

## **First Mennonite Church Board Minutes – August 19, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Dorothy Zimmerman. The candle was lit representing God's presence over the meeting. Present were Dorothy Zimmerman, Lori Thimm, Vern Jantzen, Pastor Roger Neufeld Smith, Barb Thimm, Jim Ensz, Marv Goossen, Mike Goossen, Technology Committee Chair Pam Kunzman, and Admin. Assistant Vicki Frerking. Don & Jane Esau were absent. Devotions were led by Mike Goossen.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Lori Thimm **moved to approve** the minutes of the July meeting; seconded by Marv Goossen. Motion passed.

Pam Kunzman, Technology Committee Chair, presented proposals from Midwest Sound & Lighting and Diode Communications for **upgrading FMC's ability to broadcast services**. The proposed options were discussed. Pam will discuss the proposals with the Technology Committee consisting of Neil Trantham, Brett Esau, Van VanderSchaaf, Dan Kunzman, Vicki Ensz, and Brian Heinz and make a recommendation. There will be a two week notification for a congregational meeting to vote on the recommendation presented by the Committee, as specified in the constitution and by-laws. Funding for this project would come from the Technology Fund and Undesignated Funds.

Vern Jantzen moved to **allow Diode Communications to install cabling** from the main internet switch to the balcony and basement, allowing network equipment access points in the balcony and basement. This cable installation will need to take place whether or not the congregation approves one of the proposals presented by the Tech Committee as discussed above. The quote for this installation from Diode is \$1,073.15. Motion seconded by Lori Thimm. Motion passed on voice vote.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Chair Zimmerman presented a **schedule of speakers** for the Sundays Pastor Roger will be off.
  1. On September 12, Mosaic Chaplain Eric Spruth-Janssen and Mosaic Community Relations Director Jessica Javorsky will present the message, children's story and speak during Adult Sunday School.
  2. Pastor Tim Amor will deliver the message on October 17.
  3. Nate Stucky, Director of The Farminary Project at Princeton Seminary, Princeton, NJ will be contacted to see if he is willing to speak here remotely.
- B. **COVID Update:** Chair Zimmerman relayed to the Board the information available regarding the resurgence of COVID, Delta version, in Nebraska. Bryan Hospital in Lincoln is at capacity. Upon discussion, it was decided First Mennonite can continue the current practices and precautions as the majority of our attendees are fully vaccinated. Masks are available for those who want them, hand sanitizer is available, and offering continues to be collected on the way out of church.
- C. Chair Zimmerman will be gone for the meeting in December. Lori Thimm has agreed to chair that meeting.

D. Administrative Assistant Vicki Frerking presented proposals from Midwest Office Automation **to lease a new copy machine** as our lease is nearly up. Proposals were reviewed. Vern Jantzen moved to accept a 60 month lease proposal on a new Xerox copy machine, black only, at \$102.54 per month, including install and delivery; and a Service and Maintenance agreement for \$29.00 base per month which includes 2,900 b/w images with overages billed at \$0.01 per b/w image, parts, labor and toner included. Motion seconded by Marv Goossen. Motion passed on voice vote.

### **PASTOR'S REPORT:**

1. He was pleased to see the success of Parents and Young Adults Night Out last month.
2. He has contacted the current Shepherds to see if they are willing to continue serving as Shepherds an additional year as one year's activities couldn't take place due to COVID. He has heard back from three Shepherds and is waiting for answers from two.
3. He will schedule a time for the Camp Mennoscah campers to share their experience with the congregation in the near future.
4. He will give a short synopsis of the MC USA Conference and WDC Annual Assembly which he attended virtually.
5. The organ has a "sipher" (a leak causing a hum). Kehm Organ Repair Service of Lincoln has been contacted but not made the repair yet.
6. He distributed a schedule of themes for Sundays through the end of the year. .

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Missions, Peace, and Service Committee:** Plans are in place for the church picnic on Sunday, Sept 29 at 5:00 p.m.

Four couples are interested in taking MDS Training in Hesston, KS in November to be "MDS long termers".

**Worship Council:** They will meet next week to begin planning Advent themes and services.

**Education Council:** Sunday School is beginning this Sunday. Peace Club & SYF/JYF will begin September 8. The first meeting begins at 6 but thereafter will begin at 6:30 p.m. Marci Regier will lead the SYF/JYF. They are looking for someone to do social activities and service projects with SYF/JYF.

**Building Committee:** The carpet at the two entrances has been replaced. Sand and bugs have been found near the base of the women's basement toilet which Marv is investigating.

**Central Treasurer's Report:** Reports were presented showing a gain of \$800 for the month of July.

**Adjourn:** With no further business, the lamp was extinguished signifying God does not remain in this building only but goes with us into the world. The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Vicki Frerking, Administrative Assistant.