

Stated Session Minutes
Tuesday, September 16, 2025
Covenant Presbyterian Church, Boise, Idaho,
Reverend Dr. Kevin Starcher, Moderator and Dr. Steven Tyree, Clerk of Session

Class of 2025

Brian Grant
Penny Satori
Katie Shevlin

Class of 2026

David Barnes
Carole Hariff
Lauri Janos
Bill Martin

Class of 2027

Marlys Erickson
Tracy Sauerwein
Alex Wolff

Call to order: The September 16, 2025 Stated Session meeting was called to order by the Moderator at Covenant Presbyterian Church (CPC) in the Church Fellowship Room at 4:00 PM.

Roll: Reverend Kevin Starcher, Associate Pastor Dani Forbess, David Barnes, Marlys Erickson, Brian Grant, Lauri Janos, Bill Martin, Tracy Sauerwein, Katie Shevlin, Alex Wolff, Steve Tyree (Clerk). (Excused) Carole Hariff, Penny Sartori,

Opening Prayer: The opening prayer was offered by Reverend Kevin Starcher.

Devotions: Rev. Kevin Starcher: In what ways did God touch your life recently?

Session Book Study: Attentive Church Leadership – Chapter 6: How do we Create Community in a Narcissistic World?

Adoption of Docket: Motion was made by the Elder Alex Wolff and seconded to adopt the docket. On a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion was made by Elder Tracy Sauerwein and was seconded to approve items noted in the Consent Agenda which consisted of the following:

- Approval of August 19, 2025 Stated Session Meeting Minutes
On a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Action Items/ New Business:

Clerk's Report – (report provided)

- August 23, 2025 Joint Meeting – Boise and Kendall Presbyteries Report – Featuring the unanimous approval of the submittal of a plan to merger Presbyteries to the Synod of the Pacific.

Pastor's Report – Rev. Kevin Starcher

- Presented the framework for our discussion during the Visioning and Prayer section concerning our budget, program and personnel missional needs and priorities for 2026.

Building and Grounds – Alex Wolff (documents provided)

- Discussion of 2 Facilities Use Requests
 - Building Facilities Request #1- Born to Succeed Early Care and Education Center event- December 6, 2025.
 - A motion was made by Elder Alex Wolff on the behalf of the Building and Grounds Committee to approve this request. On a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.
 - Building Facilities Request # 2- Delta Kappa Gamma Education Event – June 8-10, 2027, 8:00 a.m. -8:00 p.m.(CPC Member Request). After discussion it was decided that we could not commit to the availability of the requested area two years in advance considering the current level of programing during that part of recent years. Building and Grounds Elder Alex Wolff will communicate with the requestor concerning when in the future the request could be re-evaluated for a 2027 request.

Mission Committee - Brian Grant (report provided)

- Annual Peace and Global Witness Offering. This year's process in distribution of offering collected on October 5 (World Communion Sunday).
- Recommendation -Motion made by Elder Brian Grant for the Mission Committee for approval to combine the pledged support for the Presbyterian Church's Peace and Global Witness fund with any excess being directed to support Shelvis and Nancy Smith-Mather Missionary work in South Sudan. On a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.
- Introduction of Shelvis Smith-Mather and wife Nancy's missionary work with South Sudanese people in that war-torn country and in refugee camps just across the border in northern Uganda. Shelvis Smith-Mather will be attending Covenant to share about their ministry October 5th.

Nominating Committee – Tracy Saurerwein (report provided)

Personnel Committee – David Barnes (report provided)

- Discussion and proposal concerning an ongoing Young Adult Coordinator position.
 - Motion was made by Elder David Barnes on behalf of the Personnel Committee to approve the addition of a Young Adult Coordinator position that would provide initially for a 1-5 hours per week at \$30.00 per hour. On a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.
 - Motion was made by Elder David Barnes on behalf of the Personnel Committee for approval of the Young Adult Ministry Coordinator Job Description. On a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.
- The Personnel Committee recommended future discussion of future personnel needs.
 - General support for the use of Ministry Interns was expressed by the Session.

Stewardship and Finance – Bill Martin (report provided)

Communion: September 7, 2025 (First Sunday), Communion Served at 8:30 service
September 7, 14, 21, 28, 2025

Baptisms: Skyler Center (daughter of Sarah Keifer), June 28, 2025. Margot Brekke (daughter of), August 31, 2025. Georgia Rutan (daughter of Katie Rutan) September 14, 2025.

Marriages: None

Funerals: None

Membership Rolls: Members/Affiliates as of September 1, 2025:	316
New members (June):	0
Transfers out (June):	0
Members deceased (June):	0
Session approved removals (March):	0

Financials: As of September 1, 2025:

<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Net</u>
\$362,656.23	\$339,576.91	\$23,079.32
Account Balances		
ICCU General Fund:	\$	10,959.56
ICCU Building Fund:	\$	1,657.02
ICCU Saving Account (CD):	\$	100,000.00
Synod Savings Account:	\$	293,496.22
Covenant Endowment Fund	\$	60,258.38

Visioning and Prayer Time

- Flourish and Grow - Updates
 - Elder Tracy Saurerwein provided updates on the Flourish and Grow project Capital Campaign project outlining the organization, steps, process and goals. A tentative project cost (and project goal of \$1.8- \$2 million dollars was targeted).
 - Further discussion was held concerning actions to be taken if the Goal is Not Met or if it is Exceeded.
 - After further discussion a motion was made by Elder Bill Martin and Tracy Saurerwein that:
 - If campaign receipts fall short of the established goal, the Campaign Steering Committee will recommend to the Session a revised project scope consistent with the funds received. The projects in this campaign will be prioritized from highest priority to lowest as follows:
 1. Power Upgrade & Carpeting replacement
 2. Kitchen expansion
 3. Multi-purpose room
 4. Sanctuary platform expansion
 - If receipts exceed the established goal, they will be used to retire our existing mortgage (around \$370k). If we raise more than the payoff amount from our mortgage, we would place those monies in Covenant's endowment fund, so that the principal will generate interest we can use for

annual operating expenses into the future. On a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

- A discussion ensued concerning budgeting and missional priorities as we get ready to prepare a budget for next year. Rev. Danni Forbess shared ideas and possible priorities for programs that have been discussed. No action was taken.

Future Business

Next Presbytery Meeting: Saturday, December, 13, 2025 TBD

Commissioners to Presbytery: Tracy Sauerwein, Steve Tyree, Cindy Tyree

Next Session Meeting: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 4:00pm, Standard Format

Devotion: Tracy Sauerwein

Having no further business a motion was made and seconded by Elder Alex Wolff to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 p.m.. On a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously

The meeting concluded with Prayer lead by Pastor Dani Forbess. The meeting was Adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Reverend Dr. Kevin Starcher, Moderator

Dr. Steven Tyree, Clerk of Session
