CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 10/19/25

Eric Kaufmann, facilitator

Report on Solar Panel Fundraising—Glenn Gilbert
AMC has 80 solar panels. The plan is to add 16 for a total of 96.
AMC's capacity already makes us a net provider rather than consumer of energy. We're now generating only slightly more than we need. The biggest reason is the vehicle charging station, which makes up about a third of our electricity use.
As of the meeting we are within $150 of the $4600 we need for the panels, so they have been ordered.
Questions: All answers by Glenn
Q What are the economics of the vehicle charging station?
A We don't charge for its use since we've had surplus power.
Q Are we still contracted for net metering with NIPSCO? For how long?
A Yes, we've built up a reserve credit with NIPSCO. Our current contract runs into the 2040s.
Q Why has our margin of excess power declined recently?
A The Montessori Preschool meets through the week, but the largest change is the charging station.
Q Could we add signage highlighting the power that we're saving, especially with the charging station?
A We could also highlight other changes, such as the heat pumps that reduce energy cost of heating and cooling.
Q Do we have adequate liability insurance coverage for the new panels?
A We've seen no increase in premiums after adding the existing panels.
Q It's important to inform the insurance company to ensure coverage of the additions.
Q Does this mean we're paying nothing to NIPSCO?
A Our only cost is the base rate for service—we are paying nothing for power.

Second reading of the revised MYF Coordinator Job Description

Moriah Hurst: The revisions mostly aim to create more connections between MYFers and others in the congregation.
--Coordinators meet more often with parents
--Each pastor will connect with a Sunday School age cohort.
--Coordinators will meet with the Christian Ed committee, but will not have primary responsibility for Sunday School sessions
Responses by Moriah
Multiple affirmations for proposed changes.
Former MYF coordinator: Excited for these changes; affirmation for handing some responsibilities to others
Parent of MYFer: Affirmation for vibrancy of current group, with kids showing up and bringing their friends—great change from a few years ago.
Q Do pastors link with a specific group of kids, or with a SS age range, as kids pass through each stage?
A The latter
Q Could we find more systematic ways to support coordinators, especially when there's extra work, such as for trips?
A That's part of Moriah's job, and she shows up at MYF events more often than pastors have in the past.

The revised job description was adopted with strong affirmation.

Pledging led by John Nafziger

Reminder that the deadline is November 2, and it makes John's job much easier if everyone gets pledges in before that date.
New this year, pledging for support to Bethany Christian Schools is separated from other pledges.
Responses are by John
Q Have we clearly encouraged people to maintain normal AMC giving as well as BCS support?
A BCS in the past has made up about 5% of the budget. AMC's 2026 budget will probably not increase much, but some costs have risen sharply. Staff benefits are more expensive because of higher insurance costs,and need for benefits for the administrative assistant position as a three-quarter time job.
Q Clarification that 2% giving is split between traditional 2% giving and Reparations.
A The money is split about 55% to the 2% fund and 45% to reparations. Some past 2% recipients are now included in general budget. Disbursement is less closely tracked than other spending because all monies that come in are given out.
Q How should we designate giving for separate funds?
A Undesignated checks go to the general fund. Other funds can be designated on the check. One check can be split two or three ways. (I have no record of a question of how this is to be done—MM)

Report on Goshen Montessori Preschool led by Tom Kauffman

To aid in communication and coordination with AMC, an ad hoc committee has been formed. Its members are Kate Marsh, Leon Bauman and Glenn Gilbert.

Meeting closed with singing VT 678 Kyrie Eleison

Minutes by Michael Miller