

Church Board meeting, August 18, 2022, 7 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Dorothy Zimmerman. The lamp was lit symbolizing Christ's presence over the meeting. Present were Dorothy Zimmerman, Vern Jantzen, Barb Thimm, Mike Goossen, Don and Jane Esau, Don Jantzen, Pastor Roger Neufeld Smith, and Administrative Assistant, Vicki Frerking. Jim and Vicki Ensz were absent. Mike Goossen led devotions on Psalm 27.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The **minutes of the July meeting** were approved as presented.
2. **Technology Update:**
 - a) **New SOCS Website Progress:** Vicki Frerking reported that she would send the website link to the board members for review. Comments may directed to Dan Kunzman of SOCS. It will go live possibly as soon as next week. A short introduction of the new website will be presented during Sharing time in the near future. Of note, there is a donation button on the site that will allow donations to be made to the different funds of the FMC Treasury.
 - b) **Live streaming:** A new schedule has been distributed with the audio and live stream volunteers serving for a month at a time. It was suggested that on the first Sunday of a month, the volunteer who did live stream the previous month do a quick review of procedures with the volunteer for the new month. When songs are performed that we cannot obtain copyright permission for, audio must be turned down as it can't be live streamed. Sound Operators must remember to check that the audio is turned back up.
3. **Plans for Roger's Farewell:** Jane and Barb reported that plans are in place for the worship service, the potluck dinner, and program following.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Operation Christmas Child:** Linsey Schardt and Lori Thimm proposed to the board that FMC members be given the opportunity to participate in Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, a nonprofit evangelical Christian humanitarian aid organization. Operation Christmas Child sends shoe boxes packed with gender and age appropriate items to children in need, in the U.S. and overseas. Included with the box is "The Greatest Journey", a 12 lesson discipleship course designed for Operation Christmas Child shoebox recipients. Through the lessons, children learn how to follow Christ and share Him with others. As they do, entire families and communities are transformed by the power of the Gospel, and churches are started. Linsey and Lori would do a presentation to the congregation on October 9, boxes would be available on October 16, and need to be filled with suggested items and returned to church by November 19. ■Barb Thimm moved the Board approve Linsey and Lori to proceed with their proposal to implement Operation Christmas Child; seconded by Don Jantzen. Motion passed.
2. **Schedule of Speakers:** August 28, Pastor Sarah Schlegel, Salem Mennonite Church, Schickley, NE will be the guest speaker.
3. **COVID Update:** Chair Zimmerman gave an update on the COVID numbers in the area. No changes will be made to the FMC COVID protocol at this time.
4. **Pastoral Documents and Installation for Pastor Josh Janzen:**
 - a) The **Covenant of Understanding** prepared by Chair Zimmerman was reviewed and modifications were discussed. Don Esau moved to approve the revised Covenant of Understanding; seconded by Vern Jantzen. Motion passed. The Covenant will be reviewed again with Pastor Josh in one year by the Church Chair and Treasurer.
 - b) Chair Zimmerman has sent a letter to Western District Conference Ministerial Committee requesting Josh be **licensed and ordained**. She has not received a reply yet.
 - c) **Installation:** Josh will be installed on September 11 by WDC Conference Associate Minister Kathy Neufeld Dunn. He and wife Stephanie will be welcomed to FMC at the church picnic that evening at 5 p.m. at Chautauqua Park Tabernacle.
 - d) **Office Computer:** Pastor Josh has requested a Windows laptop for his office computer. Dorothy will ask Pam Kunzman to look into getting one for him.
 - e) **Orientation for Pastor Josh:** Dorothy Zimmerman and Vicki Frerking will meet with him on his first day, Monday, August 29. At some point in the days following, Pam Kunzman will orient him to the Audio/live stream equipment and procedures; Barb Thimm will discuss with him the Sunday Singers Schedule and the

song leadership during worship that was instituted when COVID first began; Worship Council will meet with him to plan the Installation service. He will orient to the Church Board, Education Council, and other boards at their regular meetings.

- f) **Magnetic name tags** for congregation adults will be available in their mailboxes by September 4 and are to be used until Josh becomes acquainted with the congregation.
- g) **Pastor's Office phone:** Discussion was held whether a separate land line and number was needed for Pastor's office. There currently is not an answering machine attached to that number. Dorothy Zimmerman will talk with Josh to see if he wants to keep the land line.
5. **New Church Pictorial Directory:** It's been five years since the last one. Vicki Frerking will look into this and report in September.
6. **Exit Agreement:** Since Pastor Roger was an interim Pastor, an Exit Agreement is not required.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mission, Peace, & Service Council: Dorothy reported, in Jim's absence, that the immigrant families the congregation has been helping with groceries this summer have been invited to the church picnic on September 11. They will be letting Jim know how many to plan for.

Worship Council: Jane thanked Roger for his wonderful planning of church services. Don & June Diller will be celebrating their 75th wedding Anniversary on August 29. In observance of that, their family would like to sing at the September 4 service. The Council will meet on September 8 at 6 p.m. They will work with Josh to plan the September 11 Installation Service. Sunday Singers will sing.

Education Council: Barb reported that Sunday School has started. Peace Club, JYF, and SYF will begin on September 14th for an 8 week session. Marci Regier will lead the SYF and JYF Wednesday night meetings.

Building Committee: Don Jantzen reported that VanLaningshams have finished the inside and outside work at the church. The elevator wench was taken to Johnny's Welding for repair. They repaired it at no charge and the elevator is working again. A thank you will be sent to them. The new light bulbs in the church sanctuary have been well received.

Central Treasurer: Mike reported that additional donations have been received for the Pastor's Housing Loan Fund. Donations for this fund will be received through October 1. The fund's previous balance has been dispersed to Nebraska Title for the pastor's home loan. There was some discussion about how these additional funds should be dispersed. Pastor Josh and the lender will be consulted. Pastor Brett initiated an account with Sermon.net which allowed sermons to be uploaded on the website. Since previous services are now available on our You Tube channel, this account is no longer needed. It will be discontinued.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:30 p.m. The lamp was extinguished, symbolizing that God remains not only in this place, but goes with us into the world. The next meeting will be Thursday, September 15 at 7:00 p.m. Jane Esau will lead devotions.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Frerking, Administrative Assistant