

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

June 8, 2020 6:45 PM via Zoom

In Attendance: Amy Karr, Joe Detrick (Moderator), Pastor Jason Haldeman, Pastor Greg Laszakovits, Pastor Josh Tindall, Karen Ungemach, Carroll Kreider, Paula Burke (Chair), Pastor Pam Reist, Frank Rhodes, Kathy Nornhold, Lyssa Morehart, Duane Hernley, Alyssa Cross (Clerk)

I.	<p>Gathering Prayer Pastor Pam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reflection on the four distinct senses to experience worship (awe, delight, truth, hope) ● The group shared examples of when they experienced these senses in their board work
II.	<p>Discussion and Approval of 05/11/2020 Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Approved as submitted
III.	<p>Treasurer's Report Frank</p> <p>1. Review of Income Statement as of 05/31/2020</p> <p>This past month was truly amazing! We received offerings of almost \$130,000, by far the largest amount I've ever seen during my time as Treasurer. After five months, operating results are strongly positive, with revenues exceeding disbursements by \$41,409 (at the end of last month we were behind by \$40,757). Revenue to date at the end of May is under budget by \$16,498 (\$363,628 received versus \$380,126 budgeted). Revenue is \$995 behind where we were a year ago. Regular offerings, at \$333,256, fell short of the budgeted offerings of \$334,710 by \$1,454, and are \$5,055 below last year's amount of \$38,311. 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 5/31 COMPARISON." It is also noted that our rental income nearly caught up to budget in May as well.</p> <p>Disbursements after five months are under budget by \$57,907 (\$322,219 actual spending versus \$380,126 budgeted spending) and \$44,674 less than last year. Most notably, Resources spending is well under budget and significantly less than last year.</p> <p>Overall, as of 5/31/2020 we are in a net operating gain position of \$41,409, with income near budget and expenses well under budget, and expenses much less than a year ago.</p> <p>2. Cash Position, Building Project, and LT Investments at BFI</p> <p>Our cash position at 5/31/2020 is \$1,301,144. This compares to our cash position a year ago of \$372,429. 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 5/31/2020 totaled \$1,227,950 (\$84,667 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 5/31/2020 was \$2,478,132, which is up \$6,666 from the beginning of the year market value of \$2,471,466, reflecting an investment gain, net of expenses, of \$6,666 (a total investment return for the year of approximately 0.3%). The investment return for May was +1.9%. As of 5/31/2020 our portfolio was invested \$1,309,469 (53%) in a Short-term investment fund and \$1,168,663 (47%) in a balanced fund (60% domestic stock fund, 40% bond fund).</p>
IV.	<p>Report on Reopen ECOB workgroup Paula</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Workgroup includes Nancy Hivner, Manny Williams, Pat Williams, Crystal Crater, Amy Zimmerman, Pastor Greg, and Carroll Kreider ● Review of guidelines for occupying the building under each phase of reopening (Yellow, Green) ● Reactions and Feedback to the recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consider other ways to assign a designated service time (alphabetical, rotation of service times, etc) ○ Discussion on the need for two services:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider a survey for the interest of attending - may only need one service ■ Don't want to run into the problem of having to turn people away if survey results indicate one service, but more demand shows up in person. Less risky to start with two services and then scale back to one if demand is not there for two services. ● Board is in agreement to adopt the Yellow Phase recommendations. Workgroup to review additional considerations for reopening under the Green Phase.
VI.	<p>Report on Church Council virtual meeting research / Church Constitution Joe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Council vote planned for June 28 on the ordination of Rose Baer and Naomi Kraenbring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Voting regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Under these special circumstances, we are able to hold a one-time special vote by electronic ballot. ■ The ballot will be emailed to the congregation following the June 28 service and will include additional information. Joe may ask Rose and Naomi to share a paragraph about their journey and their vocational plans. May consider also preparing a brief video that could be included in the live-stream worship service. ■ The drawback to an electronic vote is the lost opportunity for discussion as can be had at an in-person meeting; however, the Board does not foresee any dissent on this vote. ○ Ballot Details: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Voting options are yes or no. ■ A comment box will be included on the ballot. Members can share words of encouragement and well-wishes for Rose and Naomi this way.
VII.	<p>Building Committee update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Barry is meeting with the zoning hearing board this evening. ● The College Board met last week and voted unanimously to transfer a piece of the property near the Bowers Writers House and adjacent to the church for \$1. This offer demonstrates a continuation of the mutual goodwill relationship between our church and the college. This land would provide us with more green space and a third exit on to Cherry St.
VIII.	<p>Pastoral Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jason <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Positive responses to adult Sunday School and Thursday Bible Study meetings. ○ Wednesday night Zoom gathering and Virtual Coffee Hour on Sunday morning have served their purpose and have concluded. ○ High attendance (20+) in the Junior High zoom this past Sunday ○ Christian Ed is beginning to think about how to provide safe opportunities for kids on Sunday mornings when we reopen. ● Josh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Denominational updates: 2020 Annual Conference is canceled. Josh will serve as the music director along with Elizabeth at the 2021 Annual Conference. ○ Serving as an accompanist as well as compiling and arranging the electronic voices/videos for a Denomination-wide choir performance. ○ Serving as a resource for many other congregations looking for technical guidance on their worship experience. ○ Alex Mora will begin a 10-week music ministry internship beginning 6/29. ● Greg <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our congregation is attracting attention from the denomination; others are able to see who we really are and what our message is. This time could change our trajectory as a congregation; there is an opportunity to connect with people who are looking to follow Jesus in the way that we follow Jesus here. Let's not let this opportunity pass us by. ● Pam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planning a "meet the pastors" zoom event to meet our virtual congregation (à la Pizza with the Pastors).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The office staff is still working from home and will begin transitioning back to the office in July; anticipating a full return by August. ○ Breeze is fully implemented. ○ Safe Communities workshops have not been well attended. People might be “zoomed-out” and may also be competing with nicer weather. ○ Completed calls into all of the homes. If anyone knows of anyone that could use some help (financial or a contact), let the Pastors know. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider sharing during the offertory time that the deacon benevolence fund is available. George expressed that he is willing to do a video. ○ Completed some webinars on mental health. Sharing stories is beneficial; provided opportunities for folks to share over the past several weeks (Easter photos, newsletter photos, and stories).
IX.	Commission Reports
	<p>Christian Ed Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We need a replacement for nursery coordinator ● S.S. being offered virtually in various ways ● VBS - canceled - possible Camp Day is in the works with Camp Swatara
	<p>Expressions Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No report.
	<p>Nurture Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Nurture Commission is working on getting Faith Markers out to the senior high graduates. They will be delivering the gifts to the graduates and hopefully getting a photo or a video that the church can use to help celebrate their achievement. The other Faith Markers are on hold until we can be back together again. ● We have Naomi Kraenbring as our new Post High Coordinator! She is excited to work with those in our congregation between 18 and 25 years of age and hopes to involve more of the Elizabethtown College community. ● We are discussing some other ways that we can be “together” but socially distanced. Stay tuned.
	<p>Resources Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The new cleaning company began last week. ECCC is also coming in and doing additional cleaning to adhere to guidelines ● The Sanctuary roof is leaking. Getting the slate roof repaired. Plaster also needs to be repaired - anticipating completion of the repair work prior to the return of the congregation. ● Request to Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ECNS requested rent relief of \$1,960 for April and May. Not many resources were used during this time and the relief can be justified. By consensus, the Board accepts the recommendation to forgive the two months of rent. ○ ECCC has caught up on their rent and is paid in full (sent a letter expressing thanks for the extra time to pull things together).
	<p>Witness Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We completed our May Community Cupboard Month and had many people donate online, via the amazon wish list, or drop donations off. ● We launched our Walk To Nigeria Challenge which is designed to help unite the congregation towards a united cause. Currently ahead of pace by several hundred miles. ● The Witness Commission is also discussing how the church can address current events regarding Black Lives Matter. ● John Pavlovitz had been previously rescheduled for September. Considering current guidelines and unknown timing for the future, it seems wise to postpone until 2021. Witness will also ask John about the possibility of doing a virtual speaking session in September (or flexible date) which could serve as a teaser for the live event in the coming year.

	<p>Deacon's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Deacons and Lay Visitors continue with visitation via phone, text, email, and notes. At this time, I have a record of well over 300 contacts, even though I know there have been many more, as not all are continuing to let me know of their contacts. The responses I have received indicate sincere appreciation both on the part of the receiver and the giver. I have a feeling some real friendships are being established through this ministry. • George continues to respond to benevolence requests, both for financial and assistance with "jobs" needs.
X.	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 13 Board Meeting
XI.	<p>Closing Prayer (Pastor Greg) As people of faith, we fight for justice today, but we hope for tomorrow. A prayer from an African Prayer Book: <i>Come, Lord, and cover me with the night. Spread your grace over us as you assured us you would do. Your promises are more than all the stars in the sky; your mercy is deeper than the night. Lord, we wait for You day and night Amen</i></p>

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Cross (Clerk)
June 9, 2020