



**Minutes Of Bethel Presbyterian Church
Annual Congregational Meeting for the Year 2025**

Date: 18 May 2025, Sunday
Time: 10.48am
Venue: Bethel Presbyterian Church, 12 Jalan Lateh Singapore 359110
Chairman: Rev Lim Tau Wei
Recorded by: Deacon Tan Hui Fern

1. Quorum and Attendance

Active Communicant Members: 484
Attendance: 234 church members and exceeded the Quorum (i.e. 25% of the Communicant members or 150 Communicant Members, whichever is the lesser).

2. Opening Prayer

The Chairman called the ACM to order and invited Elder Vincent Woo to lead the opening prayer.

3. Election of Elders and Deacons

The Returning officer, Elder Vincent Woo recapped the two candidates for eldership and three candidates for deaconship. He also shared that in accordance with the BPC Constitution, a candidate for the office of Elder must attain not less than two-thirds of the total votes cast in order to be elected to office; and a candidate for the office of Deacon may be elected to office by a simple majority of the total votes cast. No other candidates were put forth for election.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of ACM held on 26th May 2024

The Chairman shared that the 2024 ACM minutes (English and Chinese), Moderator ministry report, and financial report were made available to members on the church website and the various WhatsApp Groups.

Proposer: Deacon Alex Lim
Seconder: Rev Xie Weiguang
Members accepted the minutes of ACM held on 26th May 2024.

5. Amendment of Constitution

The Chairman shared that the amendment of Constitution 4.4.2 and the re-definition of “meeting, present, quorum, vote” was passed in the ECM held on 30th June 2024 at the different worship



services. However, when BPC submitted the constitution amendments to MCCY, MCCY recommended changes to clause 19.2, which was not included in the ECM voting process for change. The proposed clause now encompasses BPC losing its registered charity status, not just dissolution. Since then, BPC's constitution committee had sought clarification from Synod, and had held a virtual meeting with MCCY on 16th April 2025. BPC is now waiting for MCCY to revert with a written reply regarding the concern raised by BPC. Hence, the submission of the constitution amendments to MCCY is put on pause.

Question raised:

Brother Wilson Tan asked what is the definition of charitable organization from the perspective of BPC? Is this a separate entity? Is it for tax exemption? Or is the entire BPC a charitable organization?

Chairman referenced to the Common Law; it is understood that religious organizations promoting religious activities are considered charitable organizations. While it is stated in Charity Portable, it is not in Charity Act. As such, we would like to receive written clarification from the relevant government authorities to allay our concern.

Chairman shared that since we are not making any decision today, we can have separate discussion/conversation after the ACM.

6. 2024 Ministry Report by the Moderator

The Chairman shared the four Core Value of BPC in the 2024 Ministry Report:

1. Worshipping Church
 - a. Congregations and Prayer Meetings
 - b. Pulpit Series
 - c. Sacraments
 - d. Children Worship
 - e. Future Generation Worship (last Sunday of the month)
2. Learning Church
 - a. Christian Education
 - b. Future Generation Curriculum
 - c. Theological Training Graduation
 - d. Pastoral Team Training
3. Loving Church
 - a. Senior and Cell Group Ministry
 - b. Camps and Retreats
 - c. Pastoral Visitations
 - d. Future Generation Ministry (Mentoring Culture)
 - e. Stewardship – Bible Study Fellowship (BSF), Community for Spiritual Formation (CSF) & Safe & Sound Sleeping Place (S3P)
4. Serving Church (Church as part of Society)
 - a. ASMC and ASH
 - b. Daycare, Preschool and Infant Care Centers
 - c. Social Ministry
 - d. 48th Boys and Girls Brigade @ Zhong Hua Secondary School
 - e. Missions

Proposer: Brother Chueng Pui Chung

Seconder: Sister Felicia Lam

Members accepted the 2024 Annual Report by Moderator.



7. To adopt the Audited Annual Report for the Financial Year ended 31 December 2024

The Treasurer, Deacon Joanne Tay, shared the financial stewardship principle and the finance committee. Thereafter, she presented the FY 2024 Financial Summary of the Church, Day Care and Pre-school (refer 2024 Audited Annual Report).

Proposer: Rev Wong Shyun Jye

Seconder: Rev Tan Mui Kiang

Members accepted the Audit Annual Report for the Financial Year ended 31 December 2024.

8. To adopt the Financial Year 2025 Budget

The Treasurer presented 2025 budget of the Church, Day Care, Pre-School and Infant Care (refer 2025 Budget). Specific challenges faced by the Day Care, Pre-School and Infant Care Centres were shared.

Questions raised:

Sister Yu Hua enquired on the 105% increased for events in 2025 budget compared to 2024. Is individual service camp more expensive than combined camp? If so, then the church should encourage members to join combined camp.

Dn Joanne replied that individual service camp does not have economy of scale and thus would cost more. In budgeting, the services will tend to do a higher budget but actual can be lower based on past year experience.

Sister Yu Hua furthered asked why we budgeted ~\$20K higher each for miscellaneous cost and office and admin cost?

Dn Joanne replied that for the higher miscellaneous cost, this is due to higher contribution to Synod and addition F&B expense for all pastoral staffs. For the office and admin cost, the increase is due to the plan to revamp the church website and the general inflation on admin cost.

Elder Gary Gan inquired if we should have a more realistic budget for Preschool and Infant Care, because the current number looks very optimistic.

Dn Joanne replied that the new principal, who joined in January 2025, is tasked to work on how to increase the enrolment rate in Preschool and Infant Care.

Sister Yu Hua commented that we need to pray hard for the two schools. We are sowing the gospel seeds to the children in the schools, but our current scenario is only a surplus of \$60K from church-wide while compensating a larger deficit of \$300K in Preschool and Infant Care.

Dn Joanne commented that the Preschool Committee and EDC is monitoring the situation.

Proposer: Sister Khoo Geok Hwa

Seconder: Rev Wong Shyun Jye

Members accepted the Financial Year 2025 budget.

9. Appointment of All Assurance PAC as Auditor for the Financial Year 2025.

The Treasurer proposed to appoint All Assurance PAC as Auditor for the Financial Year 2025.

Proposer: Brother Wilson Tan

Seconder: Elder Gary Gan



Members accepted the appointment of All Assurance PAC as Auditor for the Financial Year 2025.

10. Any Other Business

No special item, other than agenda items, was raised and discussed.

11. Results of Election of Elders and Deacons

Returning Officer Elder Vincent Woo handed over the election results to the Chairman. The nominated candidates for Eldership, Fong Kum Fai Matthew and Ng Keok Boon, had attained at least 97.9% of total votes cast and fulfilled the minimum two-thirds requirement.

The nominated candidates for Deaconship, Tan Hui Fern, Ng Teck Hui and Felicia Lam, had attained at least 97.9% of total votes cast and fulfilled the simple majority requirement.

12. Appreciation and Closing Prayer

There being no further matters, the ACM ended at 12.25pm with a closing prayer by Rev Carol Ling.

Approved by:

Reverend Lim Tau Wei
Chairman
18 May 2025

Prepared by:

Deacon Tan Hui Fern
EDC Clerk
18 May 2025