

Church Board Meeting Minutes – September 17, 2020

Chair Dorothy Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The lamp was lit signifying God's presence over the meeting. Present in the church fellowship hall were Chair Zimmerman, Erin Vanderschaaf, Vern Jantzen, Jerry Reimer, Mike Goossen, Jim Ensz, Barb Thimm, Roger N Smith, and Administrative Assistant Vicki Frerking. Lori Thimm and Bryan Heinz were absent. Mike Goossen led the group in devotions "What is our attitude toward change?" based on Isaiah 43:19.

The August minutes were accepted as distributed.

Old Business

1. Vern Fast accepted the **Finance Committee vacancy** created by Larry Thimm's resignation.
2. Dorothy reported on Pam Kunzman's suggestions for **technology upgrade** consulting. A discussion needs to be held as to whether we continue face book live or move to a live stream of services and the cost involved. **This may go on the Annual Meeting agenda.** Pam is concerned that our wifi is not secure. A new microphone/cable to connect to the iphone for face book live broadcasts will be ordered to hopefully improve the sound quality on the broadcast.
3. **Roger's Schedule:** Roger will be gone October 11 when Teresa Barnes of Adult & Teen Challenge will speak at FMC. He is trying to line up a speaker from MCC for November 15. He will off on December 27 and January 10.

New Business

1. Dorothy updated the group on **current PHS COVID information.** Because the community is moving into Phase 4 with no mandates, just recommendations, the board discussed what changes should be made in the church policy for worship and activities in the midst of the pandemic. Opinions were offered, ideas discussed, and it was decided that the recommendations will remain the same with the exceptions of inviting children to come forward for the Children's Story and attendees may leave on their own & exit outside to visit. The recommendations will be evaluated again at the October board meeting on October 15. Communion will be distributed on October 4 in the same manner it was in June. Dorothy will draft a letter for the congregation for distribution tomorrow.
2. **All Saints Day Speaker** for November 1 will be Vern Jantzen.

Pastor's Report

1. As discussed during Old Business, Roger will be gone October 11, November 15, December 27 and January 10.
2. He feels things are off to a good start and feels very welcomed by the congregation.
3. He will begin visiting shut ins where allowed.
4. He informed the board that he spends time working on FMC things while at home as well as when here.
5. He distributed sermon survey sheets to the board members so they may critique and offer suggestions of sermons.

Committee Reports

Mission, Peace & Service Council: Approximately 70 were in attendance at the picnic last Sunday at Chautauqua Park Tabernacle. Jim and Vicki Ensz prepared the meal and Tracy Crawford made the ice cream. Jim would like to feature the many Missional outreach programs FMC members are involved in during Adult Sunday School or Sharing and Prayer time of worship.

Worship Committee: Meeting October 15. Worship leaders are scheduled through November.

Education Council: Meeting October 15. Teacher Appreciation was held. Sunday School, Peace Club, JYF, and SYF will begin next week.

Building Committee: No report.

Treasurer's Report: The reports were distributed. JYF and SYF have held separate checking accounts. JYF account, held by First Mennonite, hasn't had any checks written since February 2017. Mike Goossen was authorized to be the signer on this account at the June church board meeting. It was felt the JYF account could be held in a designated account managed by the Central Treasurer. The SYF checking account is held by Beatrice Mennonite Church. Erin Vanderschaaf **moved to approve the financial reports**; seconded by Vern Jantzen. Motion passed.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer and 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, October 15 at 7 p.m. at First Mennonite Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Frerking, Administrative Assistant