

## What's Happening With The Search For A New Minister?

1. Between now and calling an Interim Minister:
  - As previously noted, we have pulpit supply ministers lined up to lead worship through Christmas Sunday.
  - The Session, its committees, and each member of the congregation continue to do the work of the Church with faith and mutual encouragement.
2. Calling an Interim Minister:
  - The Session is responsible for this process and has decided that it should call an Interim Minister for one-half time.
  - This Call would be for a six-month period or until a permanent minister is available (whichever comes first), and will be renewable.
  - The Interim Minister will be responsible for worship leadership, pastoral care, various other administrative tasks, and can moderate the Session.
  - The Session has established an Interim Minister Search Committee. Members of this committee will be John Merriss, Charles Trifiletti, Maureen Knechtel, Josh Parsons, and Lauri Zembower.
  - If you have suggestions for an Interim Minister, please speak with one of these Interim Minister Search Committee members.
3. Electing a Pastor Nominating Committee:
  - A Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is elected by the congregation at an appropriately called Congregational Meeting and, once elected, is responsible to the whole congregation.
  - A PNC is to be representative of the congregation.
  - Covenant's Officer Nominating Committee (current members are Max Wilson, Hal Hunter, Sally Nagle, Bob Hart, Sharon Benner, and Tony Madden) will nominate people for the PNC.
  - If you have suggestions for members to serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee, please speak with one of these people.

The Session hopes that everyone will ask for God's love and guidance during this important time in the life of Covenant. Though the future is uncertain, it is also exciting. Current session members are Helen Davis, Hal Hunter, Lynnea Hunter, Melanie Jones, Evelyn Kemp, Alan Lewis, Anne Smith, Andrea Sutter, Charles Trifiletti, Max Wilson and Christian Zembower. Next year's class consists of Eileen Madden, John Merriss, Sally Nagel and David Wood.

## From the Property Committee and Stewardship Committee

In attempting to be good stewards of our resources, we have reprogrammed the thermostats throughout the church for the winter months. On recommendation of the Johnson City Power Board, the heating temperature is set at 68 degrees. We realize that we cannot achieve a setting that is ideal for everyone so we are asking that you keep this in mind when dressing for events this winter. There are also blankets under the table in the Narthex which may be used if needed.

The electric bill is the single largest expense for our church after payroll and we use about 40 % of our electric budget in January – March each year. We appreciate your help in keeping these coats as low as possible.

### Mark Your Calendars!

There will be no Third Thursday Dinner in December, but there will be a brand-new, one-time only, absolutely not-to-be-missed **Third Thursday Montreat Fundraiser Trivia Night!** Look for details in the December Courier and in future bulletins. As many of you know, several youth from our church (and some adults) had a great time at last summer's Montreat Youth Conference in Montreat, NC. This summer's conference will be June 10-16, 2012, and the theme is "Perfectly Imperfect." Covenant has a whopping 18 eligible youth ("eligible" is anyone currently in grades 8-12) and we're hoping that most of them can go. With food, housing, transportation and conference fees, the total cost \$476 per person.

Now, you may be asking yourself what this has to do with you. Maybe you don't have any youth that can go, or maybe you've never had a chance to do anything with the youth group before. Fear not! There's a first time for everything. As a community and family in Christ, we—the members of Covenant Presbyterian Church—have a great opportunity to help our children.

The total per person cost of \$476 has been divided into thirds; the participating youth will be expected to raise a third of the cost, the families of the participating youth will raise a third, and we, as the church family, will help raise a third. Ergo, our "Third" Thursday Montreat Fundraiser Trivia Night! Mark your calendars for December 15, 6.30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Donations will be accepted at the door, and all the proceeds will go to support the church's third of the Montreat cost! So come join the fun!

For more information on Montreat Youth Conferences, go to [www.montreat.org](http://www.montreat.org). For more on Covenant's participation or financial questions, contact Lynnea Hunter.