Assembly Mennonite Church Congregational Meeting
May 18, 2025
7pm @AMC Meetinghouse (Zoom available)

Opening (Glenn)
Phillipians 2-3

Leadership Selection Committee (Glenn)

- Glenn celebrated the large number of wonderful volunteers and leaders within our community helping make things happen. It was also noted that there are still several roles/positions that still need to be filled.
- A huge thank you to the Leader Selection Committee (*ADD NAMES)* for all their ongoing work with this process.
- Encouraged anyone interested to reach out to Leadership (Leader Selection Committee//Leadership Group)
- Eric Kauffman gave an update on two new names to this list:
    1) Jep H. Sound/Tech
    2) Patty EZ Safe Church

Second Reading of Proposal for 2024 Offering Surplus (Glenn)

- Proposal approved (mostly 5s, a few 4s)

    2024 Offering Surplus ($9,000 to Building Tithe; $4,000 toward paying off member loans; $8,000 in extra compensation for Karl Shelly's 2024 work above his contracted hours)

Second Reading of Proposal for Student Aid Interim Policy (Leon)

- *Student Aid Interim Policy*
- Advisory Group includes: Ben Sywulka, Leon Bauman, Nadia Shank, Anne Horst Hanby, Cheryl Mast, Naomi Roots, Paul Meyer Reimer
- Feedback from First Reading on 4/22/25 (41 forms):
    - Feedback seemed to indicate we are close to consensus
        - All forms stated that the proposal was “mostly acceptable”
    - 16 Forms had comments under “Suggestions for Improvement”:
        - 4 comments asked for “needs based” language
        - 2 comments asked for a cap
- New changes to the Proposal (for this 2nd reading):
    - Education Needs for our k-12 students (proposal line item 1d)
        - “Needs Base” language change
        - Form submission will be honor system on self-reporting income
        - Both Leon and Ben noted that this “honors” need-based system is designed to help allow people to more easily apply for support, as well as not put the Student Aid Committee in an awkward position when working through these requests.
    - School Support for K-12 Teachers and Staff (proposal line item 2)

        - It was chosen not to cap these requests at this time. In the past, we have not had submitted needs in this category that exceed what we've been able to fund.
    - FAQ Note: incongruent will be edited (as opposed the the current incoherent language)
    - Floor for questions/comments:
        - Confirming this was an Interim policy?
            - Correct. See the handout on "when and how long" will this take effect.
            - If this proposal passes, we will start pledging this year to then begin planning for finances. January of 2026 will be the first disbursement from the General Fund. The special Bethany Fund will go out likely around August to those families who have requested and received support. Requests and disbursement for Teachers/Staff will likely be ongoing throughout the year.
        - On #2, are we talking about teachers and staff in all schools or just public schools?
            - All schools (for students and staff!)
        - Are families or individuals applying?
            - Applications will be for individual students, so a family could apply for multiple children.
- Proposal approved (Pretty equal mix of 4s and 5s)

Closing (Glenn)
Philippians 4:4

Notes quickly prepared by: Sara Morris
Kindly edited by: Scott Coulter, Lynn Diener