

CMCL Council Meeting – March 10, 2026 – 7:00 PM Grant Street Building

Present: Hope Sholly, Mike Sharp, Deb Van Pelt, Laurel Martin, David Stallings, Beth Oberholtzer, Susan Gascho-Cooke, Marlene Reiff, Ron Zook, John King (via Zoom)

Absent: Craig Clearwater

1. Opening

2. Financial Reports

a. January Financial Report

- 42% of the way through the year
- Offerings: \$277k (\$7k less than last year this time)
- total income is at 52%
- Excluding Christian Ed, all expenses are equal or under.
- Total overall expenses are in line (41%)
- Current income over expenses: \$52,762

b. February Financial Report

- 1/2 way through the budget year.
- Offerings: \$309k. About \$1k more than last year at this time.
- Total Income: \$315,851 (Total income is 59% of what is budgeted)
- Total expenses are at 48%. All expenses are in line, or under.
- Current income-over expenses: \$44,505

Marlene motions to approve the January & February Financial Reports. Beth seconds. All in favor. **Action: January & February Financial Reports approved.**

3. Pastoral Search Committee Update

Recent Church announcement to the congregation: *Given the unsuccessful search for an Administrative Pastor this past year and the recent departure of our Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries, Amanda Stoltzfus, Staff Relations Committee divided the job descriptions into two new positions: Church Administrator and Associate Pastor of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. These job descriptions were approved by CMCL's Council and are now posted on our website. We are currently accepting applications--please share these openings with any interested people. The search committee formed to fill the Administrative Pastor position is being reformed into two committees, one for each of the new positions:*

1. Youth/Young Adult Pastor position (.75 FTE)
 - currently have an interim Youth pastor, but need to find a long-term person
2. Administrator (.5 FTE)
 - Judy and Ron Zook's Interim role ends March 15
 - Larry will start in interim role working 10 hours per week starting March 12

4. Staff Relations Committee

- a. Council reviewed Staff Reports.

Marlene motions to approve the March Staff Reports. Beth seconds. All in favor.

Action: March Staff reports approved.

- b. Henry Clapper to be interim sexton through May

5. Leadership Selection Committee

- a. Addition of new members to the LSC:
 - 2 new members to be added (Don & Marty)
 - Larry will be the representative from staff

David motions to approve both Marty and Don to the Leadership Selection Committee. Laurel seconds. All in favor. **Action: Marty and Don approved to join the LSC.**

- b. CMCL Committee Fair in Parrot Gallery on March 22
 - The fair will help committees and folks interested in the work they do to find each other, whether serving on a committee or volunteering in other ways

6. Council Openings

-Need to add a council member and chair elect. Currently two people are interested in joining next year.

7. Finance Committee reporting

a. Lancaster County Community Foundation has requested for CMCL to disburse funds from a reparations fund through CMCL. In order to accurately account for these transactions new non budget accounts will be created for reparations transfers, and to write occasional checks for the Reparation Fund.

b. Melanie Yoder Salim requested to use the existing *non budget Refugee Fund* to support a family in need of rental assistance after the husband was deported. The funds are being collected outside of CMCL.

8. 5 Year Goal-Setting

Council previously discussed using material from retreat, congregational surveys, and recent services to start the thought process of establishing 5-year goals. Council discussed many different approaches to generating and implementing these goals, including:

- having a broad and visionary idea coupled with measurable & actionable items
- choosing goals by identifying 1-3 things that have surfaced in the information gathered from the compilation of the Priorities & Feedback survey (connections, worship, engaging with community, building, education, children & youth, volunteers/staff)
- presenting general goals at program commission meeting, see if this sparks any ideas

Due to the fact that we are currently understaffed, and in a particularly unpredictable time politically, now may not be the best time to figure these goals out. Perhaps this can be introduced in August when the new committee year forms, or when a new admin is hired. With the current times that we live in, it may be a good idea to make space for anything that would be

an immediate call-to-action. This could be a time of supporting each other through connection (which is the one of the main themes covered in the Priorities & Feedback survey).

9. ICE Protocol

-With the development and heightened tension surrounding ICE, it is important that CMCL has an outline of a plan if agents were to enter the building. Ideally, the Welcoming Committee and staff would have a list of some rules of general protocol.

10. Program Support Committee - LGBTQ+ Committee to be formed. This group of volunteers will help staff with attending meetings and organizing events concerning LGBTQ+ issues.

11. Council budget

Hope and Larry will review Council budget lines together and then send a suggestion out to Council via email.

12. Adjourn

Marlene motions to adjourn the meeting. David seconds. All in favor.

Action: Meeting adjourned.

13. Future Agenda Items

- Clapping after singing or musical renditions
- Mennonite Action
- Input and concerns for Council

Minutes: Hope Sholly

March council minutes unanimously approved via email March 20, 2026.