

Church Council minutes
Boulder Mennonite Church
17 July 2025

Present: Ezra Tice, Randy Spaulding, Bruce Wheeler, Bruce Fast, Barry Janzen, Paul Classen (by Zoom)

Call to Order: Barry presented a meditation on division vs inclusion, recounting the account in the book of Matthew that Jesus and disciples ate with the "tax collectors and sinners". We should ponder our church history of fragmentation & of re-aligning.

Financial update: the MFRC agreed on a proposed budget, sent out in preparation for Sunday's congregational meeting, which shows an income/expense shortfall. We invite response and ideas from those at the meeting.

An online Time/Talent survey is ready to go; council recommended announcing the survey this Sunday.

Pastor's report: Randy described the July 11 MCUSA conference as the most positive in his experience. There was a sense of solidarity, no battling over differences in theology. Extreme weather was not a problem in Greensboro NC where the conference took place.

Deacons: will be organizing two upcoming events. First, an ice cream social, with music, on August 23. Also, on September 27, a service/learning project at Boulder Mod, a modular home construction factory. Boulder Mod is a joint project of Flatirons Habitat, BVSD, and the city of Boulder.

PCRC: Ezra reports that the collection of responses to the recent pastoral review is complete. An overview of responses to the pastoral survey will be produced. In short, the responses were overwhelmingly -- but not uniformly -- positive.

Upcoming Mountain States Mennonite Conference assembly: Multiple individuals from BMC will be attending the August 1-3 assembly in Glenwood Springs, including the Prayerstream trailer (with Brenda and Carole).

Indigenous concerns: regarding the BMC funds reserved for "indigenous/scholarship", Randy is in conversation with Susan Hart, pastor of Koinonia Indian Mennonite Church in Clinton OK, about a proposed youth project to retrieve and re-inter the remains of 18 children who died and were buried at what was then a Mennonite boarding school. Council strongly agreed that this was an appropriate use for the earmarked funds.

Fall retreat ideas: Are looking into the Shadowcliff Mountain Loge as a possible retreat site. Located in Grand Lake, this would be a 2+ hour drive. Facilities and scheduling are being investigated.