

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

July 13, 2020 6:45 PM via Zoom

In Attendance: Glenn Book, Jordan Eberhart, Frank Rhodes, Pastor Josh Tindall, Pastor Jason Haldeman, Pastor Greg Laszakovits, Pastor Pam Reist, Carroll Kreider, Duane Hernley, Beth DeGoede, Amy Karr, Paula Burke (Chair), Alyssa Cross (Clerk)

I.	Gathering Prayer	Pastor Jason
II.	Discussion and Approval of 06/08/2020 Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Approved as corrected. 	
III.	Frank	
	Treasurer's Report	
	1. Review of Income Statement as of 06/30/2020 <p>After six months, operating results are strongly positive, with revenues exceeding disbursements by \$44,092 (at the end of last month the net position was \$41,409). Revenue to date at the end of June is under budget by \$30,371 (\$425,781 received versus \$456,152 budgeted). Revenue is \$19,586 behind where we were a year ago. Regular offerings, at \$390,105, fell short of the budgeted offerings of \$401,652 by \$11,547, and are \$23,891 below last year's amount of \$413,996. 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 6/30 COMPARISON."</p> <p>Disbursements after six months are under budget by \$74,463 (\$381,689 actual spending versus \$456,152 budgeted spending) and \$53,968 less than last year. Most notably, Resources spending is well under budget and significantly less than last year.</p> <p>Overall, as of 6/30/2020 we are in a net operating gain position of \$44,092, with income slightly below budget and expenses well under budget, and expenses much less than a year ago.</p>	
	2. Cash Position, Building Project, and LT Investments at BFI <p>Our cash position at 6/30/2020 is \$1,315,094. This compares to our cash position a year ago of \$403,834. The large increase in cash is primarily due to Capital Campaign contributions. Just over \$1,229,000 of this cash is invested in a money market fund.</p> <p>Contributions to the building project at 6/30/2020 totaled \$1,236,707 (\$93,424 in 2020). Non-operating budget building project costs to date are \$158,558 (\$31,427 in 2020).</p> <p>The market value of all long-term memorial funds invested with the Brethren Foundation as of 6/30/2020 was \$2,494,878, which is up \$23,412 from the beginning of the year market value of \$2,471,466, reflecting an investment gain, net of expenses, of \$23,412 (a total investment return for the year of approximately 0.9%). The investment return for June was +0.7%. As of 6/30/2020 our portfolio was invested \$1,308,232 (52%) in a Short-term investment fund and \$1,186,646 (48%) in a balanced fund (60% domestic stock fund, 40% bond fund).</p>	
	Questions and Commentary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regarding Resources expenses compared to budget; do we foresee any upcoming expenses? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sanctuary roof is being considered with regard to the issues and the plaster. May run upwards of 100k to replace the entire sanctuary roof and complete the plaster repair. Considering various options as far as materials. ● Increase in May giving was a result of Paula's call to action in the service. 	
IV.	Reopening Committee - Green Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reviewed the draft recommendations for reopening from the work group. Various options for returning to physical worship in the building were discussed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drive-in with a projection screen would not be viable due to the daylight ○ Consider holding a one-time outdoor service (perhaps in an evening; vesper service) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In order to reopen, we need to be prepared to handle contact tracing by collecting attendance information, which is to be kept on file by date. ○ Christian Ed is not planning to hold children’s Sunday School at the first in-person service. Reopening plans will begin with worship first and then will evaluate and plan for Sunday School. ● Congregational feedback (heard by the pastors and from Nurture commission): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Until we can get back to in-person services with the ability to congregate as “normal”, not much urgency to reopen the building for modified worship ○ One request for an outdoor service ● Board Decision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continue to conduct worship services via YouTube live streaming. ○ Discuss reopening at our next meeting on September 14. ● Action items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Crystal to prepare for a reservation system in the event that our reopen plan requires a signup and reservation. ○ Summer Newsletter update on the work of the Reopening Work Group and Board discussions.
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V.	<p>Building Committee Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Elizabethtown Zoning Hearing Board voted unanimously on June 8 in favor of our application for the building project. Following this approval, boring has begun which will evaluate for any unusual or unstable soil, as well as determine the weight bearing capacity of the soil. ● Architect continues to work on details. No plans ready at this time. <p>Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In response to the offer from the College on the transfer of property near the Bowers Writers House and adjacent to the church for \$1, the Church will cover the expenses related to the deed transfer, as approved unanimously by the board.
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VI.	<p>Pastoral Reports</p> <p>Jason</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adult Sunday School classes and Thursday Bible studies have been going very well. Largely the same group of people participating in these events. ● Youth have also been meeting. More energy behind Jr High gatherings than the Sr High gatherings. ● Meeting with Christian Ed to discuss the future of how we engage with young families knowing that we won’t be having in-person opportunities for children in the near future. <p>Pam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Outdoor memorial service was held at the end of June. It went very well. ● Planning Seth Nornhold’s service in the coming weeks. Will also be live streamed. ● Rose Baer’s ordination is coming up and requires creative planning. ● Many in the congregation are ill. First member has contracted Covid. ● Continue to run zoom groups that meet monthly to foster relationships. ● Deacons continue to make calls. Nurture is also making calls. ● HR will be meeting this week to look at the office administrator position. Andrea’s last day will be July 21. ● About 5 people attended the Zoom meeting for those new to the congregation. All who attending the meeting had visited the church in person prior to covid <p>Josh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Live streaming is still working. 8-9 services since Covid have had over 1,000 views. Views did taper off for a few weeks, but have rebounded. ● Preparing for paternity leave. Planning to enable the team to continue on and troubleshoot. Alex will be filling in in many ways while Josh is out. ● Participated in the denominational hymn sing along with Elizabeth. <p>Greg</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We can continue to improve the quality of our live-stream by upgrading our cameras and lighting. Additional O'Donnell funds are not available for 2020. With the number of people watching our service each Sunday, should we make this investment in our equipment? (Estimation of \$15k) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strong support to pursue the upgrades.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Immigrant Support Group has been working diligently to keep funds in the account to be able to respond to needs as they arise. Two families responded to the call to host a woman who was being held at the York detention center and was a high-risk for COVID. • Anti-Racism reading group has about 30 people, including some from outside our congregation. • Invited to be a host of an ongoing Youtube series on an inter-religious dialogue between all three Abrahamic faiths (Muslim, Christian and Jewish). • Will serve as a liaison between Brazil and the U.S. for the Global Mission Partnership <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploratory conversation regarding ongoing relationship with other congregations following COVID.
VII.	Commission Reports
	<p>Christian Ed Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VBS was cancelled this year. Opportunity for Camp Swatara to hold an outdoor activity at our church on August 1. Need more information on what Camp plans to do. Executive team to use their judgement following more information on the decision to hold the event.
	<p>Expressions Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report.
	<p>Nurture Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big thanks to Lisa Rosenberger for getting the high school graduates their faith marker and for putting together the great video that was shared in church! • Other faith markers are on hold. • The Nurture Commission was trying to come up with a fun way to have a socially distanced activity. We didn't come up with anything but are going to contact every household in the church to see how they are doing and if they are feeling connected or need anything.
	<p>Resources Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report.
	<p>Witness Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk To Nigeria has been so successful we have extended it to double our miles! Participants continue to be engaged. Looking at possible ways to increase donations for CCEPI. • CROP table continues to occur throughout the summer • RIP Medical Debt - looking to consider a possible money-raising campaign at the end of summer/fall. This was put on hold due to pandemic. • Working on a possible Music CD project with Jim Hollinger/Josh Tindall - more to come!
	<p>Deacon's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report.
VIII.	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 14
IX.	Closing Prayer (Paula)

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Cross (Clerk)
August 11, 2020