

First Mennonite Church Annual Business Meeting – January 9, 2019

Open & Devotions: Church Chair Vicki Hinz-Ensz called the meeting to order on January 9, 2019 at 7 p.m. with 32 members in attendance. The lamp was lit symbolizing the presence of God at the meeting. Zella Penner led the group in devotions in the absence of John Penner. She spoke on Matthew 5:13-15, reminding members they are the salt of the earth and are to let their light (faith) shine.

2018 minutes: The minutes of the 2018 Annual business meeting were read by Vicki Frerking. ▲ Vern Jantzen moved to approve the minutes with the correction of the beginning balance date in the Deacon's Gift and Service Fund to read 11/30/16; seconded by LeRoy Jantzen. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Brett presented his report as found in the annual report and thanked the congregation for all they do for him and his family. Chair Ensz thanked him for his leadership, guidance, and self-examining sermons.

Deacon's Report: Lori Thimm thanked the congregation for the encouragement and support given to the Deacons. She also thanked them for their donations to the Gift & Service Fund. The offerings were down on Christmas Eve, 2018 and she encouraged anyone still wanting to donate to contact a Deacon. Everence dollars add \$2000 yearly to this fund. Chair Ensz thanked Lori for her past three years of service as a Deacon.

Deacon Election: The nominee for Deacon is Lori Thimm for a second term. A ballot vote was taken and Lori Thimm was elected unanimously for another three year term as Deacon. Tallying the votes were Don Jantzen and Bev Claassen.

Main Ballot: The slate of nominees for open church positions was presented by Norm Reimer on behalf of the Nominating Committee. As no nominations were received from the floor, Chair Ensz declared the nominations closed. ▲ Kathy Casey moved to accept the slate of nominees as presented; seconded by Lori Thimm. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Committee Reports: The Annual Report contained the committee reports with the addition of the Mennonite Tuition/ Loan Committee report which was read by Vicki Frerking on behalf of Deb Keeney. Vicki apologized for the clerical error of not including this committee's report with the others.

Auditing Report: Roger Claassen reported that all books audited were found to be in order.

Treasurer's Report: Ross Reimer, central treasurer, presented the 2018 financial reports. He noted that money was taken from the Foundation funds to pay for the now completed window restoration project. There was a net loss for the year of \$7,112.13. He presented the proposed 2018-2019 budget. ▲ LeRoy Jantzen moved to approve the proposed budget; seconded by Vern Jantzen. Motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

Other Business or Concerns: Chair Ensz reported that Lyle Miller of Everence spoke with the Church Board in February via video conferencing regarding setting up an avenue in the church to handle large donations. The Church board will be asking for volunteers to serve on a committee to pursue setting things up so the church is prepared with a vision and purpose and avenue to receive large donations should they arise in the future. Vern Jantzen is the Everence contact person in the congregation should anyone have questions or concerns that he can help with.

Adjournment: With no further business or concerns presented, Chair Ensz closed the meeting at 7:45 p.m. with prayer and extinguished the lamp, symbolizing that God remains not only in this place, but goes with us into the world.

Respectfully submitted, Vicki Frerking, Administrative Assistant