

August MINUTES
Executive Council – August 13, 2024
First Brethren Church of Sarasota

Present: David Stone, Martha Stone, Carolyn Solomon, Grant Showalter, Jennifer Showalter, Iris Helmuth, Kaye Matthews, Cindy Showalter, Charlie Barnett.

Meeting called to order at 7:02 with an opening prayer by Pastor Stone.

PASTOR'S REPORT – see attached

OUTREACH – no report

MINISTRY OF PROPERTY – see attached

CONGREGATIONAL ENRICHMENT -Kaye said the church looks really good as you come in. Will make up packets for new visitors.

EDUCATION – no report

HOSPITALITY – carry-in in July was well attended. There will be another carry-in on August 25.

STEWARDSHIP – budget requests from the ministries need to be given to Jennifer by September 24

MINISTRY OF SERVICE – Communion service – will work on a little better organization. Iris will work with them.

PASTORAL CARE – no report

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT – see attached

TREASURER'S REPORT – see attached

OLD BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS -

1. Nominating Committee – Grant Showalter will be the chair – Iris Helmuth, Martha Stone, Kaye Matthews, Ron Haynes and Michael Funkhouser – meeting will be held at 6:00 PM September 24.
2. MSC to make the August and September mission offering for Puerto Maldonado church building. The mission offering for October will be for Colombia.
3. Raises for custodian. MSC to raise his hours to 27 ½ hours per week @ \$15/hour.
4. September 15 and November 3 will be vacation days for the Pastor.
5. 70th Anniversary of the church will be in November. Think about what we can do for this celebration.
6. Proposal for new Sanctuary Sound Board presented by Grant Showalter. See attached proposal. MSC to accept the proposal presented by Grant Showalter for the new sound board at a price of \$3,000.
7. Pastor asked that the rest of his 2024 salary be designated as housing allowance. MSC that all compensation for the Pastor from the period August 14 to December 31, 2024, be designated as additional housing allowance.

September 28, 10:00 – 1:30 will be a “That Kid” seminar at the Agape School.

MSC to adjourn at 7:46 PM with a closing prayer by Grant Showalter.

Respectfully submitted by

Carolyn Solomon
Recording Secretary

Minutes
Executive Council

June 4, 2024

PRESENT – Martha Stone, John Pitcock, Iris Helmuth, Pastor Stone, Kaye Matthews, Charlie Barnett, Terry Hostetter, Jennifer Showalter and Carolyn Solomon.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM with an opening prayer by Pastor Stone.

PASTOR'S REPORT – see attached

OUTREACH – no report

MINISTRY OF PROPERTY – see attached

CONGREGATIONAL ENRICHMENT – Nursery is fine – bathrooms look good – some new people have been coming.

EDUCATION – no report

HOSPITALITY – no report

STEWARDSHIP – MSC to send the Missions offering for July to South Africa and August to Colombia.

MINISTRY OF SERVICE – no report

PASTORAL CARE – no report

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT – see attached

TREASURER'S REPORT – see attached – MSC to move the parish nurse monies to the deacon fund.

OLD BUSINESS –

1. Membership Review – list of members not in attendance for at least a year – list was read to see if any discussion on the list –

MSC to remove those listed on the list attached.

2. NEW BUSINESS – Nomination for Carolyn Solomon to be second assistant financial secretary MSC to appoint Carolyn Solomon to this position.

MSC to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM with closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted by

Carolyn Solomon
Recording Secretary

Pastor's Report

First Brethren Church of Sarasota
Executive Council
August 2024

Report on June/July goals

- I have completed the renovation of the church offices.
- I have not found a director of children's programs.

Goals for August/September

- Plan for small group ministry from September 22-October 31.
- Update the church's online outreach.
- Find director of children's programs.

Weekly Activities June/July

- Sunday worship practice at 8:30 A.M.
- Children Sunday school class helper.
- Sunday 10:00 A.M. worship & live stream.
- Nightly 7:00 online devotional on Facebook, Youtube, Spotify.
- Wednesday Bible Study in-person and on Facebook Live.
- Maintain church web site.
- Hospital and other visits.

Non-weekly Activities June/July

- Executive Council.
- Money wired for the orphanage (2X).
- Eucharist communion.
- Attended annual conference.
- Property ministry meeting.
- Converted about 2 lights from florescent to LED in fellowship hall.
- Helped with floor stripping and waxing.
- Independence indoor picnic.
- Mowed lawn once.
- Renovated pastor and secretary offices.

Membership changes

- Twenty inactive members were removed from the list. We have 65 members on the list now.

Vacation days

- None.

Comments

I feel like I always say that this has been a busy time at the church. But it is true. Besides all of my regular pastoral duties, I helped with the stripping and waxing of the floors and I worked with Terry in renovating the secretary's office and a little on my office as well.

We have many projects finished before the school year began.

Many lives are being touched and people are serving in many ways behind the scenes. It has been a good summer.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor David

New Business

- Decide September and October mission offerings.
 - Suggestion: Church construction in Puerto Maldonado.
- Raises for custodian.
 - Currently 20 hrs/wk @ \$15/hr.
 - Raise to 27 ½ hrs/wk @ \$15/hr.
 - From \$1,296 to \$1,787.50 per month.
 - We would like to raise this to 36 hours next year and possibly add health insurance.
- Sound mixer purchase.
- Designate remainder of pastor's salary for 2024 as housing allowance.
- Sunday, September 15, vacation.
- Sunday, November 3, vacation.
- Partners will break lease at the end of November. We have agreed to this.
- 70th anniversary of founding of this church is coming up in November.

FIRST BROTHERS CHURCH – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PROPERTY MINISTRY
UPDATE FOR AUGUST 2024

NOTES FROM THE JULY PROPERTY MINISTRY MEETING

- 1 Installed (2) two ball valves on the backflow preventer that services our facility and forwarded the certifications requirements to the city of Sarasota. (Complete)
- 2 Cleaned and waxed the VCT flooring within the school facility. (Complete)
- 3 Cleaned the ceramic tile floors in both the girls' and boys' bathroom within the school. (Complete)
- 4 Installed a 3.5 Ton Grande-Aire AC unit at the cottage. (Complete)
- 5 Performed upgrades to the church office including: plaster, painting, carpeting and furniture throughout. (Complete)
- 6 Painted the interior walls in the janitor's closet within the school. (Complete)
- 7 Installed new fence enclosures around the AC Units including renovations to the existing fence around the student play area. (Complete)
- 8 The school installed new carpet in all the classrooms. (Complete)
- 9 The school performed interior wall painting in all the classrooms, hallways and cafeteria area. (Complete)
- 10 The school placed and spread additional mulch within the fenced play area. (Complete)
- 11 Performed a repair from a water leak at an exterior hydrant at the school. (Repairs to the exterior masonry wall remain to be completed)

CHURCH / SCHOOL ACTIVITIES CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS

- 1 Installing new gutter and downspouts across the entire front of the day care center. Also performing gutter and spouting upgrades at the church, school and cottage. Additional work is required across the front of the school to remove and replace deteriorated wood from behind the fascia and cover with white aluminum.
- 2 Clean-up from Tropical Storm Debbie: A - Removing the fallen tree between the church office and school. B - Water damage: Removed the

carpet and removed a foot of drywall from the interior walls of the office in the cottage. C - Drying out the entire cottage area.

NEW ACTIVITY FOR REVIEW & CONSIDERATION

- 1 The church is in need of a new sound board for the services conducted in the sanctuary. The model being proposed is a Behringer X32. (Digital programable sound board – approx. cost 3,000)

PROPERTY COMMITTEE FUTURE PLANNING ITEMS FOR 2025 / 2026

- Professionally clean the carpets within the church sanctuary, nursery and the office area within the cottage.
- Lawn care considerations include: Removal of one dead palm tree by the school play area and several other trees that need trimmed.
- Review all exterior doors for upgrades or replacement, including hardware, at various locations around the church and school. (This activity will be performed in phases)
- Coordinate with the school on modifying and installing additional cameras. (We have seen an increase in homeless activity here at the church and surroundings)
- Review upgrades to window treatments within the school facility.
- Review exterior stucco painting at the cottage, school and day care center, including staining the concrete sidewalks at the cottage.
- Perform evaluation on the roofs at the church, school and cottage to assess the remaining life of these roofs for future replacement.
- Develop a plan for upgrading the lobby and bathrooms as you enter the front of the church.

Financial Secretary Report

Offering budget/month: \$12,584.61

Offering \$1,075.00

June 2024

Fund Source

Building	\$52.00
<i>Offering</i>	\$52.00
Evan & Claire	\$525.00
<i>Offering</i>	\$525.00
General	\$19,286.64
<i>Fri NA New Dire</i>	\$200.00
<i>MNMG</i>	\$800.00
<i>Offering</i>	\$11,124.56
<i>Partners</i>	\$3,172.45
<i>Play&Grow</i>	\$3,189.63
<i>Thurs NA StepN</i>	\$100.00
<i>Tues.NA</i>	\$400.00
<i>Wed AA Beg.</i>	\$300.00
Missions	\$290.00
<i>Offering</i>	\$290.00
Missions-Kentuck	\$75.00
<i>Offering</i>	\$75.00
Pastor Supp.	\$1,200.00
<i>Offering</i>	\$1,200.00

July 2024

Fund Source

Evan & Claire	\$1,020.00
<i>Offering</i>	\$1,020.00
Fence	\$50.00
<i>Offering</i>	\$50.00
General	\$13,746.08
<i>MNMG</i>	\$400.00
<i>Offering</i>	\$10,156.98
<i>Play and Grow</i>	\$3,089.10
<i>Thurs NA StepN</i>	\$100.00
Missions	\$335.00
<i>Offering</i>	\$335.00
Pastor Supp.	\$1,200.00
<i>Offering</i>	\$1,200.00
South Africa	\$1,075.00

BALANCE SHEET

July 31, 2024

Page: 1

CURRENT ASSETS	
Checking/Savings	
Everence FCU	
EFCU - Unrestricted	\$6,375
EFCU - Special	\$24,012
TOTAL Everence FCU	\$30,386
EFCU - Capital Savings	\$3
EFCU - Peru Savings	\$25
TOTAL Checking/Savings	\$30,414

SPECIALS BALANCE

July 31, 2024

SPECIAL INCOME	
Deacon Fund	\$1,919
CIA	\$350
Youth	\$2,595
Agape School Lunches	\$351
Parrish Nurse	\$211
Agape Fence	\$195
Holiday Flowers	\$92
Christmas	\$0
Easter	\$0
Outreach	\$0
Brethren Relief	\$0
Resurrection House	\$0
Missions - Clarie & Evan	\$1,025
Building Improvement	\$6,153
Handyman Services	\$150
Kitchen Improvement	\$304
Memorials	\$7,148
PJH Scholarship	\$2,500
Peru (Pucusana)	\$1,020
TOTAL SPECIAL INCOME	\$24,012

OUTSTANDING BILLS	DATE	NAME	MEMO	Amount
	8/1/24	Rev. David Stone		\$2,630
	8/1/24	Logan Rico		\$648
TOTAL				\$3,278

TOTAL

\$3,278

INCOME REPORT

July 31, 2024

Page 2

	Year Budget	RECEIVED this YEAR	(\$) Yet to Receive this Year \$ RECEIVED Over Budget	Should be as of report date:		Should be: 100.0%
				% of Budget for the YEAR	Received this MONTH % of Budget for the MONTH	
Offering General	\$151,015	\$89,041	(\$61,975)	59.0%	\$12,006	95.4%
Other General						
Community Meetings	\$11,500	\$5,225	(\$6,275)	45.4%	\$500	52.2%
Agape Academy	\$40,000	\$17,754	(\$22,246)	44.4%	\$0	0.0%
B Office Building 2425 sm	\$38,275	\$22,885	(\$15,390)	59.8%	\$3,172	99.5%
A Office Building 2435 lg	\$36,125	\$21,784	(\$14,341)	60.3%	\$6,279	208.6%
TOTAL Other General	\$125,900	\$67,648	(\$58,252)	53.7%	\$9,951	94.8%
Benevolence						
Missions	\$7,000	\$9,165	\$2,165	130.9%	\$1,410	241.7%
Peru Orphanage	\$2,000	\$255	(\$1,745)	12.8%	\$0	0.0%
Total Benevolence	\$9,000	\$9,420	\$420	104.7%	\$1,410	188.0%
TOTAL INCOME	\$285,915	\$166,109	(\$119,807)	58.1%	\$23,368	98.1%

Other Income	
Special Income	\$20,038
	\$2,313

SPENDING REPORT

July 31, 2024

Page: 3

	Year Budget	SPENT this YEAR	(\$) Yet to SPEND this Year \$ SPENT Over Budget	Should be as of report date:		Should be:
				% of Budget for the YEAR	% of Budget for the MONTH	
SR Pastor				58.3%	\$3,197	100.0%
Base Salary	\$38,360	\$22,377	(\$15,984)	58.3%	\$3,197	100.0%
Housing	\$30,000	\$17,500	(\$12,500)	58.3%	\$2,500	100.0%
Health Savings	\$4,600	\$2,300	(\$2,300)	50.0%	\$0	0.0%
Retirement	\$4,785	\$2,393	(\$2,393)	50.0%	\$0	0.0%
TOTAL SR Pastor	\$77,745	\$44,569	(\$33,176)	57.3%	\$5,697	87.9%
Director of Children & Youth				0.0%	\$0	0.0%
Director of C&Y Salary	\$24,000	\$0	(\$24,000)	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
TOTAL Director of C&Y	\$24,000	\$0	(\$24,000)	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
Custodian				58.3%	\$1,417	100.0%
Custodian Salary	\$17,000	\$9,917	(\$7,083)	58.3%	\$1,417	100.0%
TOTAL Custodian	\$17,000	\$9,917	(\$7,083)	58.3%	\$1,417	100.0%
Extended Expense				111.3%	\$2,228	1114.1%
Conf Exp Pastor	\$2,400	\$2,672	\$272	111.3%	\$2,228	1114.1%
Honorarium	\$900	\$0	(\$900)	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
Ministry Expense	\$100	\$0	(\$100)	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
Med Insurance	\$10,000	\$7,854	(\$2,146)	78.5%	\$2,124	254.9%
TOTAL Extended Expense	\$13,400	\$10,526	(\$2,874)	78.6%	\$4,352	389.7%
Social Security/FBC				50.0%	\$0	0.0%
SS Sr. Pastor	\$5,230	\$2,615	(\$2,615)	50.0%	\$0	0.0%
SS Director of C&Y	\$1,836	\$0	(\$1,836)	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
SS Custodian	\$1,301	(\$108)	(\$1,409)	-8.3%	(\$108)	-100.0%
TOTAL Social Security/FBC	\$8,366	\$2,506	(\$5,860)	30.0%	(\$108)	-15.5%
Office Expense	\$1,500	\$312	(\$1,188)	20.8%	\$0	0.0%
Service	\$600	\$66	(\$534)	11.0%	\$0	0.0%
Pastoral Care	\$300	\$0	(\$300)	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
Stewardship	\$800	\$362	(\$438)	45.2%	\$26	38.4%
Outreach				0.0%	\$0	0.0%
O Agape School Lunches	\$2,000	\$0	(\$2,000)	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
O General	\$10,000	\$4,396	(\$5,604)	44.0%	\$0	0.0%
TOTAL Outreach	\$12,000	\$4,396	(\$7,604)	36.6%	\$0	0.0%
Hospitality	\$600	(\$617)	(\$1,217)	-102.9%	\$0	0.0%
Congregational Enrichment	\$500	\$80	(\$420)	16.0%	\$0	0.0%

SPENDING REPORT

July 31, 2024

Page: 4

	Year Budget	SPENT this YEAR	(\$) Yet to SPEND this Year	Should be as of report date:	
				% of Budget for the YEAR	% of Budget for the MONTH
Education				58.3%	100%
Education General	\$600	\$537	(\$63)	89.4%	399.6%
Education Youth	\$1,000	\$0	(\$1,000)	0.0%	0.0%
TOTAL Education	\$1,600	\$537	(\$1,063)	33.5%	149.9%
Property					
P Insurance	\$22,000	\$14,794	(\$7,206)	67.2%	279.3%
Taxes & Assessments	\$4,800	\$0	(\$4,800)	0.0%	0.0%
P General	\$34,500	\$18,030	(\$16,470)	52.3%	135.1%
TOTAL Property	\$61,300	\$32,824	(\$28,476)	53.5%	176.3%
Utilities					
Water	\$7,000	\$4,184	(\$2,816)	59.8%	97.7%
Electricity	\$16,000	\$7,205	(\$8,795)	45.0%	99.1%
Telephone	\$3,000	\$2,036	(\$964)	67.9%	128.0%
Fire Alarm	\$1,000	\$1,346	\$346	134.6%	0.0%
Waste Services	\$400	\$182	(\$218)	45.5%	0.0%
TOTAL Utilities	\$27,400	\$14,953	(\$12,447)	54.6%	96.8%
Benevolences					
Deacon Fund	\$12,000	\$2,770	(\$9,230)	23.1%	15.0%
Missons	\$5,400	\$6,755	\$1,355	125.1%	0.0%
Peru Orphanage	\$3,600	\$367	(\$3,233)	10.2%	20.3%
Brethren Church National	\$2,000	\$1,000	(\$1,000)	50.0%	0.0%
TOTAL Benevolences	\$23,000	\$10,892	(\$12,108)	47.4%	11.0%
Rental Expense					
R Maint. & Misc.	\$30,000	\$29,444	(\$556)	98.1%	0.0%
R Taxes	\$12,000	\$0	(\$12,000)	0.0%	0.0%
R Sales Tax	\$4,540	\$2,213	(\$2,327)	48.7%	70.9%
TOTAL Rental Expense	\$46,540	\$31,657	(\$14,883)	68.0%	6.9%
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$316,652	\$162,979	(\$153,672)	51.5%	88.2%

Proposal for new Sanctuary Sound Board

I propose that we purchase a new sound mixing board for the sanctuary sound system. I recommend we purchase a Behringer X32 digital sound board to replace our current Mackie board.

Why we need a new sound board:

1. Our current sound board is more than 25 years old. It is still functioning, but it is developing more and more issues as time passes. The biggest issue in this regard is that more and more channels and controls have bad spots that create static if they are set in those areas.
2. We have been maxed out on our available number of channels for some time. We have been making do, but this has become a much greater problem in recent months.
3. As the Ukrainian church becomes more familiar with the sound board, they have become more comfortable making more changes that we then need to set back for our service every week.
4. We are without an active sound tech more and more recently and when I am practicing and playing on stage I am unable to take care of many problems until I am finished up on stage.

How a new sound board would fix these issues:

1. A digital sound board doesn't rely on the physical sliders, it is more of a 'fly-by-wire' system and shouldn't develop bad spots like an analog board would.
2. Where our current board has a total of 24 channels, the Behringer X32 has 32 channels, plus additional channels for auxiliary inputs such as the computer and an audio player etc. Additionally, it is possible to add additional channels should the need ever arise.
3. This sound board has the ability to have up to 100 different presets so at the touch of a button, we could have every setting on the board return to our normal Sunday setup. We could have one set up for the worship team, another for the sermon, etc. And when the Ukrainian church comes in, they would just need to press one button and the board is set up for their service.
4. Since it is a digital sound board, it has the ability to be controlled remotely from an iPad or phone. This would allow me to make adjustments from the stage as well as controlling the audio mix while at the same time directing the livestream video.

There are several other 'nifty' features available in this system, but the above features are the ones I see as most important and relevant.

It would be possible to purchase an analog sound board comparable to the one we currently have for less than the one I am proposing (roughly \$800 - \$1000), but we would still be left with several of the same issues. I truly believe the extra expense will be well worth the additional cost (approximately \$3000).