE

Please be aware that the Session, Capital Campaign Task Force, and almost all ministry teams are not meeting during the month of July. These groups, which all meet monthly, are taking a break. The only ministry team that is meeting in July is Building and Grounds (July 11 at 6:30 p.m.).

### **Building & Grounds**

### <u>LEMONADE ON THE</u> <u>LAWN & SUMMER</u> SUNDAYS



#### July 3 – Fellowship

Get a glass of lemonade and visit with your church friends outside the sanctuary after worship. A "Fellowship Fodder" question will be displayed on the lemonade table to prompt your conversations!

#### July 10 - Hymn Sing

Gather in the sanctuary at 9:45 a.m. for a hymn sing!

#### July 17 - Prayer

Teresa of Avila said, "Prayer is nothing else than being on terms of friendship with God." Join members of the Diaconate Prayer Action Team at the picnic table outside for a time of prayer and being friends with God.

#### July 24 - Mission

Members of the Mission Ministry Team will share information about one of Covenant's mission efforts. Look for the picnic table outside near the lemonade table!

#### **SAVE-THE-DATE**

Kick-Off! Sunday, August 21

Join us for the start of a new church school year! We'll have Sunday School classes for all ages, and we'll commission Christian Education leaders in worship. We can't wait to see you there!

#### YOUTH MINISTRY



Please keep our middle and high school youth in your prayers as they participate in Montreat Youth Conference and Montreat Middle School Conference this month! The high school conference is July 10-16 at Montreat Conference Center in North Carolina, and the theme is "More Than Enough." The middle school conference is July 20-24 at Maryville College in Tennessee, and the theme is "A Place for ."



Montreat Youth Conferees: Audrey Baldwin, Rollin Cartee, Miller Cooke, Naomi Gillies, Owen Gillies, Blake Rogers; adults: Beth Sellers and Katelyn Gordon Cooke

Montreat Middle School Conferees: Troupe Cartee, Mattox Cooke, Ella Davis, and Jonah Gillies; adult: Ralph Gillies

Join us for worship on Sunday, July 10 to commission these youth and their leaders for their summer trips!

# EXCITING NEWS! BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Did I excite your interest? Guess what is coming back to OUR CHURCH for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time this year... give up?

I am cordially inviting everyone to come and participate in "OUR CHURCH" workday #2, on Saturday, July 23, from 9:00 a.m. until around noon. Come one, come all! There will be planned INSIDE activities of dusting, sweeping, cleaning closets, organizing stored items and the best activity of all will be your opportunity to throw away unused items that have been tucked away in long forgotten areas of the church, into the big roll off dumpster we will be renting for "Our Church" workday. No kidding! Doesn't this sound like something you have been just waiting to do? Now is your chance to serve OUR Lord, get some exercise in, have fellowship with friends and family, and most importantly, throw away items that just need tossed! This activity is long overdue as we could not do this during Covid so please, invite your friends, invite your family, come, come work with us, the B & G Ministry team. We are asking for your gift of service, your gift of time at OUR Church, OUR Lord's home. Matthew 18:20, says "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I with them."

Prayers and possibly a lunch cookout of burgers and hotdogs may also be on the menu but you must attend to find out!!!.

Please watch for updates in the weekly bulletin and Friday email.

Your friends in Christ,

Mary McCarter and B & G Ministry Teams



Dear Covenant.

Your mission co-worker has posted an update. Catch up with how God is at work in this part of our world.

A Letter from Cheryl Barnes, serving in Malawi | Spring 2022

The post <u>God's Timing</u> appeared first on <u>Presbyterian Mission</u> Agency.

We are so grateful for your prayers and support of our mission coworkers and global partners!

Your Presbyterian World Mission staff team

### <u>Presbyterian disaster</u> <u>Assistance and</u> Ukraine

As the situation in Ukraine has escalated over the past several months, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has been delivering emergency humanitarian aid to the area. On Easter Sunday, we took up a special offering for One Great Hour of Sharing along with other Presbyterian congregations across the country. One-third of this offering goes to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Covenant received \$1141 for this special offering, which we have already sent to the denomination. To learn more about our churchwide support of Ukraine and to find more resources to help, please visit pda.pcusa.org.



The GAP item of the month for July is canned fruit, especially fruits canned in their own juices so they are not as sugary. In August the item is toilet paper. We always need food that goes into the "walking bags" that we give to the homeless and to the working poor who come by to get something for lunch. We provide two sandwiches, chips or crackers, water with flavoring, fruit and a sweet. Some of these items are seldom available from Golden Harvest at their special pricing, so we really appreciate donations of packs of crackers, small packs of cookies, flavor packets for water bottles, chips, and small containers of fruit.

Many of you are aware of the term "food desert" for areas that do not have a grocery store within walking distance or nearby on a transit line. There is now a designation called a "food swamp." This refers to a neighborhood where convenience stores are the main source of groceries, meaning that people are

eating highly processed, unhealthy foods. Many parts of Augusta fit both categories. At the GAP food pantry, we try to have as many fresh fruits and vegetables as we can get, and also provide frozen unprocessed meat. If you have extra produce in your home garden, please contact Mary Beachum at <a href="mmbeachum@gmail.com">mmbeachum@gmail.com</a>. The GAP clients will thank you.

#### **LIST OF ITEMS BY MONTH**

January: Hot chocolate

February: Canned pork and beans March: Canned chicken or ham

April: Boxes of cereal

May: Toothbrushes & toothpaste

June: Deodorant July: Canned fruit August: Toilet paper September: Canned soup

October: Instant grits or oatmeal

(Individual packets)

November: Stuffing mix (type which

only needs water added) December: Beef stew or chili

# EQUAL EXCHANGE COFFEE AND CHOCOLATE SALE



Mission Ministry will be hosting a sale of coffee and chocolate from Equal Exchange on Sunday, July 31.

Look for the table in the narthex after the worship service.

Charlotte Ealick

### Matthew 25 Task Force

#### TAKE UP THE CAUSE

The Matthew 25 Task Force has been working hard to plan an event to educate our community about poverty issues while working toward poverty eradication. On September 10, we will co-host an event called *Take Up the Cause* from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Greene Street Mission Center. Click here for a flyer and more information.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:15am Summer Choir Rehearsal* 10:00am Worship Service* 11:00am Lemonade on the Lawn 11:30am Worship Ministry Team Meeting, Parlor	27 5:00pm Companions in Christ, Parlor	28 6:00pm Mission Ministry Team, Zoom	29	30	1	2 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
3 9:15am Summer Choir Rehearsal* 10:00am Communion Worship Service* 11:00am Lemonade on the Lawn	Church Office Closed Independence Day	5 3:30pm Communion at Brandon Wilde	6	7	8	9 10:00am Meals on Wheels 11:45am Girl Scout Troop 20179, Room 204 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
9:15am Summer Choir Rehearsal* 9:45am Summer Sundays: Hymn Sing 10:00am Worship Service* 11:00am Lemonade on the Lawn 11:30am Montreat High School Youth Conference at Montreat	11  Montreat High School Youth Conference at Montreat 5:00pm Companions in Christ, Parlor 6:30pm Building & Grounds Ministry Team, Fellowship Hall	Montreat High School Youth Conference at Montreat 11:30am Ladies for Lunch, McAlisters, 3602 Exchange Lane, Augusta, GA	13  Montreat High School Youth Conference at Montreat 1:30pm Covenant Staff Meeting, Work Room	14 Montreat High School Youth Conference at Montreat	15 Montreat High School Youth Conference at Montreat	16 Montreat High School Youth Conference at Montreat 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
9:15am Summer Choir Rehearsal* 10:00am Worship Service* 11:00am Lemonade on the Lawn 11:00am Summer Sunday: Prayer	18 COVENANT CHIMES DEADLINE 5:00pm Companions in Christ, Parlor	19 10:00am Preschool Playground Playdate	A PLACE VP FOR Day  Middle School Youth Conference, Maryville College, TN	21 Middle School Youth Conference, Maryville College, TN	22 Middle School Youth Conference, Maryville College, TN	23 Middle School Youth Conference, Maryville College, TN 9:00am Church Work Day 10:00am Meals on Wheels 11:45am Girl Scout Troop 20179, Room 204 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
24 Middle School Youth Conference, Maryville College, TN 9:15am Summer Choir Rehearsal* 10:00am Worship Service* 11:00am Lemonade on the Lawn	25 5:00pm Companions in Christ, Parlor	26	27 1:30pm Covenant Staff Meeting, Work Room	28 4:00pm Open the Gates Task Force, Zoom	29	30 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104
31 9:15am Summer Choir Rehearsal* 10:00am Worship Service* 11:00am Lemonade on the Lawn	1	2 7:00pm Stated Session Meeting, Parlor	3	4 6:30pm Capital Campaign Task Force, Room 12	5	6 10:00am Meals on Wheels 1:30pm Overeaters Anonymous, Room 104

### Congregational Life

#### LADIES FOR LUNCH

Ladies for Lunch will meet Tuesday, July 12, at 11:30 a.m. Women and friends of Covenant will gather at McAlister's Deli, 3602 Exchange Lane, off Walton Way. Contact Phoebe Crimmins at 706-738-7820 or by email at <a href="mailto:phoebebeach30@hotmail.com">phoebebeach30@hotmail.com</a> to make your reservation for this gathering so that we may have space for you.



Elaine Beachum Mary Beachum Debbie Buchholz Kadie Cheeks **Ginger Cornes** Chris Endruhn Liz Hagerman Jodi Huff Charles Jay Bos Lamkin Joan Lancaster Karell Moses Marisa Moses Samuel Ndingwan Jimmy Pittman Ann Roat Julie Usry



Jerry & Jacquie Allison (53 yrs.) Chuck & Gail Baldwin (47 yrs.) Andrea & Nick Butt (51 yrs.) Chris & Vickie Terry (22 yrs.)

\*NOTE: For the protection of our members, dates are not published online.

### Worship

## SUMMER CHOIR INVITATION

Summer Choir is a musical tradition at Covenant from Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend. This year it ends September 4. If you would like to sing with the Covenant Summer Choir during the summer months, please join us in the balcony at 9:15a.m. on Sunday mornings. We prepare an easy anthem during our 30-minute rehearsal and then sing it at the 10:00 a.m. worship service. We hope you will join us! Questions? See Lyn Patterson or email her at lpatterson@covenantaugusta.org.

**GUEST PREACHER** 

As our pastors are away this Sunday, we welcome the Rev. Amy Hobby Rickard on July 3. Please join us in extending her a warm welcome when she comes to lead worship at Covenant!

### <u>HYMNAL RIBBON</u> <u>MARKERS</u>

Most hymnals in the sanctuary now have new ribbon page markers. Feel free to slip a ribbon at each hymn prior to the start of worship to make it convenient to open to them later. Thanks to Polly Williams for her donation of the ribbon markers!

Brock Daniels, Worship Ministry Team Chair

### Preschool Playdate Tuesday, June 21







### July Worship Schedule

#### **USHERS**

7/3: Jim Buckalew, Jim Crimmins, Jimmy Lea, Johnny Lowe, Charlie Terry

7/10: Hugh Dobbins, Dave Lapp, Lucyle Ferris, Fidelis Ndingwan

7/17: Judy Grieve, Chris Henry, Ruth Mayhall, Philip Monk Buddy Simpson, Bill Usry

7/24: Steve Bell, Dalton Cooper, John Ealick, Angela Hobby

7/31: Jim Buckalew, Jim Crimmins, Jimmy Lea, Johnny Lowe, Charlie Terry

#### LITURGIST/READER

#### AT 10:00 AM SERVICE

7/3: Maatsi Ndingwan
7/10: Jim Crimmins
7/17: Judy Grieve
7/24: Dalton Cooper
7/31: Audrey Baldwin

#### **PREACHER**

7/3: Amy Hobby-Rickard7/10: Katelyn Gordon Cooke

7/17: Andy Cooke7/24: Andy Cooke

7/31: Katelyn Gordon Cooke

#### **GREETERS**

7/3: Lindsay Kircher
7/10: Jim Crimmins
7/17: Fred & Jane Gehle
7/24: Buddy Simpson
7/31: Sabina Widner

#### A/V TEAM

Coordinator

Steve Bell, Terry Bowers, John Ealick, Charles Jay, Owen Gillies

#### **COORDINATORS**

Lindsay Kircher, *Greeter*Coordinator
John Ealick, A/V Team Coordinator
Chris Henry, Usher Coordinator
Kaye Petkas, Liturgist/Reader

### **Prayer Concerns**



### NEW CELEBRATIONS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

Pat Ritter and family –The death of her father Don Yost, Saturday, June 18.

**Ruby and Rishard Banks** – For a healthy pregnancy

### CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS

All of Covenant's Missionaries All who serve in the U.S. Military Wanda Butler (friend of Angela and Bob Vernoy) – Lincolnton, GA (0304)

Katie and Dalton Cooper – Baby due on July 17 (0616) Ella Davis – Chronic Headaches

William Davis – At home (0131)

(0504)

Erroll Hatcher – moving to Adairsville, GA to be closer to family (0503)

**Linda Lawrence** (friend of Polly Williams and GAP Ministries) – Cancer Surgery (0613)

Kristin Lea (Elaine & Jimmy Lea's daughter-in-law) – Deployed, to Poland (0418)

Leonard Lewis (friend of Angela & Bob Vernoy) – Washington, GA (0304)

Lois Reynolds – Appling, GA (0728)

**David Rhoades** – Health concern (0518)

**Rosalie Segin** (friend of the Rhoades family) (0202)

Verna Wilder and Family (New visitors) (0419)

**Kenneth Ziegler** (friend of Wanda Pittman) (1103)

#### **ENDURING CONCERNS**

Dorris Andrews (Elaine Lea's mother) – Brandon Wilde Joe and Eunice Cook – Brandon

**Joe and Eunice Cook** – Brandoi Wilde

**Bill Cornes** – At Home **Phyllis Daniels** – Brandon Wilde

Lois Davis – Kentwood

Anne Degrazia – Alpharetta, GA Priscilla Gilman – Brandon Wilde Betty Johnston – Brandon Wilde

Larry Lutcher – Brandon Wilde Leah Mannel – Brandon Wilde

Jocelyn Martin-Moses (Karell Moses' mother) – At home

Andy McCraw – At home

Anita Parker (Joslyn Fields' cousin)

– Beaufort, SC

Elizabeth Swink – At home

Jane Terry (Chris Terry's mother) – Lake Wales, FL

And for all those whose names we hold in our hearts

The prayer ministry is led by deacons Lindsay Kircher, Deb Pittman, and Dana Johnson. To add a prayer concern, please contact the church office at jstrogonoff@covenantaugusta.org.

### Green Jackets Baseball Game Friday, June 17











Young Adult Gathering Thursday, June 16

