

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

October 1, 2018 6:45 PM Discovery Room (101)

In Attendance: Brittany Hoeschele, Kristen Siler, Nancy Hivner (Chair), Peg Over, Rhonda Myers, Pastor Jason Haldeman, Pastor Josh Tindall, Pat Dennehy, Pastor Pam Reist, George Snavely, Pastor Greg Laszakovits, Peggy McFarland, Carroll Kreider (Moderator), Bob Hollinger, Dick Keeseey, Duane Hernley, Alyssa Cross (Clerk)

I.	Welcome and Recognition of Guests
II.	Approval of Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● September 10 - Approved as submitted
III.	Review of Action Items from Previous Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commissions to have their budget numbers to Frank by the end of September. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Witness is meeting this week to finalize their numbers. ● Nancy and Carroll to draft a statement to update the language regarding same-gender marriage from the May 18, 2009 Council Meeting Minutes for the Board to review at the October meeting. Statement will then be presented for approval at November Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On agenda for review ● Resources to look into renting a trailer for additional class meeting space. ● Witness to consider how to handle individual gifts for the Community Place on Washington ● Building Project Action Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MINISTRY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jason to provide an update on how we can develop our ministry in the new spaces at our next meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussed on the agenda this evening. ○ SKETCHES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Greg and Nancy to work with the Building Committee to estimate the costs associated with the separate Child Care Center portion of the building project. ○ FINANCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nancy to work with John Miller for guidance on a proposal for naming opportunities and parameters. ○ TENANTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Resources working on lease provisions and nuts and bolts of our relationship
IV.	Devotions (Pastor Pam) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Board reflected upon and celebrated the ministries that have grown in the past year
V.	Updates on ANE District activities and conference plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Those that attended some of the sectional meetings shared the general temperament of those meetings ● District Board is having a special meeting tomorrow evening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Any potential changes to the agenda for Saturday's meeting will be sent out as an all-church email. ● How do we report to the congregation the outcome of any potential vote on the Saturday meeting? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The delegate group will discuss this on Wednesday, following the District Board meeting tomorrow evening.
VI.	Building Project Updates
	Ministry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● John David Bowman is leading a Sunday School lesson the next two weeks to discuss the philosophy and biblical background. Will consider the question, "How we are called to think about this building project?" and be announced via the all-church email on Thursday.

	<p>Sketches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Committee will be ready for our review meeting next Monday, October 8 • If possible, sketches will be sent to the Board ahead of next Monday to allow time for review.
	<p>Finances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don and Donna have been working with John Miller and have a campaign finance committee together. The group is doing some pre-work, envisioning brochures and discussing timelines. • Any official committee work is pending project approval at the special council meeting. • If approved, campaign would begin in the first quarter of 2019. • Naming opportunities need to be organized.
	<p>Tenants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing new related to the building project at this time.
VII.	<p>Draft Wording for Fall Council item</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “All members of ECOB will receive ministerial services equally. Any prior statements, documents, notations, or other references to the contrary are null and void“ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update “members” to “congregants” to be more inclusive of those we serve
VIII	<p>2019 Budget Preview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See attachment
IX.	<p>Board Chair Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Had a meeting with Child Care Center. They are facing unexpected financial challenges for a variety of reasons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Actions the ECC is taking: raising tuition, cutting staff hours, and exploring fundraising opportunities ○ What can ECOB do? Is there an action we as a Board should take? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Announce the Friends fundraising drive to the congregation for private donations • A card is being created to celebrate and congratulate Chiques on their upcoming 150th anniversary.
X.	<p>Pastors’ Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing to report at this time.
XI.	<p>Treasurer’s Report</p> <p>1. Review of Income Statement as of 09/30/2018</p> <p>Through nine months of the year operating results continue to be very positive, with revenues exceeding disbursements by \$51,021, which compares to the deficit of \$25,576 we had a year ago at 9/30/2017. Revenue to date at the end of September is over budget by \$6,525 (\$612,036 received versus \$605,511 budgeted). Revenue is \$94,766 ahead of where we were a year ago, which puts our operating finances in great position heading into the last three months of the year. Regular offerings, at \$570,277, exceed the budgeted offerings, including challenge, of \$548,811 by \$21,466, and are \$86,980 above last year’s amount of \$483,297. This is fantastic! A month by month summary of offerings is provided in the graph entitled “ECOB 2018”. A five year history of general fund offerings compared to budgeted offerings is also provided in the graph entitled “ECOB YTD 9/30 COMPARISON.”</p> <p>Disbursements through nine months in 2018 are less than budget by \$44,496 (\$561,015 actual spending versus \$605,511 budgeted spending) and \$18,169 more than last year. With the exception of Administration, spending is below budget across all major expense categories. Spending is up in some categories and down in others compared to last year’s amounts. The biggest increase in spending is in Resources. Also, please note that \$61,176 has been spent on the building project thus far in 2018 outside of the general budget.</p>

	<p>Overall, as of 9/30/2018 we have a very solid net gain position of \$51,021, with income up significantly more so than expenses from a year ago.</p> <p>2. Cash Position and Long-term Investments with the BFI Our cash position at 9/30/2018 is \$152,209.27 (\$37,990.53 checking, \$114,218.74 money market). This compares to our cash position a year ago of \$112,465.39. The amount in the money market fund approximates our accumulated surplus as of 12/31/2017.</p> <p>The market value of all long-term memorial funds invested with the Brethren Foundation as of 9/30/2018 was \$2,360,749, which is up \$71,306 from the beginning of the year market value of \$2,289,443, reflecting a \$10,000 contribution from the Breneman Estate and \$10,214.34 from the Alma Espenshade Estate (split \$10,107 to the Facilities Fund and \$10,107 to the O&M Fund), and an investment gain, net of expenses, of \$61,306 (a total investment return for the year of approximately 2.2%). Investment results were down in September, with an approximate return of -0.7% for the month. As of 9/30/2018 our portfolio was invested 83.0% in a balanced fund (60% domestic stock fund, 40% bond fund) and 17.0% in a bond fund, resulting in an overall approximate portfolio mix of 50% domestic stock fund and 50% bond fund.</p>
XII.	Commission Reports
	<p>Christian Ed Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Still struggling to provide space for all of our Christian Education functions/classes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sip and Chat cannot meet in one consistent space ○ Trailer is the option we are leaning toward for a new youth/adult space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Resources has begun research for this and hopes to have actual numbers in a week or so. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12'x60' trailer (for two 12'x30' classroom spaces). Permits likely less than \$200. Need to run electrical service out there. Preliminary estimation for rent is \$800/month ● Board is approving for Resources to continue to move forward with this and Christian Ed will explore what opportunities this will provide. ● Christian Ed Program Fund (\$38,000). Working at updating the Blaze area. Looking for \$360 for a large area rug. Board approves purchasing the rug.
	<p>Expressions Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No report received. ● Very close to finalizing the purchase of the previously approved expenditure for the computer programs.
	<p>Nurture Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On Saturday, October 13, the Women's Spirituality Retreat will be held at Brethren Village. Sandy Garman will be hosting a day on Hospitality. ● On Sunday, October 28, the Golden Age Dinner will take place in Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. Joe Detrick will present a variety of folk, religious, fun, sing-along music accompanied by guitar, violin, harmonica, and dulcimer.
	<p>Resources Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is no specific information to report, however would like time to discuss the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dealing with the mold problem in the Choir Room and two ECNS classrooms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Testing took place this afternoon, 10/1. Results will be in a few days. ■ Waiting to hear how serious the problem is before going forward with remediation. ○ Renting portable classroom space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Update provided in the Christian Ed report..
	<p>Witness Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 7 people traveled to New Windsor for a SERRV work day. Planning to go twice a year (spring/fall). Next trip will be Tuesday March 19, 2019. ● Planning for our Love Feast work project CWS hygiene kits.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Play “Courage Rising “ was held this past Monday September 24th. with approximately 60 in attendance. The thought provoking presentation was well received and followed by an interesting conversation led by Pastor Pam. We served cookies/lemonade afterwards. ● Planning for BHA appreciation event Thursday, November 8 from 6:30-8:00 in our fellowship hall. ● Will be meeting with representatives from CWS Lancaster at our next meeting. ● Will finalize Witness budget at our October 3rd meeting.
	<p>Deacon’s Report</p> <p>Action taken at the September 16 Deacon meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The following Deacons, who have chosen to retire from the Deacon body, were recognized for their many years of dedicated service: Jean Herr, Anna Belser, Roger and Mary Ann Killian. ● The Deacons will prepare and serve bread and cup communion during morning worship on Sunday, October 7. A group of Deacons volunteered to assist Vida and Sandy in baking communion bread on Tuesday, October 2. ● The Deacons will give support to the foot and hand washing service during the Love Feast which will take place in Fellowship Hall directly following the morning worship service on Sunday, October 7. Barry and Sandy Garman agreed to give leadership to the service. ● The Deacons agreed to be in charge of a simple meal preceding the Council Meeting on Sunday, October 21. Barbara Ellis will give leadership to a committee working on the meal. The Deacons asked that others be in charge of set-up and clean-up for this meal. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Board is handling set-up and tear-down. Set up will begin at 8:30 a.m. Alyssa to send a reminder email out to the Board. ● A discussion led to the decision of discontinuing the Deacon disc/bulletin delivery service to those who had requested it. These individuals will be assisted in seeing the service online. Bulletins to those requesting it will be mailed each Monday morning by a volunteer in the church office. The cost of the mailing will appear in the Deacon Budget, line # 8503, which will be renamed from “Audio Ministry, etc.” to “Communications Ministry.” The Deacons are requesting Line #8503 be increased from \$200.00 to \$400.00 in the 2019 Budget. This is our only requested increase. ● George Snavelly reported the Deacons have received a \$1,000.00 donation from the Matthew 25 Thrift Shop in Lititz to be used through our Benevolence Fund. Vida sent a thank-you note to Matthew 25. ● Following discussion, the Deacons agreed to set the following guidelines to our Transportation Ministry: transportation will be available to members of our congregation or someone who has a close connection to a member; except in special cases, the requested distance will be limited to a radius of 20 miles. ● Lavonne Grubb volunteered to replace Mary Ann Killian as the caller for Group Three for the remainder of the year.
XIII.	<p>Next Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 10/08/18 Special Meeting to review Building Sketches ● 10/21/18 Special Council Meeting ● 11/12/18 November Board Meeting ● 11/18/18 Fall Council Meeting ● 12/10/18 December Board Meeting ● 01/12/19 Hold calendar for Church Board Retreat
IVX.	<p>Adjournment</p>

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Cross, Church Clerk
October 28, 2018