

CHURCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES – Regular meeting, May 21, 2020

Dorothy Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The lamp was lit signifying God's presence and guidance over the meeting. Present in the church fellowship hall were Chair Zimmerman, Pastor Brett Klingenberg, Lori Thimm, Jerry Reimer, Vern Jantzen, Mike Goossen, Barb Thimm, Erin Vanderschaaf, Jim Ensz, and Administrative Assistant Vicki Frerking. Bryan Heinz was absent. Erin Vanderschaaf led the group in devotion on Breath Prayers, a prayer technique learned at the Young Adults Retreat.

OLD BUSINESS: *Vern Jantzen moved to approve the April Board minutes as presented; seconded by Mike Goossen. Motion passed on voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Dorothy Zimmerman updated the group on the latest CDC figures and recommendations regarding COVID-19 in preparation of discussion regarding when to begin meeting in person again in the church building. WDC recommendations were also distributed regarding precautions to be taken for worship in sanctuaries. *Vern Jantzen moved to survey the congregation to determine their feelings as to when and how to meet again in person; seconded by Barb Thimm. Motion passed on voice vote. Pastor Brett and Vicki Frerking will compose the online survey with a return date of May 31. Worship will remain virtual for May 24 and May 31. Plans are still underway to hold Baptism on June 7 in some way.
2. *Vern Jantzen moved that the offering scheduled for the VBS Project on May 31 be changed to be for Camp Mennoscah as VBS is not being held; seconded by Mike Goossen. Motion passed on voice vote.
3. Jim Ensz asked if it would be possible for the current You Tube videos to continue once church is opened for in person worship as this is reaching many people. It will be discussed with the IT people who can explore the options.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Missions, Peace, and Service Committee: No report.

Worship Committee: They are working with the Klingenberg Farewell Committee. Plans at this time are still tentative.

Education Report: No report.

Pastor's Report:

1. He is still hoping to hold Communion in some way on June 14.
2. Camp Mennoscah is offering "Camp in a Box" for \$40 per box. The box contains a T shirt, crafts, Bible studies, etc and need to be ordered by June 3. *Vern Jantzen moved to get all camp registrants a "Camp in the Box"; seconded by Lori Thimm. Motion passed on voice vote.
3. The Annual Assembly will be held virtually online. They are asking that each congregation submit a short video highlighting their congregation. Pastor Brett will take care of this.
4. The WDC Hope Fund is now giving \$2500 grants to the congregations who apply.

Building Committee: No report.

Central Treasurer's Report: *Vern Jantzen moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented; seconded by Jerry Reimer. Motion passed on voice vote.

INTERIM PASTOR:

The board reviewed a tentative worship schedule for July 5 through August 16. The board was reminded that Pastor Roger Neufeld-Smith will have one Sunday a month off and other plans will need to be made for those Sundays. Interim Pastor Roger Neufeld-Smith joined the meeting at 8:35 p.m. via Zoom to introduce himself and answer and ask questions. He will begin at First Mennonite on Sunday, August 23 but may be available sooner if needed due to COVID altering travel plans he and his wife have. They will be moving to Topeka in mid June. He will be at First Mennonite probably Thursdays through Sundays. Dorothy is finding housing for him while he is in Beatrice.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m. with prayer and the extinguishing of the lamp, signifying that God does not remain in this place but goes with us into the world. The next meeting will be Thursday, June 18 at 7:00 p.m. at First Mennonite Church.

Respectfully submitted, Vicki Frerking, Administrative Assistant