

Summary of the Council of Elders Meeting Minutes March 2023

The meeting was opened with prayer by Sarah DeBaets and Andrew Vanoverl led a devotional and time of prayer from the book "Emotionally Healthy Spirituality."

Elders welcomed new members of the council, and reviewed information from the recent Wayfinder training around how to both practice biblical approaches to conflict within the Elder Council, as well as how to roll out teaching in this area to the congregation. They also reflected on the recent annual meeting, and how to better communicate and increase engagement with the congregation. Elders approved committee assignments for the coming year, as well as revising the Assets Stewardship & Space Utilization Work Group charter to better reflect the composition of the committee. The council approved memorial funds in the name of Ron Behr and Dolly Anderson, and commissioned the Benevolence and Memorial committee to advise on how to better streamline the process of creating memorial funds in the future.

March Financial Report

- Total Unrestricted gifts for February 2023 was \$69,640, or \$12,860 short of what was budgeted for the month, but 4% higher than last year. Year-to-date total unrestricted gifts is \$187,584, \$11,915 short of budget but 6% higher than last year.
- Operating Expenses for the year-to-date through February are running \$17,991 under budget, but it is fair to assume spending will catch up to budget.
- Note that per the approved budget we expect a \$155,000 deficit for the year (expenses over revenue).
- Cash available for operating purposes stands at \$338,793 as of February and Board Designated cash stands at \$290,535. The mortgage balance is \$763,466 as of 2/28/23 compared to the \$993,500 when initiated in early 2020.

Sarah DeBaets prayerfully closed the meeting with praise, lament, and hope.