

SOUTHWESTERN OHIO DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

District Advisory Board Meeting

May 6, 2025 – 7:00 PM

Chair: Bob Mahaffey

Members: Ministers – Daryl Blank, Terry Blosser, Paul Crisp, Alex Mahaffey, Sheila Slone

Laypersons – Michael Graves, Karen Helton, Gary Johnson (*absent*), Paul Lail, Carol Neeld, Jill Peddenpohl

District Treasurer – Lee Van Houten

District Secretary – Dave Crofford

MINUTES (Respectfully submitted by Jill Peddenpohl DAB Recording Secretary)

Pastor Bob opened the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

1. Devotions and Prayer: Carol Neeld

Carol shared a devotional from 2 Corinthians 12:7-9 focusing on the promise in verse 9 “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” She shared while thorns will always be with us, God’s grace will carry us through.

Prayed after sharing prayer requests.

2. Reports:

A. Recording Secretary – Jill Peddenpohl

1. March Minutes 3/4/25

2. March Minutes Special 3/24/25 Zoom

MOTION: _Terry Blosser made the motion to receive the March 4, 2025, and March 24, 2025 (Zoom), meeting minutes. Seconded by Daryl Blank. Motion passed unanimously.

B. District Treasurer – Lee Van Houten

1. Treasurer’s Reports

MOTION: Paul Crisp made the motion to receive the Treasurer’s report. Seconded by Alex Mahaffey. Motion passed unanimously.

C. District Secretary – Dave Crofford

1. Credentials/Transfers:

MOTION: Paul Crisp made the motion to receive the District Secretary’s report which included:

District License Renewal Recommendations: (For Pastors who are not yet ordained)

1. Jessie Aaron—Cedarville
2. Clarence Gordon II—the Bridge
3. Ermias Mamo-Tekletsadik—Evangelical
4. Kevin Mason—Sardinia
5. Jamison Moody—Carthage
6. Keith Smith—Brookville (co-pastor)
7. Travis Stockelman—Georgetown
8. Gustave Ujeneza—Philadelphia

Appointments: (For churches with fewer than 35 voting members)

1. Cedarville, Jesse Aaron, LM
2. Cincinnati Bethesda, Nelson Escobar, OE
3. Cincinnati Carthage, Jamison Moody, LM
4. Cincinnati Chase Avenue, Robert Schnecker, OE
5. Cincinnati Evangelical, Ermias Mamo Tekletsadik, LM
6. Cincinnati Fairfax, Steven Merritt, OE
7. Cincinnati Lockland, David Oursler, OE
8. Cincinnati Victory, Leroy Brown, LL
9. Dayton Daytonview, Lamont Smith, LL
10. Dayton Drexel, Richard Kane, OE
11. Georgetown, Travis Stockelman, LM
12. Harrison, Steve Queen, OE
13. Mount Carmel, Steven Merritt, OE
14. New Richmond, Bill Bockhorst, OE
15. North Point Community, Bob Hussong, OE
16. Philadelphia, Gustave Ujeneza, LM
17. Target Dayton, Mark Stevens, OE
18. Trotwood West Acres, Larry McIntosh, OE
19. Waynesville, Kent Pelton, OE
20. West Union, Tammy Baldwin-Stone, OE

Special Permission:

1. Jeff Ackenback, OE, to serve as Director of Youth Ministries, Faith Community Methodist Church, West Chester, OH.
2. Wesley Barnhill, OE, to serve as Pastor of Byron Church, Fairborn, OH.
3. Stan R. Ellingson, OE, to serve as Assistant Principal of East Dayton Christian School, Dayton, OH.
4. James Fischer, OE, to serve as Administrator, Sycamore Presbyterian Church, Cincinnati, OH.
5. Jeffery Frampton, OE, to server as Supply Pastor at Fairmont United Methodist Church, Cincinnati, OH
6. William Michael Frisby, OE, to serve as Pastor at Index Community Church, West Liberty, KY.
7. Daniel Justice, OE, to serve in First Touch Ministries, Heritage Church of Christ in Christian Union, Washington Court House, OH.
8. Harold Miller, OE, to serve as Pastor at Lynchburg United Methodist Church, Lynchburg, OH.
9. Holly Portwine, OE, to serve as house church pastor for Anthem House Church, West Chester, OH.
10. Samuel Slagle, OE, to serve as Pastor at Church of Christ in Christian Union, Dayton, OH.

Seconded Alex Mahaffey. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Paul Crisp made the motion to approve Target Dayton Ministries as Compassionate Ministry Center. Seconded by Alex Mahaffey. Motion passed unanimously.

D. Higher Ground Conference and Retreat Center:

1. Finance Report/Including /update on new entrance

MOTION: Paul Lail made the motion to receive the Higher Ground report. Seconded by Karen Helton. Motion passed unanimously.

Other updates from Pastor Bob:

- *House at Higher Ground, which was the residence for Arno & Pat Wilson, was a lease. Technically nothing is owned to the family since a lease, however consideration is being given to possibly helping the family with a possible settlement of \$20K. This would be the responsibility of the campground, since it will be the campground that will benefit from the house.*
- *Campground received a check in 2024 from Dearborn County for \$34K that was in error and had to be sent back. A check for almost \$18K has now been received from the County.*
- *Bridge, which would cost \$1M to replace, is hanging on. The area at the entrance has been seeded so that it will be nice and green.*

E. Reports of New Start/District Supported Ministries

1. *An individual is praying about starting a church in Sabina*
2. *Chase Avenue: Chris Pernice and George Armstrong continue to work toward obtaining work permits. Brandon Fine does not want to start until the house is available.*

F. Pastoral Changes in Process:

1. *Peebles – Does not want a pastor for a while. The church has grown. There is a small house next door that they are trying to refurbish.*
2. *New Lebanon –Person praying about it zoom interview*
3. *Monroe -Zoom meeting on Monday*
4. *Springdale - In process*
5. *Casa de Gracias – Fairfield*

G. Pastoral Installation:

1. *Fairfield – Pastor Billy Bruns 4/27/25*

H. Reviews: None

3. Information & Action Items:

A. Morrow update – *Countryside may use for a daycare and eventually have a church there.*

B. Drexel update – *Church/House for sale for \$100K, dropped from \$150,000. The road is deteriorating. Currently paying \$475 every 2 weeks to have it mowed. Considering selling the land for \$12K-\$15K dollars and possibly allowing it to be done in a land contract.*

C. DAB meeting schedule for next year

Since two of our regular meetings fall on election days (November and May), there was discussion regarding an alternative schedule, but no consensus was agreed upon.

D. Name Changes

MOTION: Sheila Slone made the motion to approve the following name changes:

Maranatha to “Mt. Tabor Church of the Nazarene” – Fairfield PAC

Nilles Road Hispanic to “Casa de Gracia Iglesia del Nazareno”– Fairfield PAC

God Behind Bars to “Hope Beyond Bars” -Be Hope PAC

Seconded by Daryl Blank. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Church Closures

MOTION: Terry Blosser made the motion to declare “Closed”:

Dayton Drexel

Morrow

Riverside (PAC of Xenia)

Seconded by Karen Helton. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Transfer deed from New Life to Penuel

MOTION: Terry Blosser made the motion to transfer the deed of New Life as a gift to Penuel and remove the asset from the District balance sheet. Seconded by Karen Helton. Motion passed unanimously

4. Finance updates:

A. Rhonda Brown Mission Trip

MOTION: Finance Committee made the motion that Rhonda Brown receive paid time off to attend mission trip that will not count against vacation bank. Seconded by Alex Mahaffey. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Higher Ground Sound System

Terry shared an update regarding the research regarding the new sound system for Higher Ground. The goal is for the project to be complete for the Summer Camps.

MOTION: Finance Committee made the motion to set aside \$70K for the new sound system - funded by \$40,000 from Wilmington property and then direct the Higher Ground 25-26 budgeted \$30K toward the sound system. Seconded by Terry Blosser. Motion passed unanimously.

C. District Budget Percentage

MOTION: Finance Committee made the motion that the District Budget percentage remain at 3.75% for the 2025-2026 Church Year. Seconded by Michael Graves. Motion passed unanimously

D. Audit Firm approval

MOTION: Finance Committee made the motion to approve the engagement letter with the Auditing Firm of Goldshot, Lamb & Hobbs, Inc. to perform the Audit of the District books for \$10,200. Seconded by Terry Blosser. Motion passed unanimously.

Auxiliary Audits: Information due 6/9 for audit to be done on 6/11. Note: Terry will not be doing the NYI audit since he is now the back-up treasurer for NYI.

E. Giving Net Favorable back to District Churches

MOTION: Finance Committee made the motion that the Net Favorable balance of income over expenses from Audited Financials be returned to the District Churches, who paid their District Budget "IN FULL," based on a percentage allocation. Seconded by Jill Peddenpohl. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Church Roof Repairs

Three churches have either requested assistance or a request is anticipated toward church building roof repairs:

- 1. Philadelphia: \$30K anticipated cost, District is owner of property, they have not asked for help. Pastor Bob to follow-up with them.*
- 2. Cedarville: repairs completed but a request for assistance has been made.*
- 3. Victory: \$18K anticipated cost, and they requested \$15K in assistance. There was also discussion if the church should be placed "In Crisis."*

After discussion:

Motion: Paul Lail made the motion to provide Cedarville with \$5K toward roof repairs out of 2025-2026 church year budget line 8002. Seconded by Paul Crisp. Motion passed unanimously.

[Pastor Bob Mahaffey, and Pastor Dave Crofford and Lee Van Houten left the meeting]

F. 2025-2026 Budget Approval

MOTION: Daryl Blank made the motion to give a 5% salary increase for the District Staff. Seconded by Paul Crisp. Motion Passed Unanimously.

MOTION: Karen Helton made the motion to present the budget to the District Assembly as proposed by DAB Finance Committee for a total of \$596,608.46. Seconded by Terry Blosser. Motion Passed Unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

DATE:

07/14/25

TIME:

Conclusion of Assembly

DEVOTIONS