

Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren

Church Council Minutes

June 4, 2023, 11:45 AM in the sanctuary and via Zoom

I.	Welcome, Call to Order, and Prayer Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">Joe Detrick called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m. and offered a reflection on Acts 5: 1-11. Joe led the congregation in singing "Spirit of the Living God" and opened with a prayer.
II.	Overview and Acceptance of Agenda Moderator <p>Action: Barry Garman moved to accept the agenda. The motion was seconded by JulieAnn Keith. The agenda was accepted as presented.</p>
III.	Acceptance of Minutes Moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fall Council - November 20, 2022<ul style="list-style-type: none">Correction: Item V Comments & Discussion: Correct name from Ken Kraybill to Don KraybillSpecial Council - April 16, 2023 <p>Action: Ray Powell moved to accept the previous meeting minutes as ammended. The motion was seconded by Jim Hollinger. The minutes were accepted as ammended.</p>
IV.	Treasurer's Report (Exhibit A) Ken Shaffer <ul style="list-style-type: none">Summary Two-Year Comparative Balance Sheet - 10/31/2022Summary Comparative Income Statement with Current Year Budget For Ten Months Ending 10/31/2022Brethren Foundation Fund Analysis - 01/01/2022 to 10/31/2022Capital Campaign Report - Available Fund Analysis as of 10/31/2022 <p>Action A: John Over moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Craig Coble.</p> <p>Questions & Discussions on Action A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">John Over expressed appreciation for the new Cash Flow Statement report and encouraged the continued work on this report.Jim Hollinger asked if we have enough money to pay for the capital project?<ul style="list-style-type: none">Response: Yes, we do.Lowell West was curious about the amount distributed for the Ezra Bucher Fund in relation to scholarships.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Response: This fund is used to pay for concerts and other music programming. The Outreach & Ministry fund is used to fund scholarships. <p>Vote on Action A: The motion passed unanimously.</p>
V.	Endowment Fund Integrity Committee Kevin Engle <ul style="list-style-type: none">Question raised at May 2022 Council Meeting: How do we, as Anabaptists, Christians, followers of Christ handle our blessings (money)?Observation made at November 2022 Council Meeting: Shortfalls in our congregations' support in two areas: District giving and the Mission & Ministry Board. A motion was offered to amend the proposed 2023 budget, but the congregation was not prepared to vote on this matter without more information and understanding. A committee was formed to a conduct a deep-dive study on the matter and to report back to the congregation.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Committee members include Kevin Engle, Christina Bucher, Ray Leckrone, and Herb Hockley.The committee is approaching its task in a serious, thorough manner.Specific recommendations will be made as the committee feels confident that relevant issues have been examined.The congregation will be given a detailed rationale for any recommendations made.An opportunity for members to study congregational stewardship will be started this Fall.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Pastors have agreed to do a series of sermons on blessings and stewardship in late Summer.A six-series Adult Sunday School class has been planned for September 10 through October 15, with a variety of facilitators. A curriculum from Everence Financial, which focuses on the Gospel of Luke and is designed for discussion, has been chosen as the

	<p>curriculum. These Adult Sunday School sessions are designed to be a “no agenda” format. All that we ask is that attendees come with an open mind.</p> <p>Questions & Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don Kraybill expressed support for this way of handling this question • Questions from Jim Beckwith, Anna Belser, and Damon Fields about the details of the class: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Response: It will be scheduled in the Discovery class timeslot, will be accessible via Zoom, and the sessions will be recorded.
VI.	<p>Pastoral Team Reports (Exhibit B) Pastor</p> <p>Questions & Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Belser expressed gratitude for this pastoral team. She sees promise for the future and offers blessings.
VII.	<p>Reports from the Church Board (Exhibit C)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church Board Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Rachel Bucher Swank is pursuing ordination. The Board unanimously approved her for licensing in the district. Her ordination interview is scheduled. ◦ Refer to written report for the staffing update. • Christian Education Commission • Expressions Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Highlighted the re-formation of the commission and the work of Kim & Rachel. Thanks for all congregants participating in worship through readings, musical ensembles, etc. • Nurture Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Highlighted the small groups and the Trans Parent Support Group. • Resources Commission • Witness Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Highlighted the support of a refugee family from Haiti. • Deacons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Highlighted the formation of the ministry teams.
VIII.	<p>Building Committee and Improvement Plan Update Barry Garman</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of April 30, 2023, the contracted work is complete, with the exception of a few final punch-list items. • Change Orders are below budget. <p>Questions & Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Belser asked if there is a plan for a new fellowship hall? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Response: That would require a new action by council and a new capital campaign project.
IX.	<p>Affirmation of Reports</p> <p>Action B: Galen Kopp moved to receive and accept the reports of the Commissions, Committees, and Pastors. The motion was seconded by Damon Fields.</p> <p>Vote on Action B: The motion passed unanimously.</p>
X.	<p>Reflections Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behind all of the reports you heard today, ministry and mission is taking place and impacting our neighbors to the glory of God.
XI.	<p>Sending Prayer Pastor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastor Naomi closed the meeting in prayer. The meeting concluded at 12:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Cross, Clerk
June 4, 2023

Approx. 80 in attendance (total in person and online).