

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

May11, 2020 6:45 PM via Zoom

In Attendance: Amy Karr, George Snavely, Vida Snavely, Pastor Jason Haldeman, Joe Detrick (Moderator), Frank Rhodes, Paula Burke (Chair), Karen Ungemach, Carroll Kreider, Glenn Book, Jordan Eberhart, Kathy Nornhold, Pastor Pam Reist, Beth DeGoede, Pastor Greg Laszakovits, Pastor Josh Tindall, Duane Hernley, Alyssa Cross (Clerk)

I.	<p>Gathering Prayer (Pastor Josh)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be Thou My Vision ● Reflection on the importance of having a shared vision as a church board.
II.	<p>Discussion and Approval of 04/13/2020 Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Corrected abbreviation for Elizabethtown Child Care Center under Item VI. ● Approved as corrected.
III.	<p>Witness O&M Distribution</p> <p><i>Witness recently voted in favor of a distribution from O&M funds requested by the Ministry Calling Committee. The Ministry Calling Committee has had a conversation with Isaiah Lokai for him to take a class with the Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center. This class is Introduction to Pastoral Care and begins on May 21. Tuition is \$240. Please respond to the email with your vote in favor of or opposing approval of Witness' recommendation that we release \$240 from O&M funds in support of Isaiah's class.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review email votes and consider new votes regarding the distribution of \$240 from O&M to Isaiah Lokai <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Email Votes in Favor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Carroll Kreider ■ Beth DeGoede ■ Karen Ungemach ■ George and Vida Snavley ■ Kathy Nornhold ■ Duane Hernley ○ No votes in opposition. Approved for distribution.
IV.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>1. Review of Income Statement as of 04/30/2020</p> <p>After four months, operating results continue to be negative, with disbursements exceeding revenues by \$40,757. Revenue to date at the end of April is under budget by \$80,876 (\$223,225 received versus \$304,101 budgeted). Revenue is \$68,925 behind where we were a year ago. Regular offerings, at \$203,348, fell short of the budgeted offerings of \$267,768 by \$64,420, and are \$68,445 below last year's amount of \$271,793. A month by month summary of offerings is provided in the graph entitled "ECOB 2020". A 5 year history of general fund offerings compared to budgeted offerings is also provided in the graph entitled "ECOB YTD 4/30 COMPARISON." April offerings to the general fund were \$55,914, which is below the budgeted amount of \$66,942, but did increase from March and was the highest giving month so far this calendar year.</p> <p>Disbursements after four months are under budget by \$40,118 (\$263,983 actual spending versus \$304,101 budgeted spending) and \$26,669 less than last year. Most notably, Resources spending is well under budget and significantly less than last year.</p> <p>Overall, as of 4/30/2020 we are in a net operating loss position of \$40,757, with both income and expenses under budget, but income much less than a year ago.</p> <p>2. Cash Position, Building Project, and LT Investments at BFI</p> <p>Our cash position at 4/30/2020 is \$1,218,151. This compares to our cash position a year ago of \$339,739. The large increase in cash is primarily due to Capital Campaign contributions. Just over \$1,079,000 of this cash is invested in a money market fund.</p>

	<p>Contributions to the building project at 4/30/2020 totaled \$1,214,936 (\$71,653 in 2020). Non-operating budget building project costs to date are \$150,249 (\$23,118 in 2020).</p> <p>The market value of all long-term memorial funds invested with the Brethren Foundation as of 4/30/2020 was \$2,433,095, which is down \$38,371 from the beginning of the year market value of \$2,471,466, reflecting an investment loss, net of expenses, of \$38,371 (a total investment return for the year of approximately -1.6%). The investment return for April was +3.9%. As of 4/30/2020 our portfolio was invested \$1,308,742 (54%) in a Short-term investment fund and \$1,124,353 (46%) in a balanced fund (60% domestic stock fund, 40% bond fund).</p>
V.	<p>Suspension of the Church Constitution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussion on options for how to safely and effectively conduct the council meeting. ● No urgent church business that requires us to rush to hold this meeting on 5/31. ● Committee to come together to consider all the options for holding the meeting - allowing as many voices as possible to participate. ● Joe and Paula to draft a communication that the Church Council previously scheduled for 5/31 will be postponed.
VI.	<p>Rose Baer & Naomi Kraenbring Ordinations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The congregation will need to take a vote on their ordinations and report it to the district in time for planning for fall services. ● Manner of the vote: Constitution requires an in-person vote. Board can suspend this requirement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion to hold an electronic vote by Caroll Kreider. Duane Hernley seconded. ○ Leadership Team to make a recommendation on how to carry this out.
VII.	<p>Transitioning to Reopening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parish Resource Center has a PowerPoint presentation available on how to prepare for reopening. ● The district website also has information available. ● Discussion on the establishment of a Reopening Committee to assist in planning and preparations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Suggestion on representatives: Pastor representative, Facilities Manager, Resources representative, medical representative, layperson ○ If interested in serving on this team, reach out to Joe, Paula, or the Pastors.
VIII.	<p>Building Committee Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The borough zoning board meeting has been postponed to June 1. ● The college has signed off as an interested party in the application to the borough regarding the plot of land between the church and the Bowers Writers House. ● The architect continues to work on design and development
IX.	<p>Pastoral Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Completely transferred to Breeze - no longer operating on CCB. The transition has gone well. ○ Healing & Helping 3-part workshop series from Safe Communities scheduled for Tuesday evenings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 5/26, Healing Ourselves: focuses on the traumatic impact COVID is having everyone and offers tips and tools to help us cope with it. ■ 6/2, Protecting our Children: learning to recognize and respond to possible signs of sexual abuse in any child we come into contact and conversation with ■ 6/9, Helping Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Abuse: The social conditions of COVID-19, including isolation, can trigger reactivation of earlier trauma. In addition, many women (and some men) are sheltering in place with abusive partners. Learn how you can help. ○ Pastoral Care: Deacons and visitors have made over 250 contacts. Pastors, as well as Joe and Paula, are also reaching out with phone calls. Mid-week videos continue to focus on staying connected. Looking to identify needs in the congregation and the community. ● Jason

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Focused on providing opportunities through Christian Ed and gathering the community together digitally: Sunday School hour, John David's study on Thursday afternoons, Youth meeting after worship on Sundays, Children's Videos are sent each week to Shine and Blaze, Informal Wednesday night gathering on Zoom. ○ Wrapped up ministry formation year with Bethany Theological Seminary. ● Josh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The online worship component will continue post-COVID and we will be directing more focus on this element of the worship experience than we had previously, as it provides a great opportunity for engagement beyond our walls. ○ Launching Phase II upgrades to the online worship experience. Looking into additional training and equipment that would improve the quality of the experience (cameras, lighting). ● Greg <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Front office staff and pastoral staff have responded in a tremendous way - adapted and responded to challenges with positive attitudes ○ How can we serve the denomination and other congregations that may not be faring as well through this crisis? Other churches are reaching out for support and leadership on best practices for decision making. ○ New series on reopening our lives. Striving to meet people where they are at and acknowledge anxiety.
X.	Commission Reports
	<p>Christian Ed Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We need a replacement for nursery coordinator ● BLAZE and SHINE programming is continued through videos ● Jr. and Sr. High are meeting regularly ● We are offering two adult Sunday School Zoom meetings per week ● Tentative VBS dates: July 21-24
	<p>Expressions Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sent a card of appreciation to the volunteers assisting with the video and sound for our live-streaming
	<p>Nurture Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Nurture Commission met on April 22. Nothing new to report at this time. ● The post-High School coordinator position had not been filled earlier this year. Naomi Kraenbring has volunteered to serve in this role. ● Camp Swatara will not be hosting its regular summer camp season this year. Consider how our congregation can participate in other camp opportunities - possibly with Vacation Bible School
	<p>Resources Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No report.
	<p>Witness Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Email send regarding our May Food Drive month for Community Cupboard given alternative ways for congregants to donate ● John Pavlovitz Weekend - Pam and Amy met with John to discuss how pandemic may impact the event. We will look to make a final decision around June 1st on if we will move forward with planning the event for Sept or look to reschedule in 2021 ● Discussing the possibility of an "all-church" event that could be done maintaining social distance (working towards a walking goal, etc". More to come!
	<p>Deacon's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continuing with congregational outreach calls. ● Benevolence Fund:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The current fund balance is okay, but as time goes on in our current situation, the money could run out quickly as we try to care for as many as possible. Want to plan ahead before it runs out so we can continue to care for those in need. ○ Want to be sure that the congregation is aware of this fund -- for any needs they may have personally, or to contribute to benefit others.
XI.	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spring Church Council -- to be rescheduled ● 06/08/20 - June Board Meeting
XII.	<p>Closing Prayer (Pastor Pam)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meeting concluded at 8:34 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Alyssa Cross (Clerk)

May 11, 2020