Church Council Minutes – 06/18/2026

Present: Pastor Nat Bothwell, Cindi Zimmerman, Lona Boyarsky, Jana Mitchell, Brenda Neville, Rose Arrasmith, Lindsay Gustafson, Ed Fulk

Absent: Brenda Neville

Lindsay called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm. Jana seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting began.

1. Lona led devotions/prayer with Brenda's notes.

2. Jana made a motion to approve the May agenda, Rose seconded. No discussion needed. The motion passed.

3. Strategic Conversation:
    a. *Possible ideas for addressing lower giving* - Giving is less early than usual. Discussing now rather than waiting for fall. Reason - cash flow will be a problem unless giving improves. Proposal to withdraw funds from Edward Jones account for overdrafts. Approx $3K short each month. Looking at withdrawing $15K from Edward Jones
        i. Electronic giving ease
            1. The system used for electronic giving is clunky and difficult to use.
        ii. Bring back envelopes
            1. Brenda has heard from elders that would like us to pass the plate again.
            2. Could have un-personalized envelopes available
        iii. Tutorial downstairs for electronic setup
        iv. Time & talent pledges
        v. Direct call out
        vi. Email from council - stewardship committee
        vii. Clipboard style … Pass the jar
        viii. Tap to pay? Venmo?
        ix. Other discussion
            1. We could survey the congregation on options.
            2. We could give an update 6 months early, before the annual report. Include a pie chart or something easy to read/process added to the summary that is mailed out three x's a year including Expenses v. Income YTD comparison.
            3. Possibly change ACH vendor/program

4. Decision items
    a. *Approve May minutes* - Jana moved, Cindy seconded, no discussion needed, approved
    b. *Pushing review and approve May financial report to next month*
        i. Discuss pulling some funds from Edward Jones for cash flow - Need to pull $15K due to $3K shortage each month. Pull from the money market to keep cash flow flush. Rose made a motion to let Erica transfer $15K. Ed seconded it. No new discussion. Motion passed.
        ii. Stephanie Bell - She is on board to be the next accountant for BLC. Erica will hang around through the year-end to help the transition. Council asked if we could convince her to attend council meetings.

5. Committee reports
    a. *Pastor's report* - July is a big month. There are 2 weddings and 4th of July. Pastor is taking a Sunday off for reflection. The SE room could be a youth space, a hang out, now that the room is empty.

    b. *Additional committee reports (Kitchen, Pantry, Property)*
        i. Kitchen - do have #'s back from Dave, more information in July - Brenda said we have #s back from Dave Helland. Close to having something to share for how much we need to raise. The quote is about $165K. Will know more in July.

        ii. Pantry - Identifying grants continues to be a priority. Looking at Story County, and corporate sponsors have been identified

        iii. Property - waiting on glass for doors

6. Any other business?
    a. Choose council members in service
        i. February 22: Ed; March 22: Lindsay; April 26: Brenda; May 24: Cindi
        ii. June 21: <u>Lona volunteered</u>
    b. Choose council meeting devotions
        i. February 19: Cindi; March 19: Lindsay; April 23:Cindy; May 21: Rose; June 18: Brenda
        ii. July 17: <u>Jana volunteered</u>

7. Next Meeting is July 16, 5 pm
    a. Ed made a motion to adjourn, Rose seconded it, no discussion, passed.

8. Closing Prayer

Meeting Adjourned @ 6:09pm

Minutes by Lona Boyarsky 07/08/2026