

## Our Session and Deacons Served Our Congregation and the Community

### SESSION

#### Building & Grounds

We enjoyed God's abundance in working as His stewards of our building and grounds. There were two well-attended workdays and many ongoing projects throughout 2021. Some of those projects were continuing to improve WIFI in the sanctuary, labeling outlets to matchup with breakers, adding outlets to the choir loft, restoring the carillon to working order, replacing worn out playground fencing, patching driveway potholes and leaky spots over the kitchen and eliminating the sinkhole near the kitchen.

#### Congregational Life

Despite the challenges Covid presented to gatherings for fellowship in 2021, the Congregational Life Ministry Team organized and hosted the following events and projects: multiple, socially distanced fellowship events including Food Truck Friday events, shrimp & grits and pizza palooza outdoor dinners, and fire and fellowship events; Halloween Trunk or Treat event for preschool and community children; Wednesday Night Fellowship dinners in the fall; two Christmas caroling opportunities; flower delivery to homebound members; and personal cards delivered to church members who could not join in church activities during the year.

#### Education

All Education programs were affected by COVID-19 restrictions, but volunteers and staff provided many creative alternative programs for children, youth, and adults, including several offerings via Zoom. The Education Ministry continued its responsibility for support and oversight of the educational component of Covenant Preschool and Children's Day Out and served as the liaison and organizational link for Presbyterian Women to Session.

#### Mission

Financial support of GAP, Mission on the Move, and missionaries. ~Supported Burn Center Lunches with help of volunteers. ~Successful Virtual Mission Trip. ~Earth Care Congregation Application approved. ~Matthew 25 Church pledge commitment made & Task Force established. ~Coffee Bar & coffee sales restarted ~Supported outreach work of AV Team with purchase of additional cameras & other equipment. ~Continued jar opener project has mailed more than 300.

#### Sustainability

With a Mission Statement that includes supporting our church staff and overseeing our church budget, the Sustainability Ministry Team, with prayer and guidance from our Lord, successfully addressed many key components of our church. Our personnel sub-committee completed the Co-Pastor annual evaluation process. We assisted in the development of new or revised job descriptions. Our ministry team actively participated in our exciting preschool changes and developed a proposed balanced 2022 church budget.

### Worship

Worship continued in person and on-line in the second year of the pandemic with one Sunday service at 11:00. Live-streaming improved with additional cameras and more experience. In-person attendance grew slowly. Music returned to worship with precautions. Handbells performed several times, and the choir grew to a solid core of 20 singers and swelled to 28 for Lessons and Carols in December. The ministry team took on challenging topics including flags in the sanctuary and Covenant's Sunday morning worship schedule.

### DEACONS

- Continued with three action teams to serve the congregation: meals, visitation, and prayer
- Reached out to church members primarily by phone
- Provided meals for families
- Kept prayer list current and offered prayer time twice a month after worship for those in need

### PRESCHOOL

- Celebrated 60 years of Covenant Preschool and CDO with a Spirit Week and Giving Wall fundraiser
- Fully staffed with several teachers returning from the previous school year
- Promoted Vickie Terry to Assistant Director and welcomed Katelyn Gordon Cooke as the new Preschool Director
- Enrolled 47 families and 65 children for the 2021-2022 school year
- Resumed weekly chapel worship services in the sanctuary with Pastors Katelyn, Andy, and Karla and weekly music classes with Ms. Kristen

## 2021 continued COVID-19 restrictions. Covenant leaders and staff worked to bring our Covenant family SAFELY back together again.

We began the year with in-person worship limited to 50 and almost all other activities meeting via Zoom. In June, the Open the Gates Task Force removed the limit of those worshipping in the sanctuary but still required masks to be worn during worship. Livestreaming continued for Sunday morning worship and is now a permanent part of worship. The choir could sing without masks, and the congregation could sing with masks. Kick-Off Sunday was held in August, and Sunday morning classes resumed meeting in person. Some Mission ministries and groups began meeting in person.

As you see in the ministry team reports, the teams continued to respond to the needs of the congregation using ingenious ways to fulfill their various ministry responsibilities. The fall Preschool enrollment filled all the classes, and Katelyn joined the staff as Interim Director.

With the resurgence of a COVID variant in the fall, the Open the Gates Task Force changed a few requirements for gatherings and choir singing. Katelyn and Andy diligently worked with each challenge, teaching us new ways to show God's love. Their ability to share creative solutions has helped Covenant continue to be a community which glorifies God by showing hospitality, inclusiveness, and compassion to all.

## 2021 Year-End Financial Report

### Actual 2021 Revenues

|                                      |                     |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Pledges                              | \$447,494.00        |
| Non-Pledge Gifts and<br>Other Income | 75,490.28           |
| Building Fund Transfers              | 26,575.80           |
| <b>Total Revenues</b>                | <b>\$549,560.08</b> |

### Actual 2021 Expenses

|                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Building & Grounds Ministry  |                     |
| Mortgage Payments            | \$70,181.82         |
| Insurance and Utilities      | 43,295.36           |
| Maintenance                  | 58,001.68           |
| Congregational Life Ministry | 135.06              |
| Education Ministry           | 7,384.72            |
| Mission Ministry             | 41,570.05           |
| Sustainability Ministry      |                     |
| Denominational Expenses      | 22,668.36           |
| Administrative Expenses      | 26,145.00           |
| Salary and Benefits          | 259,028.54          |
| Worship Ministry             | 9,981.79            |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>        | <b>\$538,392.38</b> |

**Net Surplus** **\$11,167.70**

## Notable Assets & Liabilities

### Assets (as of 12/31/2021)

#### Designated Funds

|                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Donations to Mortgage  | \$50,918.07 |
| HVAC Replacement Fund  | 134,252.36  |
| Mission Funds          | 16,739.78   |
| Prepaid Pledges        | 58,674.81   |
| Other Designated Funds | 88,103.23   |

#### Endowments

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| General (Church) Endowment     | \$60,358.81 |
| Building Maintenance Endowment | 15,590.84   |

### Liabilities (as of 12/31/2021)

|          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| Mortgage | \$401,783.81 |
|----------|--------------|

## Membership Report

At the end of 2020, Covenant had 252 members. In 2021, we received seven new members, celebrated two infant baptisms, transferred three members' membership and 46 to the inactive roll. Five members joined the church triumphant for 205 members.

## Worship

Worship attendance averaged 75 people per week (58 individuals in-person and 17 viewers on the live-stream).



# Covenant Presbyterian Church Annual Report 2021

The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for forty years. Two years into a global pandemic, we have a sense of what that experience might have been like for our faithful ancestors.

Despite our hopes for 2021, the year still felt a bit like living in the wilderness. Things were still different. We worshipped via live stream (if only you could see some of the behind the scenes!), we held more meetings on Zoom (so many Zoom meetings!), we missed sharing meals together at Wednesday Night Fellowship, and we missed visiting in the hallways with friends on Sunday mornings.

Even in the strangeness of the year, some things were familiar: the faces of our church family and friends; the things we do together like worship, pray, study, and eat; and the promise and reality of God's faithfulness. We've celebrated together and we've grieved together, and through it all, we've borne witness to the love and grace of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

As we look ahead to 2022, we trust that God will continue to guide us, and we give thanks for the faith and generosity of Covenant's members and leadership. It is a gift to be called together in this time and place, and we look forward to what the Spirit will do in and through Covenant in this new year.

*Katelyn & Andy Cooke, Co-Pastors*

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Hospitality  Compassion  Inclusiveness

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