

Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren Church Board Agenda

Monday, August 8, 2022, 6:45 PM in Fellowship Hall & via Zoom

In Attendance: Alyssa Cross (Clerk), Jeff Eisenbise (Chair), Joe Detrick (Moderator), Karen Ungemach, Jim Hollinger, Carroll Kreider, Lynne Hockley, Pastor Naomi Kraenbring, Kendra Gottshall (Treasurer Elect), Frank Rhodes (Treasurer), Ann Pineda Ziegler, Pastor Jason Haldeman, Pastor Pam Reist, Nancy Hivner, Olivia Knight, Ken Shaffer, Ellen Flury, Pat Williams, Sandy Flanagan

Via Zoom: Craig Coble, Gina Strouse, Kurt Sollenberger, Donna Hollinger (Vice-Chair), George Snavely

I.	<p>Opening Devotions Board Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeff opened with a devotion and expressed hopefulness at the evidence of our congregation wanting to be together.
II.	<p>Acceptance of Previous Minutes Board Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 13 Minutes approved as presented.
III.	<p>Report on behalf of the Worship and Music Assessment Team (See Exhibit A) Nancy Hivner</p> <p>Action: Consider approving the recommendation from the Worship and Music Assessment Committee and undertake the suggested next steps immediately. The assessment committee will reconvene as a search committee with Jim Hollinger serving as the Chair.</p> <p>Motion to accept the recommendation of the Worship and Music Assessment Committee as presented by Carroll Kreider. Seconded by Lynn Hockley. Motion approved unanimously.</p>
IV.	<p>Report on behalf of the Nurture Commission Ellen Flury</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal to establish an outreach support group for parents and families of transgender individuals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Group would be led by Ellen and a friend. Seeking additional leadership support from a medical and/or counseling background. Additional support resources are available through SCN, of which we are a member congregation. <p>Motion to endorse the establishment of a support group for parents and families of transgender individuals by Carroll Kreider. Motion seconded by Jim Hollinger. Motion approved unanimously.</p>
V.	<p>Report on behalf of the Finance Committee (See Exhibit B) Ken Shaffer</p> <p>Action: Consider approving the recommendations of the Finance Committee regarding the distributions from the Outreach & Ministry Ed Fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correction: 12/31/2021 balance of the O&M fund is \$779,545. <p>Motion to endorse the recommendations of the Finance Committee as presented in Exhibit B by Jeff Eisenbise. Seconded by Craig Coble. Motion approved unanimously.</p>
VI.	<p>Treasurer's Report Treasurer</p> <p>1. Review of Income Statement as of 07/31/22</p> <p>After seven months in 2022, preliminary operating results are negative, with disbursements exceeding revenues by \$44,505. Revenue at the end of July is under budget by \$82,623 (\$465,227 received versus \$547,850 budgeted). Revenue is \$22,400 ahead of where we were at the end of July last year, due to greater transfers from the Eder Financial funds. Regular offerings, at \$356,308, fell short of the budgeted offerings of \$437,500 by \$81,192, and are 45,379 below last year's amount of \$401,687. July offerings at \$37,247 were less than June offerings of \$54,794 and less than July 2022 offerings of \$55,804. A month-by-month comparison of offerings for the last 5 years is provided in the graph entitled "ECOB Offerings History" and a 5-year history of general fund offerings compared to budgeted offerings is provided in the graph entitled "ECOB YTD 7/31 COMPARISON."</p> <p>Disbursements at the end of July are under budget by \$64,335 (\$509,732 actual spending versus \$574,067 budgeted spending) and \$18,729 more than last year. Please note that both actual and budgeted spending includes Special Capital Improvements approved by council. Spending is below budget, but up slightly from last year.</p> <p>Overall, as of 07/31/2022, we are in a preliminary net operating loss position of \$44,505, with income well under budget and slightly more than a year ago, and expenses under budget and slightly more than last year. A year ago our net operating budget had a \$48,176 net loss.</p> <p>2. Cash Position, Building Project, and LT Investments at BFI</p> <p>Our cash position at 7/31/2022 is \$921,977. This compares to our cash position a year ago of \$1,750,844. The decrease in cash is primarily due to Capital Campaign expenditures. Just over \$712,000 of this cash is invested in a money market fund.</p>

	<p>Contributions to the building project at 7/31/2022 totaled \$2,760,362. Total 2022 contributions are \$83,575. Non-operating budget building project costs to date are \$1,994,614. Total 2022 expenditures are \$657,564. The available cash for building project expenditures is \$765,748. Outstanding capital campaign pledges are \$902,036.</p> <p>The market value of all long-term memorial funds invested with Eder Financial as of 7/31/2022 was \$2,437,848, which is down \$175,356 from the beginning of the year market value of \$2,613,204, reflecting an investment loss, net of expenses, of \$175,356 (a total investment return for the year of approximately -6.7%). The investment return for July was +2.4%. As of 7/31/2022 ECOB's portfolio was invested \$1,287,073 (53%) in a Short-term investment fund and \$1,150,775 (47%) in a balanced fund (60% domestic stock fund, 40% bond fund).</p> <p>Action: Approval of the Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented by Jeff Eisenbise. Seconded by Olivia Knight. Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously.</p>
VII.	<p>Progress Report on the Church Renovation Project Board Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of new HVAC unit continues. The installation of ductwork is substantially completed. Classrooms on the upper level have drywall and paint. • The project is behind schedule due to delays in material delivery (primarily lighting). • The installation of new suspended ceilings and lighting is in progress.
VIII.	<p>Request on behalf of the Witness Commission (See Exhibit C) Jim Hollinger</p> <p>Action: Consider approving the proposal of the Witness Commission to partner with ECHOS and UCEA to provide emergency housing to undocumented immigrants</p> <p>The Board approves the recommendation of The Witness Commission to commit \$25,000 to the joint application of ECHOS/UCEA for the American Rescue Act of 2021 (ARPA) grant with the understanding that one renovated apartment will be reserved for use as emergency housing for immigrants. If the grant is awarded, the Board will then determine the source of the funding, which is to be approved by the Church Council. Motion seconded by Jim Hollinger. Motion approved unanimously.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential option to make the \$25,000 a challenge to the congregation as one source of funding. • Need clarification for the MOU for how the apartment would be administered.
IX.	<p>Pastors' Highlights & Concerns Pastors</p> <p>Pastor Pam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlighting the work with Nurture - focused more on congregational needs than event planning. Chris Bucher will be leading a 6-week series on the book 'God and Guns' on Thursday evenings at 6:45 (in person and via Zoom). Beginning October 6. • Inquirers Class starting up in October. • Looking forward to Rachel Bucher Swank joining us this fall as an intern. <p>Pastor Jason</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertaking an internship this fall under Pam in the area of pastoral care as part of ministry formation. <p>Pastor Naomi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affirms that this continues to feel like this is the right thing to be doing right now. Appreciates the words of encouragement.
X.	<p>Commission & Deacon Highlights & Concerns Commission Chairs</p>
	<p>Christian Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking forward to VBS 8/16-8/19 with follow-up during worship on the 21st. • 9:00 Faith Formation hour beginning this fall on 8/28.
	<p>Nurture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We followed up on the progress from last month's meeting on small group formation and a Prime Time Ministry for senior adults. • We viewed a proposal for an outreach support group for parents and families of transgender individuals. We like this plan and would like to present the proposal to the church board to seek their approval at the August 8, 2022, meeting. • We developed a plan for progressing with Faith Markers to present this fall. • We corresponded with Ted and Company, who formulated an agreement to be signed by the Nurture chair and the Board chair. The event is to be held on September 25 and will be co-sponsored by the Nurture and Witness Commissions.

	<p>Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ECCC (Day Care) office was re-furnished (painting, new flooring, new lights) for \$4,194.77 ● ECCC washer/dryer was installed in the utility closet between the kitchen and choir room area. The cost to prepare the area was \$3,587.62. ECCC purchased the washer/dryer and will purchase the laundry supplies. ECOB assumes the utility costs. ● Dishwasher repaired for \$1,389.14 ● Water Softener (associated with dishwasher) re-bedded for \$425.00 ● Stoves Inspected for \$187.50 ● ECCC Director (Nakia) resigned. ● ECCC fenced playground must be completely reworked. ● Updating tenant lease contracts. (ECCC, ECNS, IU13) ● Excavating expense of \$23,032.01 ● Rooms 2 and 3 flooring must be completely replaced. ● Copper downspouts will be repaired ● Line painting in the parking lot hopefully will occur prior to College student return; unfortunately, parking lot resurfacing cannot occur until the pods leave and some surface repairs occur. ● Within the next few weeks the stairwell off the sanctuary will be plastered. ● Some new light fixtures have been installed. ● Jason's laptop was replaced. ● ITEM OF BUSINESS: Need authorization for the continuation of the tent rental through October 31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The tent has served the Church well during these summer months. It is an asset during this time of construction in that it is one of the few available, reliable, and usable spaces, which greatly assists with planning for programming. The recommendation is that we continue to utilize the trailer line item and Resources will absorb the bill.
	<p>Witness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meeting with Mark Clapper, E-town College: "Civil Discourse" Jim and Naomi met to inquire about developing a relationship with the college to discuss ways that we can learn to talk with people with whom we have significant differences. This came from our concern about gun safety and how to address it in the church and the larger community. This is just in the beginning stages. More information will be shared as ideas are developed. ● Colebrook Road Concert to benefit On Earth Peace: Sunday, October 9, 2022. We were asked if we want to sponsor the concert. We decided to sponsor the concert for \$750. ● The Racial Justice Committee has requested to put an Exhibit at the 2023 Elizabethtown Fair. We talked about putting together an exhibit to better define who we are as a church. We may need to spend about \$100 to cover the cost.
	<p>Deacons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Since the last reporting, the "ECOB Ministry Teams," overseen by the Lead and Assistant Lead Deacons, have served as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sunday Morning Greeters ○ Weekly visitation in the community, retirement villages, and in the hospitals when possible ○ Provided assistance from the Benevolence Fund, with transportation, and in other ways where assistance was needed by members of the congregation ○ Prepared and served bread and cup communion during the worship service on July 17 ○ Prepared and served light refreshments / a light luncheon following the funeral services for Shirley Trimmer, Walt Moyer, Donna Steiner, and Jean Herr ● We extend our loving gratitude to the many who have joined the deacons as part of one or more of the ECOB Ministry Teams.
XI.	<p>Next Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Board Meeting: Monday, September 12, 6:45 pm
XII.	<p>Word of Closure & Adjournment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Meeting concluded at 8:50 pm <p style="text-align: right;">Board Chair</p>

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Cross, Clerk
August 8, 2022