

**Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren
Spring Church Council Meeting Minutes**

June 23, 2019 at 12:00 p.m.

I.	<p>Welcome & Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Joe Detrick, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 12:25 p.m. 	Moderator
II.	<p>Opening Prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pastor Josh opened with a prayer focused on being better together 	Pastor Josh
III.	<p>Overview & Approval of Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pastor Jason and Josh have swapped opening and closing prayer from the original agenda. ● Amy Karr will be presenting on behalf of the Witness Commission for Peg Over. ● Rhonda Myers will be presenting on behalf of the Nurture Commission for Beth DeGoede. ● Finance Committee will not be presenting. ● To Accept the Addendum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion by John David Bowman. Seconded by Don Kraybill. Addendum accepted. ● To Accept the Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion by Ken Kreider. Seconded by Barry Garman. Agenda accepted. 	Moderator
IV.	<p>Acceptance of Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fall Council November 18, 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion to accept by Barry Garman. Seconded by Don Kraybill. Fall Council Meeting Minutes accepted as presented. 	Moderator
V.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Summary Two-Year Comparative Balance Sheet - December 31, 2018 ● Comparative Income Statement with Current Year Budget - For Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2018 ● Brethren Foundation Fund Analysis - 01/01/2018 to 12/31/2018 ● Summary Two-Year Comparative Balance Sheet - May 31, 2019 ● Comparative Income Statement with Current Year Budget - For Five Months Ending May 31, 2019 ● Long-Term Investments with the BFI ● Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jim Hollinger <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ What is the origin of the values for the long-term funds on the balance sheet? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● These are book values and exclude the market value appreciation of the invested funds. ■ What are the guidelines for how the facilities fund can be used? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Amounts over 10% of the insured value of the property (currently about \$714,000) can be used for capital improvements and emergency repairs. ● Action A: To Accept the Treasurer's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Karen Stoltzfus. Seconded by Ken Kreider. Accepted as presented. 	Exhibit A
VI.	<p>Reports of Commissions & Committees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Christian Education, Kathy Nornhold <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working to solve the issue of space. Need for more room for Sunday School, particularly adult classes with exciting growth. The portable classroom has accommodated many of the needs for space. Thank you to the many hands that worked to make this possible. ○ Looking forward to Children's Church moving from once a month to increased frequency. At least twice per month. We will need more volunteers. ● Expressions, Karen Ungemach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Live streaming improvements. ○ Continuing to upgrade technology and training more people to help. ○ Kudos to this congregation for nurturing and encouraging talent development. ○ New development - band camp ● Nurture, Rhonda Myers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New this year - taize style lent experience 	Exhibit B

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Date night - offering childcare for families with young children ○ The development of small groups is to come. A subcommittee has been formed. ● Resources, Dick Keesey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Solved the issue of the blinking lights in the sanctuary ○ Working on updating the resources manual ○ Upgrading the computers in the office ○ Replacing monitors in the Christian Ed entrance/childcare entrance ○ Thank you to all that worked on the portable classroom to make the access porch. ○ Safety & Security team has been established ● Witness, Amy Karr <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tremendous success of the bucket project, kudos for exceeding the goal ○ Community Cupboard ○ There was a recent gift from the O&M fund to an individual from Nigeria studying nursing ● Deacon Representative, Vida Sue Snavelly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are 40 deacons organized into 3 groups to serve as ministers to the congregation ○ Visitation is one of the greatest ministries. Over 5,000 visits in hospitals, homes, and retirement communities. ○ Serving meals following memorial and funeral services for church members. Seeking more volunteers for this service. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Comment from John David Bowman - extend the announcement about the need for volunteers on a Sunday morning ● Finance Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No report was given. ● Campaign Committee Update, Donna Hollinger & Don Kraybill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 150 households made a commitment for a campaign contribution ○ Raised \$3.65M - happy to report that exceeded the expectations by \$1.7M by a congregation of our size and budget ○ Letter to come on June 30 which includes a copy of the commitment form and a statement of the pledge. ○ Very important that all gifts are clearly identified as campaign gifts.
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VII.	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Board Report</td> <td style="width: 40%; text-align: right;">Exhibit C</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nancy Hivner</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Board Chair</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Overview of Church Board Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Joy to serve alongside the talented individuals who serve this congregation ○ Review of Exhibit C - already seeing some movement in these areas as demonstrated by the Commission reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Comment from Jim Beckwith - seeing the priority to stop allocating time to the denomination gives him great pause. This denomination needs this congregation and our witness. Hopes that we will continue to help this denomination be what it needs to be. ■ Response from Nancy - we are trying to find balance. We don't want to invest so much to the denomination to the detriment of our own congregational needs. ○ Meeting of ordained clergy, board chairs, and moderators in the ANE district <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Challenges in the ANE district. A committee has been formed to have more discussion on next steps. ■ Comments and feedback: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jlm Beckwith - had a different experience at the meeting and was not aware of the abusive conversations that occurred. This should be shared with Pete Kontra. ● Carroll Kreider - thank you to Nancy for coming along to the table to bear witness to some of the attitudes within the district towards ECOB. ● John David Bowman - also received some vitriolic responses at his table. Was not a redeeming moment. ● Amy Karr - feedback from the 20s/30s class is that the growth in our congregation is in part due to the support for the LGBTQ community. It's important and it matters. ● Ken Kreider - there is a change. We have more female leadership. Change is good. 	Board Report	Exhibit C	Nancy Hivner	Board Chair
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Nancy Hivner	Board Chair				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● John Stoltzfus- came to this congregation from Midway. This issue is happening across many denominations across the world. ● Building Project Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Building Committee is working to deliver the priorities of the congregation within the financial means but needs more time. ○ The next step will be to review revised sketches and a financial package. ○ Lisa Clemens has had to step down from her role on the Building Committee. We thank her for her work.
VIII.	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> <p>Pastoral Team Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Josh Tindall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fantastic board meetings. Encouraging results of our January retreat, many ideas focused on worship. ○ Worship Planning Team - exploring new things. Visits to other congregations are planned to learn possibilities. Focused on making worship meaningful to all ages. ○ Great community within the music ensembles. Chancel choir experiencing growth (ran out of chairs!). Youth are part of intergenerational ensembles that we see weekly - not just as their own group on a monthly rotation. ● Jason Haldeman <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Growth in the 20s/30s class. Improvements in having a regular place to meet. ○ Shine class (preK) has doubled in size. ○ The portable classroom has exceeded expectations and had a positive ripple effect across many classes. ○ Thankful for the many volunteers that make the work possible. ○ With an influx of new people comes the challenge of knowing people. There is a desire to go deeper and this has encouraged the formation of Small Groups. A committee has been formed to explore what that might look like for our congregation. ● Greg Laszakovits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seeing growth in numbers and also in our mindset and spirituality. ○ Growth might not look like what we had imagined. ● Pam Reist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Thanks to the deacons on behalf of the pastors for their many visits. Meaningful visits from skilled deacons allow people to feel cared for. ○ Great news on Naomi's ordination coming out of the district ○ Regarding the District Policy on Same-Gender Marriage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Need a 2/3 majority to pass polity. 54% of district delegates support punitive measures, but not a 2/3 majority. ■ Agreement within the district that we cannot continue together. There must be a peaceful way to find a way forward separately. ■ It has been helpful to have voices from our congregation at the district meetings. ■ We don't know what the future holds, but we are faithfully following God's call. ● Questions/Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jim Beckwith - appreciate these pastors very much (met with great applause) ○ Jean Moyer - delighted to see that some from the 20s/30s class will be discussing Don Kraybill's book <i>The Upsidedown Kingdom</i> </div> <div style="width: 35%; text-align: right;"> <p>Exhibit D</p> </div> </div>
IX.	<p>Affirmation of Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Action B: Receive and accept the reports of the Commissions, Committees, Board Chair, and Pastoral Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion by Naomi Kraenbring. Seconded by Karen Stoltzfus. Reports accepted as presented.
X.	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> <p>District Conference Delegate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lynne Hockley is nominated to serve as District Conference delegate for the Fall 2019 ANE District Conference meeting, in place of Judith Gible who cannot attend this fall. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Motion by Ken Kreider. Seconded by Anna May Belser. ● Voice call to approve all motions. Approved. </div> <div style="width: 35%; text-align: right;"> <p>Addendum</p> </div> </div>

X.	Moments of Reflections and Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Ken Kreider - Bible does not say that marriage is <i>only</i> between a man and a woman.● Anna Belser - really appreciates the younger generation coming up and taking on leadership roles● John Stoltzfus - “Nothing is more resisted or more permanent than change.”● Moderator Comments - Leadership is here to serve in partnership in ministry with the congregation.	Moderator
XI.	Closing Prayer <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Jason concluded the meeting with a prayer.● Meeting concluded at 2:20 p.m.	Pastor Jason

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Cross, Church Clerk
June 24, 2019