

**First Baptist Church Manchester  
Bi-Monthly Business Meeting  
December 4, 2022**

Pastor Saylor opened in prayer.

**OCTOBER 2022 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

- October 2022 business meeting minutes were available on the church website and shared via computer screen during the meeting. Minutes were approved.
- Updates to October minutes:
  - Solar panels will be installed by the end of 2023.
  - A second donation box was deemed unnecessary since Pastor Saylor empties the box at the end of the evening service.

**MINISTRY REPORTS**

**Church Council:** No meeting was held in November 2022. Pastor Saylor reported that members do not typically attend when meetings are held. The purpose of the meetings is to get events on the church calendar.

**Music Ministry:** Joan St Jacques reported that plans for the cantata are going well.

**Trustees:** Cheryl Gervasi reported.

- The roof work is complete and should be all set for 30-50 years.
- Hallway light fixtures have started to be replaced with LED fixtures. Fellowship hall lights will also be replaced.
- Snow removal plans are set. Sidewalks will not be cleared. A sign up will be created for church members to volunteer to clear the walkways, including sidewalks to the back door to the choir room.
- Money for solar panels will come to the church by the end of 2022. A design for installation must be created and approved, then installation can begin. System should be operational early in 2024.
- New building improvement projects for 2023 will be posted on the church website.

**Youth Ministry:** Pastor Jose reported.

- About 26 youth attended the Vine last Sunday.
- Wisdom is needed to create groups that encourage good interactions.
- Some youth that were previously only attending the Vine are now attending worship service.
- Pray for the Youth Encountering Christ event in early 2023.

**Treasurer:** Donna Murphy reported

- Donna gave the December 2022 report, which was provided for member review online and in paper for those present.
- General Fund amount did not include Dec 4th giving. Faithstreet's total of \$15,700 will not be finalized until Monday, so the general fund has approximately \$54,000.
- There is great fluctuation in giving across the weeks. Average weekly giving is \$9,053.00, which is \$194.00 below the budget requirement.
- Building & Grounds line F Extra building repairs is for expenditures not in the planned budget.
- All of the funds were spent from the LED line item.
- The undetermined expenses line item will be discontinued in 2023

### **Proposed 2023 Budget**

- Members were very good at submitting requests for their ministries for 2023
- The 2023 budget was set to match current giving, \$470,065.22, which is about \$10,000 less than last year's budget.
- The missions giving is based upon the actual tithe giving to the church. 6.5% goes to the Cooperative Program, 3% goes to the Connecticut Baptist Association and .5% goes to the Manchester Area Conference of Churches.
- Employee salaries were increased by 3%. The following inflation stipends are also included: Pastor Saylor \$3,000, Pastor Lopes \$1,500 and Secretary Cindy Todd \$1,000. For the stipends, taxes will be withheld before dispersing to the employees.
- Pastor Lopes' average hours per week were changed to 12. The secretary now works 35 hours per week
- Line 300D Software & Hardware was decreased by \$200.
- Line 300F Bank Services was increased by \$75.
- Line 310 Bulletins was increased by \$500.
- The church pays fees for the Servant Keeper and Faithstreet services.
- Tree House line was reduced to zero since the program is not running.
- Holiday Flower line item was added with a \$200 budget.
- Hospitality line item, which includes the Welcome Center service, was increased by \$1,500.
- Deacon Ministry line item was set for \$200 to allow for the deacon magazine and training.
- The amount of \$750 is in the Guest Speaker line item, allowing for \$250 per speaker.
- Background check line item was decreased since so many checks were completed this year.
- New line item 360Q Ministry Safe Training was created with \$250. A \$5 charge per member is included.

- New line item 360R Building Furnishings and Equipment has \$12,000. Needs for this line include water fountains, furniture, ladies bathroom sinks and a vacuum.
  - Children's Choir line item was increased by \$420 to purchase new music.
  - New line item 400E Bell Choir has \$1,200.
  - Utility line item was decreased
  - Line 600 Building & Grounds was increased to allow for bush trimming.
  - Building Maintenance & Repair was increased by \$51,000.
  - Cleaning line item was increased by \$6,000.
  - Insurance line item was increased by \$12,000 in anticipation of upcoming increases.
  - Secondary electrical service has been locked in for the next 5 years.
  - Average weekly giving for 2022 was \$952.97
  - There is a \$690 leeway in the 2023 planned budget.
- Members unanimously voted to accept the proposed 2023 budget.
- Motion to adjourn Rick May, Second Cheryl Gervasi. Pastor Saylor closed in prayer