Please bring this Council Packet with you on June 23

Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren Church Council Meeting Agenda June 23, 2019 at 12 Noon

I.	Welcome/Opening Remarks Joe Detrick	N	Moderator
II.	Opening Prayer	P	Pastor Jason
III.	Overview and Approval of Agenda	N	Moderator
IV.	Acceptance of Minutes A. Fall Council – November 18, 2018	N	Moderator
V.	Treasurer's Report Frank Rhodes Action A: To Accept the Treasurer's Report		Exhibit A
VI.	 B. Expressions C. Nurture D. Resources E. Witness F. Deacon Representative G. Finance Committee 	Kathy Nornhold Karen Ungemach Beth DeGoede Dick Keesey Peg Over Vida Sue Snavely John Over Donna Hollinger & D	·
VII.	Board Report Nancy Hivner A. Overview of Church Board Activiti B. Building Project Update		Board Chair Exhibit C
VIII.	Pastoral Team Report	E	Exhibit D
IX.	Acceptance of Reports Action B: To Receive & Accept the Report Committees, Board Chair and Pa	ts of the Commission	Moderator as,
X.	Moments of Reflections and Questions	N	Moderator
XI.	Closing Prayer	P	Pastor Josh

Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren Fall Church Council Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.

l.	Welcome ■ Carroll Kreider, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. Moderator
II.	Opening Prayer • Pastor Josh opened with a prayer referencing God of Grace and God of Glory • Pastor Josh opened with a prayer referencing God of Grace and God of Glory
III.	Overview of Agenda • Agenda accepted as proposed. Moderator
IV.	Acceptance of Minutes Spring Council May 20, 2018 Special Council August 19, 2018 Special Council October 21, 2018 Motion to accept by Barry Garman. Seconded by Duane Hernley. Previous Council Meeting Minutes accepted as presented.
V.	Affirmation of Ministerial Licensing for: Rose Baer, Jason Haldeman, Naomi Kraenbring, and Josh Tindall Rose Baer - Expression of thanks for support. Two big events this year: graduation from Lancaster Theological Seminary and attending Annual Conference. Josh Tindall - Expression of gratitude. Next steps include an additional two courses for the ordination process. Action A: Reaffirm the licensing of Rose Baer, Jason Haldeman, Naomi Kraenbring, and Josh Tindall to the ministry in the Atlantic Northeast District of the Church of the Brethren. Motion to reaffirm the licensing by Ralph Detrick. Seconded by John David Bowman. Affirmed.
VI.	Treasurer's Report Summary Two-Year Comparative Balance Sheet - October 31, 2018 Comparative Income Statement with Current Year Budget - For Ten Months Ending October 31, 2018 Jim Hollinger - question of timing of the transfer from Facility Fund. This comes at the end of the year. Brethren Foundation Fund Analysis - 01/01/2018 to 09/30/2018 Distributions will come in December. Outreach & Ministry distributions are made from recommendations from the Witness Commission. GI Account Summary Report - January 1, 2018 thru October 31, 2018 Jim Beckwith - Re: the Building Investment Conduit, how have the building expenses been paid since the beginning balance was lower than the expenses? To date, they have been paid out of cash flow and the Board will determine where it will be assigned at the December meeting. Action B: Accept the Treasurer's Report Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by John Over Seconded by Barry Garman. Accepted as presented.
VII.	Pastoral Team Report ■ Highlights from the past year: □ Leaning into who we are and who we are called to be (Ephesians 4) and it is exciting to be pastors to this congregation ■ The response letter to the District Board ■ The capital campaign ■ The vote to affirm our relationships with ECNS and ECCC ■ Pastor Josh □ Thanks expressed for coverage during sabbath rest to Pastors Greg and Pam, Kirk Kreider, Pat Dennehy, Elizabeth Tindall ■ Questions

Jim Hollinger - What is the status of the birthday card for Chiques COB? It is still in Pam's hands. Leadership at Chiques has expressed that it may not be well received. John David Bowman - When is the next Jazz Service? Thank you for making it possible. ■ Looking to do this again next year. It was well received. **Reports of Church Board** VIII. Exhibit D **Christian Education Commission Expressions Commission** Pat Dennehy Main focus has been on the technical enhancements to worship. Wireless microphones need to be replaced due to frequencies with the cellular networks (Thank you FCC). ■ Live streaming is being fine tuned. **Nurture Commission** Resources Commission Witness Commission Deacons **Board Chair** Interactive opportunity will be available in the Narthex to engage in idea generation for how we can engage in new ministry opportunities with new building spaces. Campaign kickoff will be in January 2019. Sketches are on break Recognition for commission members for their work. Special thank you for Pat Dennehy and Carroll Kreider for their service and acknowledgement for their terms coming to an IX. **Affirmation of Reports** Action C: Receive and accept the reports of the Commissions, Committees, and Pastors Motion to accept by Anna Belser. Seconded by John Over. Reports accepted as presented. Χ. Gifts Discernment Committee - 2019 Church Leadership Slate Exhibit E • Action D: Accept the Slate for 2019 Church Leadership Group Members Question from John David Bowman on the open slot on the Expressions Commission. Motion to approve the leadership slate by Anne Garber. Seconded by Jim Hollinger. Slate approved as presented. XI. **Proposed Budget for 2019 Exhibit F** Action E: Accept the Proposed Budget for 2019 Questions Jim Beckwith - Can you address the decrease in the Ministry Action Plan? Some of that decrease is due to the O'Donnell estate gift. John David Bowman - Are we staying on scale for pastoral compensation? Our pastors do not perform at the minimum, and so our increase is above the minimum recommendation Ralph Detrick - Witness to increase COBYS contribution by 150%? Witness looked to make our distributions more equitable to the organizations we support to 2.500 for the mid-sized organizations Jim Hollinger - Is the reduction in administrative salary due to a reduction in hours? Yes, we were in a time of transition last year which resulted in additional hours last vear. Anna Belser - What is UCEA under Witness? United Churches of Elizabethtown Area. Judith Gibble and Beth DeGoede represent us on that Board. Ken Kreider - Line item to rent trailer for additional classroom space when we have empty classrooms on the second floor We have had difficulty in transitioning child care classrooms for adult sunday school space Carolyn Beckwith - Is BVS represented in the Budget?

	Our contribution to BVS is assumed to be included Mission and Ministry Board at the Denomination Motion to accept the budget by Nancy Hivner. Budget accepted as pro-	ional Level.
XII.	Clarification	null and void."
XIII.	Reflections and Questions No other questions.	Moderator
XIX.	Closing Prayer Closed by singing Blessed be the Tie that Binds Meeting concluded at 1:43 p.m.	Pastor Josh

Respectfully submitted, Alyssa Cross, Church Clerk November 18, 2018

Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren SUMMARY Two-Year Comparative Balance Sheet December 31, 2018

ASSETS	This Year	Last Year
*Cash *Advances/Prepaids/Receivables *Property & Equipment	167,258.02 4,409.55 1,113,983.89	210,020.80 3,866.33 1,073,991.73
Investments at "Cost" - see Note below *K E Bucher Music Fund *Christian Education Fund *Facilities Fund *Outreach & Ministry Fund *Annuity Fund *M.O'Donnell Music Fund *Memorial Fund *Pastoral Housing *Organ Fund	47,132.84 12,930.89 315,860.92 356,574.79 0.00 402,292.44 4,219.10 84,597.79 10,004.11	46,941.24 12,717.06 291,574.23 361,286.84 0.00 413,751.55 4,098.71 89,378.91 9,764.20
Total Assets	2,519,264.34	2,517,391.60
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL		
Liabilities Accounts Payable Reserve - Sabbaticals Budget Surplus Carryover *Payroll Withholdings/Deductio *Conduits *Endowment Funds Income on Han *Lilly Grant *Notes Payable - Individuals *Notes Payable - Other	51,983.73 0.00 5,309.76 (2,659.32) (3,232.89) 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	23,629.26 1,213.05 0.00 0.00 71,093.84 0.00 0.00 0.00
Total Liabilities	51,401.28	95,936.15
Capital *Other Funds Accumulated Surplus Current Year Net	2,353,778.17 114,084.89 0.00	2,307,370.56 114,084.89 0.00
Total Capital	2,467,863.06	2,421,455.45
Total Liabilities & Capital	2,519,264.34	2,517,391.60

Note: Investments in Brethren Foundation Inc Funds are carried on the balance sheet at cost, which includes amounts paid into the funds to purchase shares, plus interest and dividend income earned, less fees paid and amounts of any withdrawals. Market appreciation or declines are not reflected in the balances recorded in the general ledger.

Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren

Comparative Income Statement with Current Year Budget For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2018

	Budget This Yr	YTD - Budget	YTD - Actual	YTD - Last Year
Budgeted Revenues		•		
Offerings; Finance Com. Recom	727,760.00	727,760.00	775,177.68	686,913.11
Offerings Congregational Chall	3,988.00	3,988.00	0.00	0.00
Rents	47,600.00	47,600.00	52,187.00	40,194.47
Interest Income	0.00	0.00	192.91	121.46
Transfer from Housing Fund	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.04	8,000.04
Transfer from Facility Fund	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00
Discounts/Misc	0.00	0.00	1,054.71	4.17
Total Budgeted Revenues	807,348.00	807,348.00	836,612.34	755,233.25
Budgeted Disbursements				
Ministry Salaries & Benefits	517,271.00	517,271.00	494,515.75	484,154.79
Administration	27,900.00	27,900.00	29,667.79	29,668.24
Expressions	11,002.00	11,002.00	14,182.00 🛠	5,655.05
Nurture	17,150.00	17,150.00	13,176.19	11,902.11
Christian Education	6,000.00	6,000.00	4,637.71	5,270.69
Witness/Outreach	75,000.00	75,000.00	94,342.88	68,891.98
Resources	142,925.00	142,925.00	182,874.79 *	146,849.45
Deacon Board	3,100.00	3,100.00	2,346.93	364.15
MAP	7,000.00	7,000.00	868.30	2,476.79
Total Budgeted Disbursements	807,348.00	807,348.00	836,612.34	755,233.25
Net Budgeted Items	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

* 2018 Budget Surplus Alla cation:

26,548.78 Resources - to cover building project expenses

15,929.27 Witness - to Community Place in Elizabethtown

5,309.75 Witness - to COB in California Impacted by

5,309.76 Expressions - to cover anticipated Sound purchases

53,097.56 Total Surplus

53,097.56 Total Surplus

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BRETHREN FOUNDATION FUND ANALYSIS

1/1/2018 TO 12/31/18

FUND	12/31/2017 BEGINNING MARKET VALUE	2018 INTEREST & DIVIDEND INCOME	2018 ADMIN. FEES	ADDITIONS TO FUND	DISTRIBUTIONS FROM FUND	MARKET VALUE INCREASE (DECREASE)	12/31/2018 ENDING MARKET VALUE	12/31/2018 COST PER INVESTMENTS GENERAL LED.	12/31/2018 Market OVER (UNDER) COST
K. E. Bucher Music Fund	82,679.88	1,719.12	(458.75)		(1,068.77)	(7,048.89)	75,822.59	47,132.84	28,689.75
Christian Education Fund	37,687.47	782.89	(209.11)		(359.95)	(3,212.20)	34,689.10	12,930.89	21,758.21
Facilities Fund - Bal. Facilities Fund - Bonds.	576,906.33 205,679.91	12,168.93 6,365.27	(3,241.93)	10,107.17		(49,983.03) (8,185.75)	545,957.46 202,746.69	116,730.39 199,127.44	429,227.07 3,619.25
	782,586.24	18,534.20	(4,354.67)	10,107.17	0.00	(58,168.78)	748,704.15	315,857.83	432,846.32
Outreach & Ministry Fund - Bonds Outreach & Ministry Fund - Bal.	205,679.91 482,906.05	6,365.27 10,193.33	(1,112.74) (2,722.08)	10,107.17	(27,543.00)	(8,185.76) (41,980.31)	202,746.68 430,961.16	199,127.44 157,447.35	3,619.24 273,513.81
	688,585.96	16,558.60	(3,834.82)	10,107.17	(27,543.00)	(50,166.07)	633,707.84	356,574.79	277,133.05
Annuity Fund									
Plant Fund - Pastor Housing	211,332.41	4,393.19	(1,174.31)		(8,000.00)	(18,021.35)	188,529.94	84,597.79	103,932.15
Organ Fund	15,794.89	327.51	(87.60)			(1,345.49)	14,689.31	10,004.11	4,685.20
O'Donnell Music Ministry	462,680.55	9,618.28	(2,570.39)		(18,507.00)	(39,457.32)	411,764.12	402,292.44	9,471.68
Memorial Funds	8,095.82	167.55	(47.16)			(687.88)	7,528.33	4,219.10	3,309.23
TOTAL ALL BF FUNDS	2,289,443.22	52,101.34	(12,736.81)	20,214.34	(55,478.72)	(178,107.98)	2,115,435.38	1,233,609.79	881,825.59

2018 Investment Return: -6.0%

Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren SUMMARY Two-Year Comparative Balance Sheet May 31, 2019

ASSETS	This Year	Last Year
*Cash *Advances/Prepaids/Receivables *Property & Equipment	372,428.64 7,912.52 1,113,983.89	161,237.10 8,011.12 1,073,991.73
Investments at "Cost" - see Note below *K E Bucher Music Fund *Christian Education Fund *Facilities Fund *Outreach & Ministry Fund *Annuity Fund *M.O'Donnell Music Fund *Memorial Fund *Pastoral Housing *Organ Fund Total Investments	47,533.97 13,114.20 320,541.50 360,639.03 0.00 404,467.70 4,258.71 85,593.95 10,081.58	47,227.31 12,847.30 304,906.00 374,291.41 0.00 415,350.83 4,124.11 90,108.97 9,818.61
Total Assets	2,740,555.69	2,501,914.49
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL		
Liabilities Accounts Payable Reserve - Sabbaticals Budget Surplus Carryover *Payroll Withholdings/Deductio *Conduits *Endowment Funds Income on Han *Lilly Grant *Notes Payable - Individuals *Notes Payable - Other	14,264.43 0.00 5,309.76 (46.57) 258,712.89 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00	35,660.08 1,213.05 0.00 889.74 (3,964.93) 0.00 0.00 0.00
Total Liabilities	278,240.51	33,797.94
Capital *Other Funds Accumulated Surplus Current Year Net Total Capital	2,353,778.17 114,084.89 (5,547.88) 2,462,315.18	2,307,370.56 114,084.89 46,661.10 2,468,116.55
Total Liabilities & Capital	2,740,555.69	2,501,914.49

Note: Investments in Brethren Foundation Inc Funds are carried on the balance sheet at cost, which includes amounts paid into the funds to purchase shares, plus interest and dividend income earned, less fees paid and amounts of any withdrawals. Market appreciation or declines are not reflected in the balances recorded in the general ledger.

Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren

Comparative Income Statement with Current Year Budget For the Five Months Ending May 31, 2019

	Budget This Yr	YTD - Budget	YTD - Actual	YTD - Last Year
Budgeted Revenues				
Offerings; Finance Com. Recom	778,125.00	324,218.75	338,311.00	314,222.17
Rents	57,000.00	23,750.04	22,580.00	20,880.00
Interest Income	0.00	0.00	398.18	114.99
Transfer from Housing Fund	8,000.00	3,333.35	3,333.35	3,333.35
Transfer from Facility Fund	20,000.00	8,333.35	0.00	0.00
Discounts/Misc	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.77
Total Budgeted Revenues	863,125.00	359,635.49	364,622.53	338,553.28
Budgeted Disbursements				
Ministry Salaries & Benefits	519,526.00	216,469.15	212,014.38	208,874.04
Administration	31,400.00	13,083.30	11,724.88	10,375.07
Expressions	11,002.00	4,584.15	4,513.32	4,478.09
Nurture	17,000.00	7,083.35	2,022.98	1,908.43
Christian Education	6,300.00	2,625.00	1,824.69	1,499.76
Witness/Outreach	86,250.00	35,937.30	37,321.92	33,263.03
Resources	185,647.00	77,352.95	96,581.87	54,957.64
Deacon Board	3,300.00	1,375.00	354.92	869.50
MAP	2,700.00	1,125.05	0.00	0.00
Total Budgeted Disbursements	863,125.00	359,635.25	366,358.96	316,225.56
Net Budgeted Items	0.00	0.24	(1,736.43)	22,327.72

Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren 777 South Mt Joy St.
Elizabethtown, PA 17022 5/1/2019 - 5/31/2019 (1) (2) (3)

(9) Ending

(6) (7) (8) Admin Interest & Market Value

(5) Adjusted

(4)

		Balance	Contributions Distribution Transfers	tribution Tr	ansfers	Balance	Fees D	Dividends	Fluctuation	Balance
Christian Education Program										
Balanced		39,440.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	39,440.73	0.00	108.91	-1,334.81	38,214.83
	Christian Education Program Totals:	39,440.73	00.00	0.00	00.0	39,440.73	0.00	108.91	-1,334.81	38,214.83
Ezra Bucher Scholarship										
Balanced		86,208.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	86,208.36	0.00	238.19	-2,917.73	83,528.82
	Ezra Bucher Scholarship Totals:	86,208.36	00.00	00.0	00.0	86,208.36	0.00	238.19	-2,917.73	83,528.82
Facility Fund										
Balanced		620,742.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	620,742.45	0.00	1,715.50	-21,009.48	601,448.47
Bond		210,953.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	210,953.44	0.00	867.97	3,578.73	215,400.14
	Facility Fund Totals:	831,695.89	00.00	0.00	00.0	831,695.89	0.00	2,583.47	-17,430.75	816,848.61
M O'Donnell Music Ministries Fund										
Balanced		468,161.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	468,161.66	0.00	1,293.82	-15,845.28	453,610.20
M	M O'Donnell Music Ministries Fund Totals:	468,161.66	00.00	0.00	0.00	468,161.66	0.00	1,293.82	-15,845.28	453,610.20
Memorial Fund										
Balanced		8,559.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,559.62	0.00	23.60	-289.65	8,293.57
	Memorial Fund Totals:	8,559.62	00.00	0.00	0.00	8,559.62	0.00	23.60	-289.65	8,293.57
Organ Improvement										
Balanced		16,701.51	00.00	0.00	0.00	16,701.51	0.00	46.08	-565.21	16,182.38
	Organ Improvement Totals:	16,701.51	00.0	0.00	0.00	16,701.51	0.00	46.08	-565.21	16,182.38
Outreach & Ministry Education										
Balanced		489,985.43	00.00	0.00	0.00	489,985.43	0.00	1,354.13	-16,583.91	474,755.65
Bond		210,953.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	210,953.44	0.00	867.97	3,578.72	215,400.13
	Outreach & Ministry Education Totals:	700,938.87	00.00	0.00	0.00	700,938.87	0.00	2,222.10	-13,005.19	690,155.78
Pastor Housing										
Balanced		214,352.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	214,352.29	0.00	592.38	-7,254.91	207,689.76
Pastor Housing Totals:		214,352.29	0.00	0.00	0.00	214,352.29	0.00	592.38	-7,254.91	207,689.76

0.00 0.00 2,366,058.93 0.00 7,108.55 -58,643.53 2,314,523.95

00.00

Elizabethtown Church of the Brethren Totals: 2,366,058.93

Reports of Commissions & Committees

Christian Education Commission Report

NURSERY

The nursery continues to provide care for multiple new babies during the Sunday School and Worship hour.

SHINE

The Shine class has experienced a healthy increase in numbers over the past year. It was decided to add a second class and Karin Laszakovits has worked hard to recruit many new teachers and helpers, essentially doubling the SHINE program.

BLAZE

The Blaze class continues to meet the needs of our children in grades K-5 and has seen some growth over the past year in the K-2 group. Increased understanding and flexibility has resulted in Blaze not being "displaced" from the Fellowship Hall as often this year.

VBS

Pastor Jason is working on the VBS curriculum for this year called "Who is my Neighbor." We are looking to recruit new and returning volunteers to help with VBS which will be held August 13-16.

JR./SR. HIGH

The Junior High Youth have enjoyed meeting in their new space, the portable classroom. Both our Junior and Senior High youth have been blessed with outstanding Sunday school teachers

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Adult Sunday school classes continue to provide opportunities for bible study, class discussions and excellent outside speakers. The addition of the portable classroom has provided extra space and opportunities for new and existing classes. The New Discoveries class has moved into a larger room (Rm 102) and the 20's/30's class now has a permanent space to call their own (Rm 101). The 20's/30's class began about one year ago and has shown some steady growth from new families that have started to attend Etown CoB. This group has also arranged a number of events to gather socially outside of church.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's church has continued to meet about once a month over the past year. Due to its popularity and requests from parents, we will be doubling the number of Children's church opportunities to twice a month. The portable classroom will be utilized during worship for Children's church.

Expressions Commission Report

We have enjoyed the special services that we have had so far this year. Music Sunday was celebrated on May 5, where we were reminded of all the ways music can contribute to our spiritual lives and listened to performances from all of the musical groups that contribute year round to our services. Over 50 people shared their vocal and instrumental gifts in this service!

Over a dozen youth participated in Youth Sunday on May 19. We heard from 5 of our high school seniors who shared about how this congregation has contributed to them and helped to shape their faith.

We have hosted two concerts. One on Mother's Day with Amy Yovanovich, and then the youth choir from Grove City United Methodist on June 15.

We continue to work on improving our use of technology in our services. We made some technology updates, primarily in the sound systems enabling us to provide better quality to the sound in the live stream of our services.

We are also working on replacing the microphone components that are required to comply with government regulations that take effect this summer.

We are pleased with the number of people we have participating in our musical programs, assisted by an increase in people working with technology to support them.

Looking to the future, we are planning on organizing another Jazz service in the fall!

Respectfully submitted, Karen Ungemach Chair of Expressions Commission

Nurture Commission Report

- In December, the Nurture Commission hosted the **Chili Supper and Caroling** along with the Junior High Youth. We caroled to approximately 30 very appreciative individuals from our church.
- During the Lent season, we had Taize-style Lenten Services at church on Sunday evenings. These were meaningful times of reflection for the approximately 30 individuals who attended.
- An Easter Egg Hunt was held after church on Easter Sunday.

(continued next page)

Nurture Commission Report (con't)

- On Youth Sunday, May 19, we recognized the senior high graduates Astrid Amaya, Lila Becker, Miles Book, Rebecca Epps, Hannah Kraenbring, and Adrienne Nolt with a pizza lunch and roast.
- Camp Swatara Weekend is June 14-16. Our church will lead the worship service at camp on Sunday morning, June 16.
- A **Date Night** is planned for Friday, June 21. For families with children age 6 weeks 6th grade, this is a night for parents to go out and have their children nurtured by church attenders with child protection clearances.
- The All-Church Picnic is planned for August 25.
- **Small groups** are being planned for later this year. As the church continues to grow, it is important for us to make connections. Watch for details coming this fall.

Resources Commission Report

In March of this year we changed cleaning services and are now using Premier One. We continue to work with them to resolve problems as they arise. We have also implemented a new Facilities Manager job description which addresses some areas of cleaning and maintenance that had been ignored.

Exterior building and parking lot lighting is now LED. This will result in substantial energy saving and has improved the light available in the parking lot at night. Substantially all interior lighting is now LED.

We plan to have the dishwasher replaced by mid-July.

We are working with our Safety/Security Team to develop plans to enhance the safety and security of all who use our building.

Installation of the classroom trailer is complete and occupied by the Junior High.

Portions of the sidewalk and curbing will be replaced this summer as required by the borough prior to repaving Mount Joy Street.

Thank you to all of you that provide the time energy and financial resources that make our facilities an enabling place for carrying out our ministries, particularly all who contributed the time and energy to make the trailer access and porch an inviting place.

Witness Commission Report

- Community Cupboard (food bank) collection was the month of May. Thanks to all for supporting our local Community Cupboard which is now located at Community Place on Washington (CPOW).
- 2. CROP table is up and running from May through mid-October. Be sure to stop by each Sunday and check out what's available.
- 3. SERRV workday in New Windsor was March 19th and our next workday is scheduled for September 24th.
- 4. Periodically, Witness Action Alerts are sent out via email by Pastor Greg or the church office. If you would like to be added to this email list, contact the church office.
- 5. We are gradually working on increasing our social media presence. Etown COB now has an Instagram account in addition to our Facebook page. You may see Amy Karr or someone else taking pictures/videos for Instagram with their cellphone during worship.
- 6. We met and exceeded the Annville COB 250 Bucket Challenge. With thanks to our very generous congregation, our final total of 278 emergency disaster buckets were delivered to church world service. An additional \$840 was sent to CWS to cover processing/shipping as requested. We had a fabulous response by the congregation of filled buckets, individual items, monetary donations, time, help and muscle. Working together we do great things to help others! We passed the challenge on to LaVerne COB, Manchester COB, Chiques COB and Middlecreek COB.

O&M Report

End of 2018:

\$3500 - Brethren Disaster Services in Nigeria

\$3500 – Brethren Disaster Services in Puerto Rico

\$2000 - Josiah Ludwick with COB in Rwanda

\$2000 – Sharon Flaten with Bethany Theological Seminary in Nigeria

\$1000 - Samara Capital Campaign

\$1000 - Mara Longenecker in Ecuador

\$5000 – internal transfer to CWS bucket conduit for 2019 bucket challenge

Pastor Greg's continuing Education coursework at eCornell

2019 to date:

Pastor Jason's Seminary expenses CPOW pledged amount of \$500 per month

-Peg Over, Chairperson of Witness Commission
Amy Karr, Peggy McFarland, Jordan Eberhart, Mandy Hileman

Deacons Report

The deacons continue to support the congregation in an on-going ministry:

Weekly greeting at the doors on Sunday morning and visiting in the hospitals, retirement homes, and community; setting up a special more-frequent visitation schedule for those who request this need; responding to benevolence requests; providing transportation when needed by members; supporting / assisting the pastors in their ministry by request.

Since reporting at the November 18, 2018 Council Meeting, specific involvement includes:

Prepared and served a meal following the funeral/memorial services for the following: Fred Olweiler, Rudy Erb, John Koontz

January 4 - Baked communion bread

January 6 – Prepared and served bread & cup communion during Sunday morning worship

January 6 – Held our semi-annual meeting with the following action:

Recognized the retirement of Judith and Jay Gibble as deacons, appreciating their years of dedicated service

Craig Coble reported he had applied for and received a \$1,000 grant from Everance to supplement our Benevolence Fund. Because of the many disasters both in the states and around the world, the decision was made to send our yearly budgeted amount of \$2,000 to the Brethren Disaster Fund as an act of benevolence.

Accepted reports of various deacon committees

Reorganized into new deacon groups for 2019 and volunteered for the many deacon responsibilities for the new year

February 3 – Assisted the pastors with baptism in the morning worship service

April 16 – Baked communion bread

April 18 – Prepared for and served 92 at the Spring Love Feast

May 23 – Baked communion bread

May 26 – Prepared and served bread & cup communion during Sunday morning worship

The deacons extend our appreciation to all who continue to assist with the duties of the deacons, especially the preparation for and cleanup of funeral meals.

Respectfully submitted, Vida Snavely

Board Retreat Activity

Exhibit C

Start

- 18 New Channels to Reach the Public
- 16 Small Groups for Sharing
- 13 Parent Date Night
- 11 Strategy for Environmental Responsibility
- 10 Enhanced Building Security
- 9 Times for Connection (Sip n Chat)
- 7 Extreme Long Range Plans
- 3 Safe Space for Common Problem Disc.
- 2 Ministry to Neighbors & College Students
- 0 Weekday Children's Programs

Expand

- 29 Children/Youth Programs-Parent Involvement
- Worship Evolution-All ages/Female Ushers
- 19 Welcoming Activities-Journey Mapping/Mechanics
- 11 Intergeneration Activities
- 6 Music-Recruit, Foster Leadership
- 1 Faith In Action-PR team

Stop

- 21 Commitments to Past Practices: Administrative Structure/Program Staff
- 16 Allocating Time to Denomination
- 14 Resisting the Idea of Multiple Worship Services
- 14 Being Comfortable
- 7 Traditional Worship Style (Hymns)
- 6 Mailbox Paper

June 2019

We thank our God every time we remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of our prayers for all of you... Philippians 1.3-4

Board initiative to continue to innovate, visit other congregations

Worshiping together at Etown CoB brings us together as community. As a worship planning team, we strive to model peace, service and openness all throughout our time of worship together; from practicing inclusivity in sermons and worship leading to experiencing a wide variety of musical styles and volunteer involvement.

In December 2018 the church board encouraged us as a worship team to continue to develop worship in new and inspiring directions, include more modern styles of congregational singing as well as fostering variety, surprise and increased engagement for all age groups.

Since the beginning of the year, we as a worship planning team began a time of concerted focus on worship and worship planning. Our purpose for this time is to explore ways of "doing" worship in order to generate new and creative worship experiences at Etown CoB that are meaningful, relevant, inspiring and exciting, for established attendees and newcomers alike, while still being true to the unique spirit and theology of Etown CoB. We are also working on continual improvements to our online worship ministry, which is an important part of our ministry together.

During this time the pastors have attended conferences on worship and preaching, engaged in additional brainstorming sessions, and visited other congregations' worship services. We will continue our visits through August when we will meet for our annual worship planning retreat. We look forward to continuing meaningful worship experiences together!

Growth in 20s/30s class and younger families momentum

It has been very exciting to see growth with young adults and young families over the past year. We have been actively working to meet the needs of these individuals and families with additional Sunday school classes and activities. Having a permanent meeting space for our 20s / 30s Sunday school class has been made possible with the addition of the portable classroom. We have also added a second SHINE class to accommodate increased attendance of 2-5yr olds. In addition to Sunday school programs, we have started regular "Family Dinner" gatherings and young adult activities. This positive growth has only been made possible by the additional support of volunteer teachers and helpers in our SHINE classes and the creation of additional space with the portable classroom.

Small Groups

As our church has continued to grow and change with new individuals, the pastors have heard a call for additional opportunities for connections and relationship building. In an effort to meet the spiritual needs of our congregation and to create more depth in our relationships with one another, we will be exploring opportunities for creating small groups. An exploratory and planning team has been created to discuss and evaluate potential models and structures for implementing a small group program.

Building for the Future, Beyond These Walls

This is a remarkable time in the life of our congregation. We are experiencing growth in new members and attendees (notably in our Nursery, Pre-K and 20/30s classes), an increase in offerings (see the Treasurer's Report), Witness activities and programming! It is the right time for a building campaign to prepare for our future.

The pastoral team is encouraged and heartened by the generosity and maturity we have witnessed throughout this process. Some have reservations about building and spending money to build. Some are enthusiastic about the

improvement and expansion of ministry that improved and expanded facilities will allow. Many share a mixture of both feelings!

As pastors we encourage the congregation to continue to listen to one another, share honest thoughts and feelings, tending our relationships as Sisters and Brothers in Christ, while at the same time keeping our eyes on the horizon looking for what God will do with us next.

Update on Denomination and District

The larger church continues to be divided over issues of human sexuality. At the heart of the division is a difference in understanding of biblical authority (see

http://www.brethren.org/ac/statements/1979biblicalinspirationauthority.html) as well as the authority of Annual Conference. It is becoming increasingly clear that we are unable to live together with our differences.

- On May 23, denominational and district leadership met with all credentialed district leadership and
 congregational leaders. There was a call to find a "way forward" that would provide for some kind of
 peaceful separation. The district board has been tasked with calling a working group to explore avenues.
- The District Ministry Commission <u>unanimously</u> returned to the district board the recommendation of Naomi Kraenbring to ordained ministry. That vote, scheduled for the June 20 board meeting, will be known before this Council meeting.
- Given the current milieu, we have heard concern that the district might take a congregation's property as a punitive measure. While the ownership of property lies with the district, currently there is no polity that provides for such actions.

Because of our involvement at many levels, we have had a voice "at the table" in district and denominational processing and decision-making (albeit a minority voice). We believe that our involvement in the larger church has been time well spent. And in the midst of the divisiveness and contention of the larger church, we reflect on the blessing that Etown CoB is in a really good space. While we are growing in healthy and life-giving ways, we continue to live into our commitment to practice peace, service and openness to all.

Individual Reporting

Josh

- Recently completed the Brethren Polity & Practice course through the Susquehanna Valley Ministry Center.
- Continuing to update audio visual equipment.

Greg

- Completed Cornell University Executive Leadership Certificate Program (September 2018--May 2019)
- Continuing Education days used in early June to attend New Community Project Learning Tour to Amazon Rainforest, Ecuador.
- Service to Community: Serve on New Community Project Board, lead training for Brethren Volunteer Service Orientations, represent religious community at local Church World Service and other peace and justice events.

Jason

- Officially graduated this Spring from Bethany Theological Seminary with a Certificate of Achievement in Theological Studies (CATS) and will continue on to pursue a Masters of Divinity degree.
- Directing Youth Resident Camp at Camp Swatara this Summer
- Serve on the ANE District Gifts Discernment Team and the Elizabethtown College Peace Fellowship.

Pam

- Serve as vice-chair of Atlantic Northeast District Board
- Beginning term on Elizabethtown College Board of Trustees
- Serve on Advisory Committee for Safe Communities (encompassing both Safe Church/Safe Places)
- Serve as mentor to district licensed minister

Addendum to Spring Council Packet for June 23, 2019 meeting

Lynne Hockley is nominated to serve as **District Conference delegate** for the Fall 2019 ANE District Conference meeting, in place of Judith Gibble who cannot attend this fall. Lynne will join Rose Baer and Gene & Barbara Ellis.

Lynne Hockley Bio

I have been a life-long member of this church and am excited about who we are and the direction we're going. I co-teach our Sr. High Youth Sunday school class and the Pre-school class and am on the Ministry Calling Committee. I recently resigned from Samara after 10+ years of leading a parenting program in inner city Harrisburg. I have a BA in Art from Bridgewater College and enjoy drawing and painting and going on long walks and hikes. I am a mother of three adult children and a wife to Herb. I feel honored to represent our congregation at District Conference. Thanks for the opportunity!