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3 **Bethel College Mennonite Church Board Minutes**

4 ***Pending approval at May 2022 Board Meeting***

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6 *Our faith in a God of love leads us, by the power of the Spirit, to follow*

7 *Jesus in doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with God.*

8 **Board Members Present:** Elizabeth Schmidt (moderator), Ada Schmidt-Tieszen (moderator

9 elect), Glen Ediger, Judy Friesen, John Kliewer, Cynthia Linscheid, Lois Preheim, Adam Robb,

10 Dale Schrag, Bill Swartley, Margaret Toews

11 **Board Members not present:**

12 **Staff Present:** Mike Claassen (Finance Manager), Nathan Koontz (pastor), Renee Reimer

13 (pastor), Todd Schlosser (Interim Pastor)

14 **Staff not present:**

15 **Others attending:**

- 16 1. **Welcome and Centering Prayer** – Moderator Elizabeth Schmidt opened the meeting with a
- 17 time of silence followed by all reading a short meditation together.
- 18
- 19 2. **Consensus Approval - Consent Agenda** – Online minutes of commissions and committees,
- 20 and pastors' reports were approved by consensus. The March 3 board meeting minutes
- 21 were corrected as follows: Item 5, the last sentence was changed to read "The statement
- 22 received consensus approval from the board to share with the congregation in the next
- 23 Kaleidoscope newsletter."
- 24
- 25 3. **Action - Financial Report** - February 2022 - Michael Claassen, Finance Manager, reported a
- 26 change to Comparative Financial Report note #3. Contributions received in 2021 that were
- 27 intended for 2022 were not accounted for which reduces the once-a-year intents not yet
- 28 received from \$124,100 to \$99,900 and the amount allocated to the first quarter of 2022
- 29 from \$31,025 to \$24,975. If they had already been received, the budget shortfall at the end
- 30 of March would be \$9,569.68 rather than \$34,544.68. Adam Robb moved to accept the
- 31 Financial Report as amended and John Kliewer seconded. The report was accepted by the
- 32 board. Discussion also included whether to return to offering during Sunday morning
- 33 services and the problem of getting enough ushers to have the offering.
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37 4. **Action - Resolution for Jackson Annuities - Andreas Estate:** The board approved the following
38 resolution concerning Jackson National Life Insurance Company annuities:

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40 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of Bethel College Mennonite Church has deemed it to be
41 advisable and in the best interests of Bethel College Mennonite Church to resolve and settle all
42 disputes and claims relating to those certain annuities at Jackson National Life Insurance Company,
43 Policy Numbers [policy number withheld for security reasons] and [policy number withheld for security
44 reasons] (the "Annuities"); **WHEREAS**, Bethel College Mennonite Church has approved a certain
45 settlement and compromise by and among Bethel College, Kauffman Museum, Bethel College
46 Mennonite Church, Anabaptist World, Mennonite Central Committee, Carriage Factory Art Gallery,
47 Joel D. Andreas, Ronald W. Andreas, Peter Andreas, and The Mennonite Foundation, Inc., which was
48 reached by the parties following mediation on December 4, 2021; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**
49 **RESOLVED**, that Elizabeth Schmidt, Moderator through May 2022, or Ada Schmidt-Tieszen,
50 Moderator, June 2022 onward, is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of Bethel College
51 Mennonite Church, to prepare, execute, and deliver any and all instruments and documents relating to
52 the Annuities, and to do any and all such further acts and things as in her judgment are necessary or
53 appropriate to carry out the purposes and intent of the foregoing resolution, and that the Directors
54 hereby ratify any and all actions heretofore taken by such authorized person, any other officer, or
55 any Director consistent with the foregoing. The foregoing resolutions were adopted at the April 7, 2022
56 meeting of the Bethel College Mennonite Church Board of Directors.

Certified by: Margaret C Toews
Margaret C Toews, Secretary

DATED: 4-7-2022

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59 Dale Schrag moved to accept this motion; Judy Friesen seconded. The motion passed.

60 5. **Appointments for Board-Appointed Committees -**

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- 62 **Auditing** - Judy Friesen will contact potential members
- 63 **Archive** - Cynthia Linscheid will contact potential members
- 64 **BC Relations** - Cynthia Linscheid will contact potential members
- 65 **Education & Service Scholarship** - John Kliewer will contact potential members
- 66 **Finance** - Judy Friesen will contact potential members
- 67 **Facilities** - Lois Preheim will contact potential members
- 68 **Gifts Discernment** - Dale will contact potential members
- 69 **Staff Congregation Relations** - Adam will contact potential members
- 70 **Assistant Treasurer** - Adam will contact potential members
- 71 **Abuse Prevention & Response** - need board member to agree
- 72 **Peace Garden Care** - no new members needed yet - new committee

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GIFTS DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE RESULTS for 2022-2023 YEAR

Moderator Elect

Brad Kohlman

Church Board

Continuing Members:

Judy Friesen (2024)
John Kliewer (2024)
Lois Preheim (2023)
Adam Robb (2023)
Bill Swartley (2023)

New Members:

Mary Ann Boschmann
Tim Hodge
Karen Penner
Jonathan Zerger

Deacon Commission

Continuing Members:

Karen Ediger (2023)
Carolyn Penner (2023)
Hank Prouty (2024)
Wes Schmidt-Tieszen (2024)

New Members:

Hugo Boschmann
Elizabeth Schmidt

Faith Formation Commission

Continuing Members:

Deborah Gering (2024)
Mary Ellen Hodge (2023)
Kathy Stucky (2024)

New Members:

Brad Kohlman
Rebecca Tschetter

Hospitality Commission

Continuing Members:

Marlene Faul (2023)
Helen Nachtigal (2023)

New members:

Valetta Seymour
Mary Jane Waltner
Susie Swartley

Worship Commission

No continuing appointments

No new appointments

The Church Board has approved a one-year "sabbatical" for this commission!

6. **Proposed Board Handbook Revisions:** This item was deferred to the May meeting.

7. **Screen Study Group Proposal** - The screen study group recommends to the church board that the church install a projection screen at the front of the sanctuary for use in worship, presentations, meetings, and class settings. Installation would be primarily completed by McClelland Sound of Wichita, Kansas, along with assistance from other vendors. Electrical power, the building and installation of a paneling section would be provided by others. Total costs for the project are estimated at \$40000. The board discussed methods of funding and the discussion resulted in the following funding proposal:

“As a reminder to ourselves that this item is not required facility maintenance but rather an elective feature which comes at a high dollar cost, and to acknowledge that there are

121 great needs in the world beyond ourselves, the first \$5000 committed to the funding of
122 this project will be donated to the International Rescue Commission Wichita site to assist in
123 the resettlement of refugees in the Wichita area. The congregation will raise 25% of the
124 \$45000 (\$40000 for the project itself and \$5000 for our contribution to IRC) and the
125 balance of the funding will be made from bequests.”
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127 Adam Robb moved to accept the proposal and Dale Schrag seconded. The motion passed.
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- 130 **8. Finalize Spring Congregational Meeting Agenda - 10:45 am in Fellowship Hall:** The board
131 discussed ways to make the congregational meeting easier for all to attend. It was decided
132 to move the meeting time to 10:45 am and to meet in the newly renovated Fellowship Hall.
133 The proposed agenda is as follows:

- 134 - Welcome and Opening Prayer
 - 135 - Approve Minutes of 1-30-22 Congregational Meeting
 - 136 - Election of Moderator-Elect, Clerk and Church Board members - ballot
 - 137 - Booklet reports/opportunity for questions:
 - 138 - Financial Manager’s Report
 - 139 - Update on structure and culture at BCMC
 - 140 - Screen Proposal
 - 141 - Other items
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- 143 **9. Survivor-Centered Culture Follow-up - Communications, Church Mailbox:** The board
144 discussed our response to recent communications.
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- 146 **10. Faith Formation update - Renee:** Faith Formation had an interesting retreat with new
147 people and a new energy for the coming year. The commission continues to ask for active
148 support from the congregation. The board was encouraged to attend the church retreat at
149 Camp Mennoscah.
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- 151 **11. “Where Have All the Pastors Gone?” - oral reports from attendees** - Deferred to May
152 meeting.
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- 154 **12. Pastoral Transition Updates & Next Steps** - Elizabeth reported on the initial meeting with
155 consultants from Credence & Company which was held in early April with Elizabeth, Ada,
156 Todd, and Nathan attending from BCMC. The first task is to appoint a Reference Group
157 with 4 or so members. Ada and Todd will be part of the group. Other potential members
158 will be asked within a week or so. No work will begin until the Reference Group has been
159 formed. A timeline was communicated that extends our work with Credence & Company
160 into November of 2022. Both Elizabeth and Todd reported that there are currently no
161 names of potential interim pastors to replace Renee. Todd and Nathan are creating a list
162 of tasks that people from the congregation can do to help, either in volunteer or possibly
163 paid capacities, to take up aspects of the workload in the coming months.
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165 13. **Executive Session** - Entered at 10:20 pm. Closed at 10:25 pm.

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167 14. **Meeting Adjourned** - Adjourned at 10:25 pm.

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169 Submitted by Margaret Toews, Clerk

170 Draft - Church Board Minutes 2022 04 07.docx