

## **First Mennonite Church Board Minutes – June 17, 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, Don Esau, Jane Esau, Pastor Roger Neufeld Smith, Barb Thimm, Mike Goossen, and Admin. Assistant Vicki Frerking. Absent were Marv Goossen, Vern Jantzen, and Jim Ensz. Devotions were led by Dorothy Zimmerman.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Lori Thimm moved to approve the minutes of the May board meeting; seconded by Don Esau. Motion passed on voice vote.
- B. A report from the Tech Committee was presented by Dorothy Zimmerman.
  - 1. The foundation of good technology is a very good internet connection. Our best option is to wait for a fiber optic option.
  - 2. A Midwest Sound & Lighting representative came to church and did a walk through review of our systems and discussed various ideas for improvement.
    - a. Purchase a camera that will replace using a cell phone to record our services and can be used to create our DVDs. This will be placed in the balcony.
    - b. Purchase projectors to be hung from the ceiling and eliminate the clutter from the front of the church. The computer will also be in the balcony.
    - c. Will propose options for transmitting services to Fellowship Hall for over- flow services.
  - 3. Midwest Sound & Lighting will present a proposal (in phases) in the next two to three weeks. These will be presented to the Technology Committee and to the church board for review and possible action.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Barb Thimm moved that Pastor Roger Neufeld Smith be FMC's delegate for both the MC USA Conference and the WDC Annual Assembly; seconded by Jane Esau. Motion passed on voice vote.
- B. Pastor Roger has agreed to stay on as our interim pastor beyond his one year commitment. He wonders what, if anything, he should focus his attention on in the next months.
- C. Lori Thimm will contact parents of young children to set a date for a parents night out with childcare provided by church members at church.
- D. Shepherds will be contacted to ask if they will agree to leave the Shepherd groups as they are for 2022 as the time these groups have been able to gather was drastically cut short by the pandemic. Pastor Roger will contact the Shepherds to see if they are willing to serve an additional year through 2022.
- E. Dorothy Zimmerman gave an update on the COVID 19 situation in our area. The dial is in the middle of the green area and no changes are necessary for safety precautions.
- F. Vicki Frerking will check dates the Chautauqua Park Tabernacle is available for the church picnic in September.
- G. Guest speakers for the second Sunday of each month when Roger is not here were reviewed:
  - 1. July 11: Charles Erickson, Dorothy Zimmerman, and Precious Chisebuka of Mumba
  - 2. August 8: Mark Jantzen
  - 3. September 12: Mosaic

- H. Organ Repair: Some notes on the organ didn't work last Sunday. Vicki will contact Steve Kehm to look at the organ again. In addition, he will be contacted every spring and fall to tune and oil the organ as needed.
- I. A Celebration of Life for Don Epp Jr. will be held here on July 17 at 11:00 a.m. There will be no charge for holding this service at the church.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Pastor's Report:**

- 1. Thank you to all who helped with the Hymnal Launch last Sunday.
- 2. He will be preaching at Beatrice Mennonite Church Sunday, June 20.
- 3. He will be at FMC on June 23 – 25 and June 27. He'll travel home on June 26 for several events there.

**Mission, Peace and Service Council:** No report

**Worship Committee:** They continue to work with Pastor Roger on worship and children's stories.

**Education Council:** They had a successful VBS. They will meet next month.

**Building Committee:** No report.

**Central Treasurer's Report:** There was a net revenue of \$5,071.92 for the month of May. Lori Thimm moved to approve the treasurer's report for May; seconded by Barb Thimm. Motion passed on voice vote.

**Search Committee:** Lori Thimm reported that they continue to look at MLI's and make inquiries.

The next meeting will be July 15 at 7:00 p.m. Don Esau will lead devotions.

With no further business the meeting was closed with prayer and the candle was extinguished, representing God does not remain only with us here, but goes with us into the world. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Frerking, Admin. Assistant