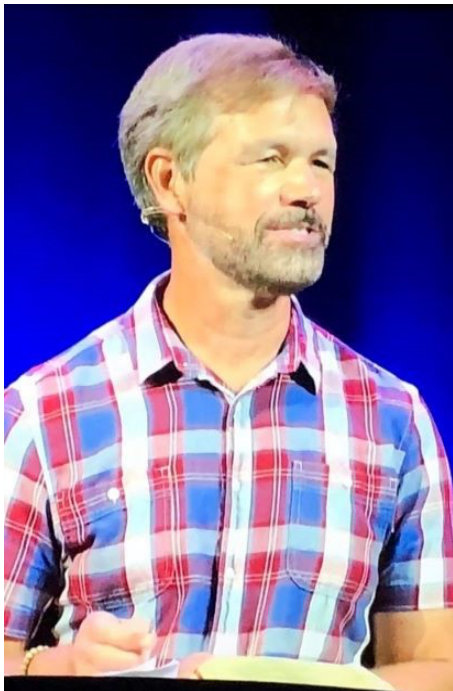


Dear CLC Family,

*The Pastoral Nominating Committee prayerfully launched our search for the CLC's next Senior Pastor and Head of Staff in October 2021 and **we are pleased to announce our recommended candidate, Pastor Bob Myers!***

We hope this document provides a thorough overview of Pastor Bob and conveys our excitement that God has sent him to CLC. We look forward to a vote by our members on February 27. Questions? Please contact us at CLCPastoralSearch@gmail.com.



Bob Myers:

Lead Pastor, Covenant Church, Doylestown PA (2002-2020)

Lead Pastor, Covenant Presbyterian, Burtonsville, MD (1988-2002)

Family:

Wife – Liz– met in college, married for 33 years

Kids – Five adult sons and daughters pursuing 'kingdom of Christ' visions for their lives

Education:

Westminster Seminary Philadelphia, PA *Master of Divinity* 1988

Indiana University Bloomington, IN *Bachelor of Arts: Classical Studies* 1985

Ordination:

Pastor Bob is currently ordained by PCA but in his own words: *"Although I am currently ordained in the Presbyterian Church in America, I believe the ECO is in many ways a better fit for my gifts and my understanding of Scripture. I especially appreciate that, in the ECO, women are welcomed to all levels of gifting and leadership."* Our denominational representative has met Bob and anticipates the ordination transition will go smoothly.

Sermon Samples:

"Jesus Unfiltered" [link](#) ★ "Tossing Tables" [link](#) ★ "Christ Crucified" [link](#) ★ "Gospel Reality" [link](#)



Why the CLC Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) is excited about Bob:

- Bob has been described by his former staff and congregants as gracious, humble and an amazing teacher of the Word, which the PNC, our elders and our staff have also found to be true in our interactions with him.
- He has impressive experience as a lead pastor, both he and his wife enjoy studying Greek and Hebrew, and are passionate about going after lost sheep like Jesus did. He also seems passionate about making every member of the congregation a care pastor and a disciple wherever God has placed them.
- Bob describes himself as a “total extravert, energized by relationships.” He says he is the last person to leave the church on a Sunday and is happy to greet everyone in person. He notes that ‘we are all part of the welcome team.’
- *In Bob’s words:* Liz and I love doing ministry together, hospitality, gardening, exercise, and enjoy close and frequent interactions with our adult children. We also relish training our rambunctious and exceptionally brave miniature Schnauzer, Yadkin.

Excerpts from Pastor Bob's resume:

Lead pastor, Covenant Church - Doylestown, PA (2002-2020):

Summary: When we first moved to Doylestown in 2002, the congregation's ability to minister to the community was hindered by small facilities and no room to build. I led a team that cast an outward facing vision of reaching our community. The congregation embraced this larger community vision. United by this vision, and growing in sacrificial love, we chose to relocate by purchasing property and building a new facility. This was a deeper journey into the Cross of Christ, which resulted in touching many lives. The congregation grew spiritually and grew in size (from 400 to 1500).

- **Building the Staff Team:** From 2008-2015 the challenge was building the staff team and giving each vital ministry renewal and leadership that could creatively embody our outward facing vision and values. Mentoring and encouraging these individuals formed, essentially, a "dream team" that was exhilarating and carried out the riches of God's Word and way of Jesus. These were the best years of my ministry.

- By 2015, effective ministry from all departments filled our building every day of the week. Yet again, we had to embrace a larger vision, first for our hearts and then for our congregation. This resulted in Covenant completing a 34,000 square foot building project, which opened in November 2019. These new facilities set the congregation on a strong foundation for continued growth with a vision for multiple campuses, church planting, and generous, Kingdom-advancing relationships.

- In 2017 tensions surfaced around many issues. Sadly, the diversity that we used to celebrate became points of strain. These weaknesses led to much distraction and difficulty, but the congregation was mostly unaware. Divergent directions became intractable. Because of this, I asked the elders to bring my time of ministry at Covenant to a conclusion in the most Christ-honoring way that we could and did so in August of 2020. It was painful, but I answered Christ's call to step aside after eighteen years in a Christ-honoring and positive way.

- Missions: A central feature of my ministry has been a focus on international missions, leading Covenant to hire two staff members from missions work in Zimbabwe. Through this partnership, we recently purchased a larger property to provide orphans with transitional housing and a gentle bridge to adult life.

- Grace Eyes Ministries: In 2021 my wife Liz and I started Grace Eyes Ministries: GraceEyesministries.org. This ministry has been developing over several years, but has become a way we minister together, and a contextualized way to share Christ's redemptive story and power.

Covenant Presbyterian Church Burtonsville, MD Lead Pastor 1988 – 2002:

Summary: Covenant Church was located just outside the Washington D.C. beltway. Its members and attenders reflected high impact roles in the federal government, from NSA to NIH, Departments of Treasury, Agriculture, the FAA, and the Pentagon. The congregation was highly transient with more than fifty members moving away in one year. This congregation reached its local community through family friendly ministry, a culture of gospel grace and welcome, and outreach ministries like ALPHA. These fruitful ministries provided non-believers with a safe and dedicated place to engage with the gospel and helped shape the congregation to engage with the questions, concerns, and lives of non-believers. The church reached full capacity of its facilities, started a second contemporary worship service, and experienced rapid growth amidst a mobile and transient community. A Capital Campaign was necessary— and successful—doubling the building's size and ministry potential.

Excerpt from Pastor Bob's cover letter to the PNC:

I prayerfully examined your congregation's website and I appreciated the sense of joy and Christ centeredness that I found there. I also appreciated reading staff and elder bios, and I felt many common bonds, from shared theology, passion for the gospel, healthy ministry leadership, and the kind of foundation that allows exciting new chapters of ministry to be in its future.

I have felt Jesus' empowerment in every single advance of the gospel through my ministry. Ultimately, it was Christ working through me that brought any comfort, encouragement, or strength. The best thing about being a pastor is not the number of people reached—although that has been a great thrill. The best part has been that giving myself over to what is required to be a pastor has been a grace to me. Sometimes a difficult grace, but a grace nonetheless.

My pastoral calling has been rich with gospel triumphs and heartaches. There have been many challenges that reveal my own weaknesses, but even there Jesus Christ has been sufficient for me. His intention is even for these to shape me, and to help me repent and grow and embrace the Cross of Christ as I seek for Him to live His life through me.

Just like in my own life, I believe the "formula" for a congregation's success is not found in changing the culture around them, or in their programs, but in more fully yielding to Him first and being shaped into Christ-likeness. I believe my role is to live and labor to that end (Colossians 1:28-29).

Pastor Bob's testimony of conversion:

I was raised in a small town where there were more cows than people. I grew up in an environment virulent with "Indiana niceness". It's real. I have friends who told me I was one of the nicest people they knew until they moved to Indiana for a couple years and now I'm no longer on their list. I've been found out. And I wouldn't trade the small town community I grew up in for anything.

The mainline church I was raised in recited historic creeds like the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, but underneath it all, what I got out of it was that God was nice, and we ought to be nice too. They taught me the "Golden Rule". I remember maroon choir robes, golden pipe organ pipes, a black robed minister with a collar, and beautiful stained glass and dark walnut pews. It looked especially amazing at the candlelight Christmas Eve services. Good architecture mocks the smallness of unbelief. A beautiful sanctuary called for an irrepressible kind of reverence and implanted it in me from a young age. Except when we responsively read the Ten Commandments about not coveting your neighbor's ass. Then, despite the awe-inspiring beauty of the sanctuary, I had fits of repressed laughter that at least on one occasion got me ejected with a spanking.

I also remember the once a month coffee hours with plates of cookies and lots of grandmas that were predisposed to be generous with youngsters like me. I usually came home with a stash of cookies in my pockets. I remember VBS weeks, "Do Lord, oh do Lord, O do remember me", and other songs I've never heard again with fragments of words embedded in me like "I'm gonna knock knock knock, upon my neighbor's door, and see what God will do".

The question of whether to believe or not didn't really occur to me. Whether to believe in God was kind of like the question, Which baseball team is the best in history and why is it the 1975 Cincinnati Reds?

There was no frantic urgency to get me "saved", which I think I'm kind of grateful for. That kind of "urgency" can be abusive. On many Sundays, I bargained with my parents to attend Sunday School and skip church where instead I'd walk to "Flory's" the locally glorious greasy spoon with a friend and split an order of fries and walk the town.

My belief was casual but real.

But then events forced me out from a nod to God to see if He was real. My hero, my pioneering farming grandfather had a tragic accident that altered his life. My younger brother had a life threatening illness and a nail-bitingly difficult but successful intervention and surgery at Mayo Clinic. I was familiar with God and knew about Him, but I had not confirmed who He was. At around 16 years old I began to

ransack an old Living Bible I had been given, reading it dutifully at first, and then insatiably. A high school outreach, Youth For Christ, soon connected with me and spurred me on. I met at 6am with the youth leader to painstakingly go through the little book of 1 John. I did a term paper on the Shroud of Turin and experienced a kind of being slain in my spirit absolutely flattened to the floor by an article on what a crucified man would have experienced. The article was in Rolling Stone magazine. It caught fire with the information I had about God. I felt loved with an incomprehensibly personal love. I entered into a long season where I would feel compelled to pray on my knees over an open Bible and write down long passages and read and read.

This was the launching pad, on my knees, in wonder and worship of Jesus. The passion has only grown and deepened. Sometimes in seasons of winter and drought, but always proving God more than a match for any experience or question.

I was flung into youth ministry early in my conversion. I was discipled on the Big Ten University campus of Indiana University in Bloomington. I learned missions was in my own dormitory not just across the ocean. By the end I served four months as a summer missionary in Zimbabwe, during a time that history may say was a kind of revival. It won my heart to career Christian service. I believe that in the gospel we have the best story. The story of not merely the forgiveness of our sins and the resurrection of our bodies, but the ultimate renewal of this earth, as well as the good news that we can be Christ's apprentices right now. I love this definition of discipleship as "living as closely to Jesus as possible." He has never disappointed me, and I am grateful to be called to live my life for Him and to serve and proclaim Him as a pastor.

