

First Mennonite Church Board Minutes – November 11, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Dorothy Zimmerman. The lamp was lit, representing God's presence over the meeting. Present were Dorothy Zimmerman, Pastor Roger Neufeld Smith, Vern Jantzen, Barb Thimm, Mike Goossen, Don Esau, Jane Esau, Lori Thimm, Administrative Assistant Vicki Frerking, and visitor Dan Kunzman. Jim Ensz and Marv Goossen were absent. Lori Thimm led devotions on Nice vs. Kind.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Vern Jantzen moved to **approve the minutes** from the October meeting with the correction of the offering dates for AMBS and Adult & Teen Challenge. Don Esau seconded. Motion passed. (AMBS is January 30 and A & T Challenge is Feb 27)
2. Diode has not done the work yet to install the wiring, etc needed upstairs and downstairs in connection with **Phase 1 of the Technology update**. Phase II of the tech upgrade will not be on the agenda for the 2022 Annual Meeting as things are progressing slowly. Pam Kunzman is exploring purchasing a new camera to live stream the service. The service wasn't live streamed on Facebook last week because of a mistake in posting it.
3. Dan Kunzman presented a **proposal from SOCS** (Simplified Online Communication Systems), a nonprofit corporation, for a new web platform. The contract would be for three years at \$2,000 a year. Lori Thimm moved to accept the proposal, seconded by Barb Thimm. Motion passed.
4. Sue Gerber and Daryl Riesen have consented to serve on **the Nominating Committee**.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Dorothy gave an update on the **Covid activity** in our area. Precautions will remain the same.
2. **Deacon suggestions** will be taken through December 1.
3. **The schedule of speakers** in Roger's absence is: November 21, Nate Stucky; December 26, a service of Songs and Scripture by congregation members; January 30, David Boshart, President of AMBS.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

1. The **Cottage Prayer meeting topic** will be "Traveling the Inward/Outward Journey of the Christian Life".
2. He has been working with Pastor Tim in determining an **Annual Study speaker and the date**.
3. He reported that **Arylis Goertzen** is at Good Sam.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mission Peace & Service Council: LeRoy and Doreen, Marv & Lisa Goossen, and Jim & Vicki Ensz are currently in Hesston, KS for MDS training.

Worship Council: They are planning Christmas and Advent services with Pastor Roger.

Education Council: Children's Sunday School will restart January 9. Peace Club will begin again in February.

Building Committee: They are getting bids to repair and paint the sanctuary to present at the annual meeting.

Central Treasurer's Report was presented. We received \$13,000 in offerings in October. The Cemetery Maintenance Fund received \$1500 from the Hilda Schmidt estate. He will send an honorarium of \$200 to Nate Stucky for his video message November 21. He is working on the 2022 budget.

OTHER ITEMS:

1. Vern reported that there are four people from FMC going to help **can meat for MCC** on Saturday.
2. The FMC **1983 Summer Assistant Dagne Assefa** of Indianapolis, Indiana passed away September 9, 2021 at the age of 71. The obituary may be found at <https://anabaptistworld.org/obituaries/dagne-assefa/>

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: 30 p.m. The next meeting will be Thursday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m. Jim Ensz will lead devotions.

Respectfully submitted, Vicki Frerking, Administrative Assistant