

**Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren
Church Board Minutes**

Monday, May 13, 2024, 6:45 PM in Room 102 & via Zoom

In Attendance: Alyssa Cross (Clerk), Kevin Engle (Board Chair), Lynne Hockley, Pastor Liz Bidgood Enders, Kurt DeGoede, Craig Coble, Kurt Sollenberger, Duane Hernley, Vida Sue Snively, Dave Leiter, Christina Bucher, Pastor Jason Haldeman, Peggy Shaffer, Karen Ungemach, Pastor Naomi Kraenbring, Lois Herr, Kendra Gotshall (Treasurer), Herb Hockley

I.	<p>Opening Devotions Craig Coble</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Craig challenged us to reflect on what is required of us as Christians (to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God) and how it relates to our work with our commissions. ● Feels a sense of hope and enthusiasm for the future. Encouraged by the partnership with the college in the TRHT (Trusth, Racial Healing, & Transformation) group and the CAT survey results revealing a desire to focus on attracting young families.
II.	<p>Acceptance of Previous Minutes Board Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 8 Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dave Leiter moved to accept the minutes as presented. Peggy Shaffer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
III.	<p>Endowment Committee Report Endowment Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review of the Executive Summary of the Endowment Integrity Committee Report to Church Board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recommendations: there are some competing ideas between recommendations 5 and 6 (maintaining a one-year reserve fund equal to 100% of the operating budget and the annual payouts of 10% being able to sustain for 30-35 years). It needs to be verified that the models were run with the reserve fund balance. ○ The facility fund needs further clarification (definition of the balance to be maintained). ○ Need consistency in the language for how the funds are referred to (endowment, investments, funds, etc.) ● Review of the revised Memorial Fund Paper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Item VI: Suggestion to emphasize the preference for undesignated gifts (“Undesignated gifts are the most beneficial gifts to further the mission and ministry of the Church”). ○ Item II: Procedure for Giving: Undesignated gifts are currently directed to be divided 50-50 into the Facility Fund and the Outreach & Ministerial Education Fund. (Therefore undesignated funds are actually pre-designated) ● Documents need some final adjustments to clarify some language. It would be beneficial to give a report at the Spring Council meeting, but to wait for a final version to be ready to present. Plan to call a special council meeting prior to the 2025 budget process to have Council approval to accept the recommendations.
IV.	<p>Report on Executive Committee Meeting Board Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Update regarding for Brooke Bish pay increase ● Update regarding Pastor Liz Interim status ● Proposal for Pastoral Relations Committee ● Proposal for Pastoral Review Process ● Proposal for Non-Pastoral Staff Review Process ● Karen Ungemach moved to accept the proposals for the Pastoral Relations Committee, the Pastoral Review Process, and the Non-Pastoral Staff Review Process as presented. Peggy Shaffer seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
V.	<p>Review & Approval of the Spring Council Meeting Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strike actions B & C from Item VI. The Endowment Fund Integrity Committee will provide a report/update at this time with action to be taken at a future special council meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kurt DeGoede moved to accept the revised agenda. Craig Coble second the motion. The agenda was accepted as revised.
VI.	<p>Treasurer’s Report Treasurer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Craig Coble moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Lynn Hockley seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
VII.	<p>Commission & Deacon Highlights Commission Chairs</p>

	<p>Christian Ed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognized 50 volunteers who help at all levels to keep our programs running With Pastor Jason's sabbatical some responsibilities are shifting to members of Christian Education. Taking a break from nursery, Shine, Blaze, etc. during the Sunday School hour beginning on June 9. Typically see decreased attendance during the summer months with vacation schedules and this offers a break for many of the volunteers and teachers. Planning a breakfast for the 5th Sunday in June during the SS hour. VBS is planned for August 13 - 16.
	<p>Expressions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are continuing to sort out storage needs and space utilization. The currently allocated space is sufficient: shared between the worship center team, AV, and music. Update on Glick AV analysis – \$8k Quote for sound in fellowship hall designed for speaking and minimal music. Not sure about live stream drops, but these have abated. We will continue to monitor. Camera upgrades (to a 5-camera system) possibly over the summer, but we need to sort out the best option for communication protocol first - a follow-up meeting with Glick AV should help sort out the best option. Considering options for the possible use of the old cameras for streaming fellowship hall services or for a Zoom room for meetings/faith formation. Concerts Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership: Rich, Craig, Joe, Deb Santiago [confirmed], Leah Antolin (Yingling) [pending]. Possible collaborations with Etown College Music are developing, including potential use of our sanctuary for a planned Oct 17 performance by the Ephrata Cloister Chorus. Two summer events on the calendar are a June 21 Youth Choir and a June 28 Organ Concert. Planned September Jazz Sunday event
	<p>Nurture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliments to Gina Strouse and her work with Prime Time and making those events a success More events planned throughout the calendar year.
	<p>Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workday went well and got a lot done. Amy has installed the new Ring security system. Cabinets will be installed in the coffee area. Review of site plan for the pavilion project
	<p>Witness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The initial 3-month commitment with the Venezuelan family has ended; have recommitted for another 3 months of sponsorship Haitian family update: have tickets to leave Haiti. If everything goes as planned, we expect to see them sometime in early June Holiday celebration - trying to focus on enticing families with children to attend The chicken BBQ event was very successful with donations totaling approximately \$12,700
	<p>Deacons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Caregiving teams are working well. Will be presenting an update to the congregation at the Council Meeting regarding this model.
VIII.	<p>Reports from Pastors Pastors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastor Naomi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involved with the LGBTQ+ group, which is focused on actively demonstrating our openness to all. The group is energized by the idea of creating a safe space for youth. Attending a Parish Resource program called "So You're Open and Affirming, Now What?" Pam & Dave Reist are anticipating returning to attendance soon now that the one-year post-retirement timeframe has passed. Pastor Jason <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graduated on Saturday with MDiv from Bethany Preparing for absence during Sabbath rest Pastor Liz <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The membership integrity committee continues to meet and explore the challenges. As part of the 5-year ordination review process will be attending a required ethics training session on Thursday.

IX.	Next Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Spring Council Meeting: Sunday, June 2<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Commission reports due to the office by Wednesday, May 15● June Board Meeting: **Note Date Change ** Tuesday, June 11, 6:45 pm
X.	Adjournment <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Cross (Clerk)
May 13, 2024