

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

September 13, 2021 6:45 PM via Zoom

In Attendance: Alyssa Cross (Clerk), Joe Detrick (Moderator), Paula Knudsen Burke (Chair), Frank Rhodes, Carroll Kreider, Karen Ungemach, Duane Hernley, Kendra Gottshall, Pastor Pam Reist, Pastor Josh Tindall, Pastor Jason Haldeman, Amy Karr, Lisa Rosenberger, Olivia Knight, Craig Coble

I.	<p>Opening Devotions Pastor Jason</p> <p>Pastor Jason opened the meeting in prayer.</p>
II.	<p>Discussion and Approval of 07/12/2021 Minutes Board Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July minutes approved as submitted. <p>Review Email Vote of Accountability Committee Proposal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the board meeting on Monday, July 12, Wendy Neiss on behalf of the Accountability Committee gave a presentation to the board about David Eller's covenant. The Accountability Committee, per the Child Protection Policy, supervises the attendance of persons convicted of or charged with certain crimes. The Accountability Committee ("AC") is recommending a change to David's covenant as of August because at that time he will be finished with any state sanctions (no Megan's Law listing, etc). The AC is asking for board approval of that change. • <u>Email Vote Tally:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Votes of approval from representatives of Resources, Nurture, Expressions, Deacons, Christian Education
III.	<p>Treasurer's Report Treasurer</p> <p>1. Review of Income Statement as of 08/31/2021</p> <p>After eight months in 2021, operating results are negative, with disbursements exceeding revenues by \$49,918 (at the end of last month the net position was a negative \$45,145). Revenue at the end of August is under budget by \$118,221 (\$489,981 received versus \$608,202 budgeted). Revenue is \$38,113 behind where we were at the end of August last year. Regular offerings, at \$443,525, fell short of the budgeted offerings of \$535,535 by \$92,010, and are \$36,376 below last year's amount of \$479,901 (general fund giving is about 8% behind last year). A month-by-month summary of offerings is provided in the graph entitled "ECOB 2021". Note that giving in every month this year has been below budget except for April. August 2021 giving (\$40,796) was well below budget and is the lowest giving month this year, and lower than August 2020's giving (\$55,540). A 5-year history of general fund offerings compared to budgeted offerings is also provided in the graph entitled "ECOB YTD 8/31 COMPARISON."</p> <p>Disbursements at the end of August are under budget by \$78,192 (\$539,900 actual spending versus \$618,092 budgeted spending) and \$29,601 more than last year. Resources spending, mainly due to elevator repairs, is \$29,548 above budget and \$93,561 more than last year. With the exception of Administration, spending in all other categories is under budget, and, except for Witness, is less than a year ago. Ministry Salaries & Benefits is significantly less than budget and a year ago, due mainly to Pastor Greg's departure.</p> <p>Overall, as of 8/31/2021, we are in a net operating loss position of \$49,918, with income and expenses both under budget. Income is \$38,113 less than a year ago and spending is \$29,601 higher than a year ago. Last year at the end of August we were in a net gain position of \$17,796.</p> <p>2. Cash Position, Building Project, and LT Investments at BFI</p> <p>Our cash position at 8/31/2021 is \$1,616,234. This compares to our cash position a year ago of \$1,362,569. The large increase in cash is primarily due to Capital Campaign contributions. Just over \$1,431,000 of this cash is invested in a money market fund.</p> <p>Contributions to the building project at 8/31/2021 totaled \$2,198,419 (\$277,096 in 2021). Non-operating budget building project costs to date are \$752,970 (\$347,808 in 2021). Net cash proceeds available for future building project spending is \$1,574,478.</p> <p>The market value of all long-term memorial funds invested with the Brethren Foundation as of 8/31/2021 was \$2,656,963, which is up \$140,532 from the beginning of the year market value of \$2,516,431, reflecting an</p>

	<p>investment gain, net of expenses, of \$140,532 (a total investment return for the year of approximately +5.6%). The investment return for July was +0.8%. As of 8/31/2021 our portfolio was invested \$1,300,341 (49%) in a Short-term investment fund and \$1,356,622 (51%) in a balanced fund (60% domestic stock fund, 40% bond fund).</p> <p>Discussions and Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for the Finance Committee to try and determine if we have lost a large number of individual giving units (indicating potentially other issues with congregational being tuned in) versus a few large giving units not giving as much as they have historically.
IV.	<p>Calling of Pastor - Next Steps Moderator, Board Chair, Search Committee Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Executive Committee accepted the recommendation of the Search Committee to proceed with the candidate and financial package as presented. The motion before the Board is to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee and the Search Committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Board approved the recommendation unanimously. The candidate will preach on Sunday, October 10 followed by a congregational vote. For confidentiality purposes, the traditional live stream will not take place. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Executive team to work on a private virtual option
V.	<p>Pastors' Reports Pastors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastor Josh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expression of enthusiasm for the pastoral candidate. Will not be starting the chorale season at this time as a precaution for safety. Jason <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Echo of the enthusiasm for the candidate. Christian Ed continues to face challenges for gathering children and youth. Had anticipated moving forward for Sunday morning gatherings but determined that due to Covid it was not an appropriate time. Volunteer needs still exist. Waiting on backorder supply issues for Zoom cart parts. Adult Sunday School will continue online as it has been until the cart is available, at which time we will move to a hybrid model. Pam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking forward to having a full pastoral team and many good things ahead. Have had a number of funerals and some weddings coming up. What can we do to help people stay connected? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ice cream social on October 3 following worship. New Friends class ran for 8 weeks with about 10 people who were very enthusiastic about this congregation. Working as a liaison to HR for the office staff responsibilities. Meet with a group of clergywomen from other traditions. Others are facing the same challenges that we are having (keeping people connected).
VI.	<p>Building Committee Update Board Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work completed/in progress as of September 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christian Education wing bathroom renovation project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elimination of previous men's and women's main level bathrooms and corner storage room in Christian Education wing, which are now ADA compliant men's women's, and family restrooms. Drywall completed; painting and finishes (i.e. tile, countertops, vanities, toilet fixtures, and partitions) in progress. Acoustical ceiling, lights, and HVAC grilles and registers are also completed. Target completion date is September 23. Concurrent with upstairs bathroom work, downstairs classroom plumbing and ceiling work will be completed by September 10. Work pending for Fall 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material delivery TBD for rooftop steelwork on Christian Education roof (in fabrication) Horst Construction target date of installation of structural steel is tentatively scheduled for the end of September

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Horst Construction target date for the new roof on the Christian Education building is sometime in October. Setting the rooftop HVAC units will follow; at this point TBD
VII.	Commission Reports
	Christian Ed Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We are trying to provide Christian education opportunities in a difficult time with Covid. ● We continue to look for volunteers to support our children's programming. ● We are holding on to hope that we will be able to expand our programming in the not too distant future.
	Expressions Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● O'Donnell Music Fund exists to enhance the music ministry of the church. So far in 2021, have not used any of these funds. Potential exists for us to utilize this if necessary.
	Nurture Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ice Cream Social on October 3, following worship.
	Resources Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No written report.
	Witness Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Etown COB will be a sponsor of the Lancaster Pride festival being held at Clipper Stadium on October 24th. We are looking for volunteers for the day of the event.
	Deacon's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No written report.
VIII.	Next Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Board Meeting: Monday, October 11, 6:45 pm Save the Date <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fall Council: Sunday, November 21, 2021 ● 2022 Church Board Retreat: Saturday, January 8, 2022
IX.	Closing Prayer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pastor Pam closed the meeting with a prayer. Meeting concluded at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Cross, Clerk
September 14, 2021