



Quarterly Congregational Business Meeting
March 12, 2023

“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever!”
Ephesians 3:20-21

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

ARTHUR EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

DATE OF MEETING: December 11, 2022

TIME OF MEETING: 12:45 pm

MEETING LEADER: Brian Buehler, Chairman

PREPARED BY: Kathi Johnson, Secretary

OPENING:

Brian Buehler opened with prayer and read Psalm 95.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes read from September 11, 2022 quarterly business meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS & REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

Sharon Gerdes gave the treasurer's report which starts on page 19 in the annual booklet.

Trustee Report

Matt Rydberg read the trustee's report posted in the annual report on page 9.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Dave gave his annual report. He also said that the elders & trustees are seeking the prayer support of the congregation to possibly add an additional associate pastor in the future. Copies of the possible new staff member's job description was available at the meeting.

Missions Report

Allen Tunberg read the missions budget on page 29 of the annual report.

Elections for 2023

Those nominated for elected offices for 2023 on pages 27 & 28 were accepted as proposed by voice.

Staff Salaries

The proposed salary increases for Pastor Dave, Pat, Betty and Sharon were read from page 9 of the annual report.

New Business

The church's books were reviewed and okayed.

OTHER DISCUSSIONS

Pastor Dave led a discussion/question & answer time regarding "Take 5" and the elders and the trustees' recommendation to look to add additional pastoral staff member. Everyone is asked to pray about this and we will vote on the question at our next congregational meeting should we seek to fill the position?

MOTIONS

Motion made & seconded to approve the September 11, 2022 meeting minutes.

Motion made & seconded to approve the treasurer's report.

Motion made & seconded to approve the 2023 proposed mission's budget.

Motion made & seconded to approve the 2023 elected offices.

Motion made & seconded to approve staff salary increases as proposed in report book.

Motion made & seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Closed meeting with prayer.

Evangelical Free Church of Arthur
Cash Fund Balances To Date
February 28, 2023

Beginning Balances December 1, 2022

		On 2022 Year End Report 11/30/22
Checking - Debit Acct.	1,393.70 **	1393.71
Checking - Small SS Checkbook	3,722.46	
Checking - United Bank of Iowa	98,242.19 **	98,342.19
Savings AEFC	91,923.84	
Savings CD	120,000.00	
**Adjustment made to a Debit expense, and an IMPACT Deposit Reconciled 12/31/22		-100.01

Beginning Cash Funds December 1, 2022

315,282.19

Ending Balances February 28, 2023

Checking-Debit Acct.	657.51		
Checking - Small SS Checkbook CLOSED			
Checking United Bank of Iowa	34,425.41	Less Designated Funds for Missions	\$33,116.69
Savings AEFC	50,118.53		
Savings CDs	220,000.00		
TOTAL Cash Funds February 28, 2023	<u><u>305,201.45</u></u>		

Designated Funds within United Bank of Iowa Account

Haiti Trip Funds	\$1,308.72
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**Adjustment to Balance, a Debit Card expense was recorded wrong by 1 Cent and an Impact deposit was entered wrong by \$ 100 in my checkbook copies the last couple days of November. I did not catch these until I reconciled the bank statements after 12/31/22. The difference is -100.01

Evangelical Free Church of Arthur

1st Quarter 2022

December 2022 through February 2023

03/07/23

	<u>Dec '22 - Feb 23</u>
Income	
Basic Funds	
General Fund Offering	44,991.62
Sunday School Incomes	96.22
Total Basic Funds	<u>45,087.84</u>
Interest Income	177.26
Total Income	<u>45,265.10</u>
Gross Profit	45,265.10
Expense	
Buildings	
Church	3,843.17
Janitor Expense	1,587.50
Parsonage	2,139.45
Total Buildings	7,570.12
Employee Expenses	21,570.77
Fellowship	40.45
Insurance	419.80
Missions	17,639.10
Office Expense	743.33
Sunday School	678.37
Vehicles	117.90
Womens Ministries Expenses	176.20
Worship & Music	663.15
Youth Expense	
AWANA	781.04
FCYF Expenses	2,552.89
Jr Hi Expense	2,392.72
Total Youth Expense	<u>5,726.65</u>
Total Expense	<u>55,345.84</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-10,080.74</u></u>



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712-367-2472

February 25, 2023

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ

As I sit down to write this afternoon I'm reminded of how the Lord is working in many wonderful ways in in our local church! Jesus Christ is building His church as He promised He would in Matthew 16:18, saying (ESV) – *...I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.* Praise the Lord! Anyway, with that said as an elder team we want to remind our entire congregation (and especially our church members) that our Quarterly Congregational Business Meeting is coming up on Sunday, March 12. The meeting will begin after the worship service at 11:50 AM.

If you pause and think about it many of you will remember that over the past year and a half as a church family we've been walking through a series of strategic conversations that we've titled: *Take 5: Considering God's Leading Together.* We've been seeking to discern where the Lord is leading us a church family to take intentional steps to pursue (and move toward) multiplied Gospel ministry in our local church and community. And at our 2022 Annual Congregational Business Meeting I (Pastor Dave) presented a recommendation from the elders that we prayerfully consider seeking to add an Associate Pastor to our ministry team here at Arthur E-Free Church.

Obviously, this is a 'big question' and a potentially 'big step' of faith for us as a congregation. And with that in mind – we asked you (our church family) to pray (and to have discussions) over the next 3 months in preparation for our next Quarterly Congregational Meeting when we'll vote on the question: *Should we seek to fill this proposed Associate Pastor position?* We're asking you (our congregation) – *Do you also sense God's leading to move forward with this significant step?* To be clear this upcoming vote is not to hire anyone at this point – the vote is to affirm the recommendation of the elders, coming out of the extended *Take 5* process and discussions. The vote is to answer the question – *Should we pursue hiring someone to fill this proposed Associate Pastor position?* Another way to say this is the vote is to approve the position itself not to make any hiring decisions at this point (that potentially comes later).

Obviously, we don't yet know the outcome of the vote because that's the responsibility of the members of our church (anyone is welcome to attend business meetings but only members are eligible to vote). With all of this in mind – the elders have prepared a proposed draft of what the job description for this new position would (or at least could) look like if this direction is affirmed by the congregation. That proposed job description was distributed at the Annual Congregational Business Meeting and it's also attached to this email (for convenience) if you'd like to review it. I've also attached to this email a significant excerpt from my Annual Pastor Report summarizing the process that we've followed to arrive at the considerations that we're currently having today. Many of you are already well aware of the process – I provide this for anyone who says: *Help, I need a reminder...* Or – *Catch me up, so I can understand...*

So in conclusion – I have couple of things to ask of you. First – please continue to pray for God's leading in this area. Then second – please plan to attend the Quarterly Congregational Business Meeting on March 12 (we are especially asking members to make this a priority). In order to move forward we'd desire to see a strong affirmative vote from our members. Though we'd rather not set a specific affirmative percentage that would be required at this point we'd rather affirm that we'd like to see a good turnout at the meeting and a significant majority (much more than a simple majority) to affirm this significant step.

To God Be the Glory!

Pastor Dave

(enclosures: Proposed Associate Pastor Job Description: Family Discipleship & Worship Pastor, Take 5 Summary: Excerpt from 2022 Annual Pastor's Report)

PROPOSED: ASSOCIATE PASTOR JOB DESCRIPTION
(FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP PASTOR)



Family Discipleship & Worship Pastor

Arthur Evangelical Free Church

320 Fourth Street / PO Box 130
Arthur, IA 51431
Phone: (712) 367-2472
www.arthurefc.org

Contact: Pastor Dave Schultz
pastor@arthurefc.org

Mission: This body of believers exists to present Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and to provide a Biblical environment in which Christians flourish in the community of faith.

Affiliation: Evangelical Free Church of America (EFCA)

Weekly Attendance: 100-150

Primary Pastoral Ministry

- Engage in a range of pastoral ministries, in partnership (and cooperation with) the senior pastor that further the mission of the church, including preaching, leadership, evangelism and providing pastoral care.
- Provide oversight, direction and encouragement for Student Ministries and adult Christian Educational opportunities in line with the overall vision of the church – with an expected focus on ministries to the Next Generation (Student Ministries).

Champion of Next Generation Ministries

- Encourage the church's passion for ministry to the Next Generation.
- Inspire, encourage and partner with parents in their discipleship of their children.
- Seek to expand outreach and evangelism to the Next Generation (and beyond).
- Help provide curriculum for and be available to support small group activities.
- Partner with Christian Education (CE) Team to develop aligned and intentional discipleship plan from birth to adults.
- Be available to provide support for Men's and Women's Ministries.

Essential Qualifications

- Meet the Biblical qualifications as found in 1 Timothy 3:1-13, Titus 1:5-9 & 1 Peter 5:1-5.
- Have a growing and genuine personal relationship with Jesus Christ expressed in love for God and others and a consistent commitment prayer, Bible Intake and other spiritual disciplines.

**PROPOSED: ASSOCIATE PASTOR JOB DESCRIPTION
(FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP & WORSHIP PASTOR)**

- Have a strong belief in the power and authority of the Word of God.
- Have a heart for and commitment to reaching the lost and helping mature the believer.
- Be a team player who contributes a positive, humble and flexible attitude in the teams that he is involved in.
- Full commitment without mental reservation to the EFCA Statement of Faith.

Shepherding: Care for Youth and their families

- Overseeing, contacting and caregiving for youth and families.
- Seek opportunities to be involved in students' lives, praying with them, caring for them and being available and responsive to the needs of their parents.
- Along with ministry teams, seek to encourage, support and equip parents for their Biblical role of discipling their youth.

Pastoral Skills

- Have a record of ministry in which they demonstrate good awareness of and operating within their own gifting and calling in ministry with a servant-like attitude.
- Have a trajectory of working hard and even sacrificially while also being able to set boundaries and get rest.
- Be able to explain Biblical concepts to others and make application.
- Possess the courage and ability to teach and apply God's truths without being quarrelsome (2 Timothy 2:24-26).
- Be known for speaking the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15) and loving people.
- Have an understanding of and commitment to global missions.
- Have the ability to relate well to people of all ages and differing backgrounds.
- Possess good organizational skills.
- Be able to develop and work together on a team and to make decisions together.
- Have good financial sense regarding personal and church finances.

Worship Responsibilities

- Recruit, train, schedule and lead worship team of volunteers (musicians & vocalists).
- Select worship songs weekly alongside the sermon.
- Equip worship team with a monthly schedule of volunteers and song selection.
- Provide support for the tech team weekly.
- Lead worship practice weekly.

Take 5 Summery: Excerpt from 2022 Annual Pastor's Report

Greetings Church Family!

Wow! Honestly, it's hard to believe that we've already come to the final days of 2022. That means that another full (and busy) year of ministry has come and gone and additionally that means (believe it or not) that my family and I have now been in Arthur for just about four years. Where has the time gone?

And now with all of that in mind back in 2019 (after being here for a year) I wrote this in that years annual report: "I want everyone to know that I'm excited to see what God does in the months and years to come as we seek together to reach our community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Building the foundation of a wonderful and far-reaching 130+ year legacy, I'm excited to see what God will do in our midst as a church family as we seek to reach out to our community with the live-giving, life sustaining message of the Gospel. In Matthew 16:18 (ESV), Jesus says – *I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.* We must always remember that the Church is Jesus' Church and He builds it. And on top of that that He promises that the gates of hell will not prevail against His Church." I feel the same way today, I'm excited to see what God will continue to do in our midst as we seek to reach our community with the Gospel!

And building on this desire to follow the Lord where He is leading us as a church family – a desire that's present and alive in our church (praise the Lord) and responding to a very generous and large Ingathering special offering in 2021 (and additionally also in 2022) we entered into a strategic process of discussion and discernment that we called – *Take 5: Considering God's Leading Together.* Together (as a church family) we went back to our Arthur E-Free Church mission statement, which says: *This body of believers exists to present Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and to provide the environment in which Christians might flourish in the community of faith.* And we asked several questions, the announcement for *Take 5* contained these questions to get all of us thinking:

1. *Why does Arthur EFC Exist?*
2. *What does Arthur EFC do best?*
3. *What will Arthur EFC look like in 3, 5 and 10 years?*
4. *What unique skills, resources, gifts and capabilities has God placed in our church?*
5. *What makes Arthur EFC special?*

And the announcement of *Take 5* went on to say – *The Elders want to make sure that we are doing our due diligence by praying with and listening to the heart of our church. Therefore, we would love for you to come and "TAKE 5" with us as we Consider God's Leading Together!*

You may remember that we invited the whole church to participate in a special evening of discussion and brainstorming. And at the end of that evening there were large 'easel-style' sticky notes all over the walls in our Fellowship Hall and there was a clear sense that God was moving and doing something in our midst. And after that special evening – all of the notes that were all over walls were pulled together and compiled and then – the Elders, Trustees and representatives from all the different ministry teams in the church sat down and met to go

through the results together. And coming out of that meeting there were some areas of focus that began to become clear (or you might say that they 'rose to the top'):

1. There was and is a desire to consider hiring additional pastoral staff to lead and facilitate additional ministry and to help us be even more effective in the ministries that we already have / are involved in.
2. There was the desire to consider some building and equipment improvements and updates in and around our church building.
3. There was a desire to see our Gospel footprint continually expand in our communities of Ida and Sac Counties through additional outreach.

Now today, coming out of this extended process that's involved lots of prayer, discussions and careful considerations – the Elders and Trustees are prepared to put before you that we sense the Lord leading us in the direction of moving toward seeking to hire an additional pastoral staff member. The elders have developed a job description of what we propose that position would (or at least could) look like. And this is where we come to you as the congregation – we'd like to ask you to pray consistently and consider thoughtfully over the next three months before our next congregational meeting. At our next congregational meeting we'll be voting on the question – *Should we post this job description and seek to fill this position?* So – we're asking you (the congregation) – *Do you also sense God's leading to move forward with this significant step?*

This would be a 'big step' of faith for our local church – it's a financial commitment and a change from the status quo and the reason for it is that we long to have a greater Gospel impact in our community and we sense God moving us this way. So again – *Would you commit to pray about this and carefully consider it?* Then at our next congregational meeting come back and vote on the question: *Should we pursue posting and filling this position?* For your information – the job description that the elders have drafted is available and we have copies that you are most welcome to after the meeting and please know that as elders we welcome your thoughts, feedback and consideration. Thank you, it's a joy to serve Jesus together!

In Matthew 16:18 (ESV, emphasis mine) Jesus says – *And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.* The Church (capital 'C') is Jesus' church, He builds it and He promises that the gates of hell will not prevail against it. If this promise doesn't make you smile – read it again!

Soli Deo Gloria
(Glory to God Alone)

Pastor Dave
December 11, 2022

Members

1	Nate	Balder	42	Kara	Lerssen
2	Elizabeth	Balder	43	Reed	Lindgren
3	Jon	Bell	44	Darren	Masters
4	Pat	Bell	45	Rachel	Masters
5	Barry	Bergman	46	Shige	Nakazawa
6	Mike	Bergman	47	Luann	Nakazawa
7	Susan	Bergman	48	Bob	Paulsrud
8	Brenda	Bergman	49	Teresa	Paulsrud
9	Chris	Boyle	50	Jim	Porter
10	Kristin	Boyle	51	Sally	Porter
11	Amelia	Breig	52	Pam	Porter
12	Brian	Buehler	53	Michelle	Porter
13	Jenny	Buehler	54	Dan	Remer
14	Lia	Clausen	55	Renae	Remer
15	Dennis	Conover	56	Brian	Renze
16	Joe	Cutshall	57	Mary	Renze
17	Sandy	Cutshall	58	Jon	Rydberg
18	Larry	Dose	59	Paul	Rydberg
19	Joann	Dose	60	Matt	Rydberg
20	Terry	Gerdes	61	Heidi	Rydberg
21	Sharon	Gerdes	62	Nancy	Rydberg
22	Gordon	Goodenow	63	Alan	Schmidt
23	Sue	Goodenow	64	Arlo	Schmidt
24	Dan	Gustafson	65	Kim	Schmidt
25	Mary	Gustafson	66	Dave	Schultz
26	Jenna	Gustafson	67	Melissa	Schultz
27	Carol	Hanson	68	Larry	Schumann
28	Alan	Henderson	69	Betty	Sewell
29	Lisa	Henderson	70	Terry	Sporrer
30	Jacob	Henderson	71	Molly	Sporrer
31	Bethany	Henderson	72	Laura	Stangl
32	Emil	Hiykel	73	Allen	Tunberg
33	Phillip	Jensen	74	Darlene	Tunberg
34	Missy	Jensen	75	Dawn	Ulshafer
35	Dennis	Johnson	76	Bert	Wessling
36	Reese	Johnson			
37	Troy	Johnson			
38	Faith	Johnson			
39	Rose	Johnson			
40	Kathi	Johnson			
41	Neil	Lerssen			