

# BMC Church Council      9 April 2026      Minutes

ATTENDEES: Bruce Fast, Barry Janzen, Douglas Minter, Becky Neumann (remote), Ezra Tice

Meeting started with Barry sharing a meditation based on a stand up comedian's book "Separation of Church and Hate".

Treasurer:

- Bruce said that income and expenses are relatively comparable FY to date based on the pdf budget he sent out earlier this week. One might expect a larger balance as we have not paid a pastoral salary since January. However, Bruce did have to make a few large one time payments that may explain why income and expenses are roughly equal.
- PCRC will send Bruce information on health insurance and other pastoral benefits so he can budget for these expenses. Bruce will also consider that Terry Zimmerly could be covered by Medicare later this year.

PCRC

- Thanks to Becky, Ezra, and Paul M for negotiating an agreed upon contract with Terry Zimmerly as our new transitional Pastor!

Indigenous Issues

- Bruce Wheeler was not present to report out. Bruce Fast mentioned that Glennon Heights Mennonite is also active in the Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery ministry.

Deacons

- With the arrival of Terry as our new transitional pastor in May, Deacons will consult with him on commencing a new small group cycle and options for service learning this year.

Other Business

- Council agreed to get the piano in the sanctuary tuned.
- We discussed who can help Terry become oriented to his workspace, etc. upon his arrival in early May. We agreed that Susan, Bruce, Barry, and others can take leadership in this. We also liked Susan's suggestion to invite Terry to introduce himself during the 11 am hour on his first Sunday at BMC, possibly May 3<sup>rd</sup> when someone else will be preaching. This would allow Terry to also answer questions in a group setting so he doesn't have to repeat himself in one on one conversations.
- We confirmed there is agreement to host an Afghan couple in BMC's basement if/when Hassan Shafaq and/or his spouse are released. CHAN (Denise Change) would provide financial support (up to \$10,000) along with Christ the Servant Lutheran in Louisville (up to \$5,000). Bruce agreed to serve as the lead should they be released and choose to settle in BMC.
- Barry would like us to consider longer term whether our prime real estate location provides us the opportunity to welcome marginalized community members as part of our peace and justice ministry. Specifically, he has been in conversation with Kurt F about ideas for allowing affordable housing construction at our location for local special needs community members, etc.

Closing

Ezra closed with a prayer.

**NEXT MEETING: THURS, 5/14, 5:00, BMC/ZOOM**