

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

March 9, 2020 6:45 PM Discovery Room (101)

In Attendance: Glenn Book, Pastor Josh Tindall, Duane Hernley, Pastor Greg Laszakovits, Amy Karr, Mandy Hileman, Paula Knudsen Burke (Chair), Joe Detrick (Moderator), Pastor Pam Reist, Beth DeGoede, George Snaveley, Karen Ungemach, Kathy Nornhold, Frank Rhodes, Carroll Kreider, Alyssa Cross (Clerk)

I.	<p>Gathering Prayer (Pastor Pam)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Congregations finding ways to gather together following the Nashville tornados. A reminder that God is with us through the storm.
II.	<p>Discussion and Approval of 02/10/2020 Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Approved as submitted.
III.	<p>Credential Review Process for Ordained Ministers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Board affirms the renewal of ordination for the 15 ministers.
IV.	<p>Expressions Report Re: Constitutional amendment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Where is the option for laity accountability/feedback? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pastors are receptive to direct feedback ○ Commission handbooks should be updated to make sure that all prior Expressions duties that are still pertinent to our congregation are covered by other Commissions/groups ● Action Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Karen and Josh to revisit the Handbook review they did previously to account for the duties ○ Alyssa to send out Expressions discussion from the August 12, 2019 minutes for review. ○ Board to review survey responses as they pertain to worship feedback ○ Send any ideas/suggestions to Joe and Paula
V.	<p>Building Committee Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Committee met in February. The architect is in the process of drawing and making updates following feedback from constituent groups ● Christian Ed and Nurture still need to provide their input to the architect.
VI.	<p>Commission Reports</p>
	<p>Christian Ed Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We need a replacement for nursery coordinator ● We need more volunteers for children's church ● 7th graders are currently in youth inquires class ● Elective Series going well ● Tentative VBS dates: July 21-24
	<p>Expressions Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expressions discussion covered in Agenda Item IV.
	<p>Nurture Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Small Groups have started! ● The Nurture Commission created a "Lent Challenge" workbook for adults and children. Reflections will be posted on the bulletin board across from the church office. ● Calendar for this year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Easter Egg Hunt - April 12 ○ Graduate Sunday - May 10 ○ Blessing of Children - May 17 ○ Fifth Grade Faith Marker - June 7 ○ Camp Swatara Family Camp Weekend - June 12-14

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Blessing of Backpacks and Church Picnic - August 23 ○ John Pavlovitz - September 11-13 ○ Golden Age Dinner - October 25 ○ Date Night - November tbd ● Currently do not have a childcare coordinator (for special events) ● Revisiting the historical committee and making it more active (documenting the building process, going through the attic).
	<p>Resources Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We are working at replacing all of the kids' toilets in the Education Wing ● Trees have been removed that had diseases and the rest of the trees have had deadwood removed. ● We are looking at changing to a different cleaning company as we continually quality issues with the company we are currently using ● Still pursuing some possible security upgrades to our current system ● Leases are now signed and are filed in Church Office
	<p>Witness Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● John Pavlovitz – Sept 11-13th confirmed. This weekend will include a speaking engagement Friday evening (free to the public), a workshop on Saturday and John will speak at Sunday service. Witness will be working closely with Nurture to continue to plan the details of this event. Many volunteers will be needed to make this successful. ● Turkish Community Coffee Night – This event is scheduled for March 21st. We look forward to using it as an opportunity for both communities to meet and learn more about the Turkish culture. ● 2020 Service Project – Looking to raise funds to eliminate people's medical debts through a non-profit called RIP Medical Debt. This will be the large service project for Witness in 2020. Amy K is working on getting more information from RIP and will be working towards setting a defined campaign goal and timeframe. ● Lancaster Pride Festival – June 21st in Lancaster at Clipper Stadium. Exploring ways we could possibly be a part of this event and show our support for the LGBTQ community
	<p>Deacon's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No report received.
VII.	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>1. Review of Income Statement as of 02/29/2020</p> <p>After two months, operating results are negative, with disbursements exceeding revenues by \$18,511. Revenue to date at the end of February is under budget by \$42,982 (\$109,069 received versus \$152,051 budgeted). Revenue is \$35,594 behind where we were a year ago. Regular offerings, at \$96,947, fell short of the budgeted offerings of \$133,884 by \$36,937, and are \$40,389 below last year's amount of \$137,336. 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 2/28 COMPARISON." It's too early to draw any conclusions. It's not unusual to be below budget in February, but it is concerning that giving is at its lowest level since 2015.</p> <p>Disbursements after two months are under budget by \$24,471 (\$127,580 actual spending versus \$152,051 budgeted spending) and \$11,246 less than last year. Most notably, Resources spending is well under budget and significantly less than last year.</p> <p>Overall, as of 2/29/2020 we are in a net operating loss position of \$18,511, with both income and expenses under budget, but income much less than a year ago.</p> <p>2. Cash Position and Long-term Investments with the BFI</p> <p>Our cash position at 2/29/2020 is \$1,228,300. This compares to our cash position a year ago of \$143,782. 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 2/29/2020 totaled \$1,176,167 (\$32,884 in 2020). Non-operating budget building project costs to date are \$133,305 (\$6,175 in 2020).</p> <p>The market value of all long-term memorial funds invested with the Brethren Foundation as of 2/29/2020 was \$2,440,358, which is down \$31,108 from the beginning of the year market value of \$2,471,466, reflecting an investment loss, net of expenses, of \$31,108 (a total investment return for the year of approximately -1.3%). As of 2/29/2020 our portfolio was invested \$1,306,509 (54%) in a Short-term investment fund and \$1,133,849 (46%) in a balanced fund (60% domestic stock fund, 40% bond fund).</p>
VIII.	<p>Pastoral Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coronavirus: adding tissues to the pews. Looking to add more automated hand sanitizers around the building. ● Small Groups are going well and getting good feedback from participants and leaders. ● March Madness elective classes are going well. ● Paul Munday, Moderator for Annual Conference, will preach on 3/22 ● Celebration of Naomi Kraenbring's ordination last Sunday. She is beginning a Conflict Resolution program at George Mason. ● Rose Baer is up next for ordination. She just accepted a job as chaplain with Lancaster Hospice. ● Three congregations are in the process of leaving the denomination. ● Technological upgrade is complete. Grateful for contributions of Miriam O'Donnell and the team who works to make it all happen. Technical training will be taking place in April. ● New bulletin design/layout. ● Turkish cultural event on 3/21. ● Interfaith Prayer Vigil to be held on Thursday and Friday, 3/19-3/20 in Lancaster, around the idea of "Welcoming the Stranger" ● Greg has been asked to serve on the Lancaster County Food Hub board.
IX.	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 04/13/20
X.	<p>Closing Prayer (Carroll Kreider) Meeting concluded at 8:25 pm</p>