

CHURCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES – Regular meeting, April 30, 2020

Dorothy Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chair Zimmerman, Pastor Brett Klingenberg, Lori Thimm, Jerry Reimer, Vern Jantzen, Mike Goossen, Barb Thimm, Erin Vanderschaaf, Bryan Heinz, and Administrative Assistant Vicki Frerking, all via Zoom. (Thank you to Van Vanderschaaf for setting this up.) Jim Ensz was absent. Barb Thimm led devotions.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **COVID-19 Response and Planning:** Dorothy Zimmerman updated the group on the latest COVID-19 figures and Directed Health Measures for the Public Health Solutions area and specifically for Gage County. Although churches may begin meeting after May 11 with very specific guidelines in place in regards to social distancing, touching shared items, and sanitizing. After discussion, Erin VanderSchaaf moved to have no church activities at this time and to reevaluate at the next regular meeting on May 21; seconded by Vern Jantzen. Motion passed on voice vote.
2. **Baptism** is tentatively set for June 7, 2020.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Mission Partner visit:** No update.
2. **WDC Conference Representatives:** No one has shown interest in attending. We will continue to put it in the bulletin.
3. **Everence Report:** Vern Jantzen reported that a webinar was held last week. Everence is doubling the amount of eligible Sharing Fund grant money available to help churches assist those facing financial needs due to COVID-19. Our church now has \$4,000 we can use to help members of our church or community. They are also providing free confidential financial counseling through their partners at Lutheran Social Services. Callers do not have to be Everence members. The dedicated number for this is 877-809-0039.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Missions, Peace, and Service Council: No report.

Worship Council: Dan Kunzman will continue to do his children's messages on Sunday mornings at 11:00 on Face Book Live.

Education Council: They have not met but have decided Vacation Bible School will not be held this year. There may be another children's activity later in the summer if conditions allow.

Pastor's Report:

1. **Camp Mennoscah** has cancelled all summer youth camps.
2. **Baptism** is tentatively set for June 7.
3. Western District Conference has established a **Hope Fund** to receive contributions and offer grants to WDC congregations most impacted by the corona virus. The congregational grants will be distributed where most needed (church expenses, pastoral support, rent or groceries for members). Pastor Brett asked if the church's finances were such that FMC could make a donation to this fund. Vern Jantzen moved that First Mennonite Church donation \$1,000 to the WDC Hope Fund; seconded by Lori Thimm. Motion passed on voice vote. It will be noted in the bulletin that members are encouraged to send their own donations to the Hope Fund as they are able.

Building Committee: The basement carpet is installed. The balcony railing is assembled and will soon be installed.

Central Treasurer's Report: Financial reports were distributed showing the month of March had the usual expenses. Lori Thimm moved to accept the treasurer's report as presented; seconded by Vern Jantzen. Motion passed on voice vote.

INTERIM PASTOR UPDATES:

1. Chair Zimmerman reported that **Roger Neufeld Dunn** has accepted the proposal sent to him after our last meeting. He will serve as Interim Pastor half time at FMC beginning mid August. He would like to attend the next church board meeting on May 21 through a conference call or Zoom.
2. There are several Sundays in July and early August that will **need worship leaders**. Suggestions were offered by the church board members. Dorothy Zimmerman will contact them.
3. Church Board members may assist the Deacons with **visitations and other Pastoral calls** during July and August.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. with prayer. The next meeting will be on May 21 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. (Thank you to Van Vanderschaaf for setting this up.) Erin Vanderschaaf will lead devotions.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Frerking, Administrative Assistant