

## FMC Church Board Meeting, December 15, 2022

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, Don Esau, Vicki Hinz-Ensz, Mike Goossen, Barb Thimm, Jim Ensz, Pastor Josh Janzen, Don Jantzen, Jane Esau, and Adm. Asst. Vicki Frerking. No one was absent. Vern Jantzen led devotions on Matthew 2:14-15, the Flight to Egypt by Joseph, Mary, and Jesus.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. The **November meeting minutes** stand approved as presented.
2. **Technology Update**
  - a) **Office Cellphone Update:** Vicki Frerking is no longer trying to get the landline number ported to Selectel from Windstream but is trying to get the number ported to US Cellular. It's still in process. They have a prepaid plan for \$30 per month and a smart phone for \$0.01. Hopefully the number will be ported successfully within a few days.
  - b) **Technology Committee Update:** Pam Kunzman has agreed to chair the Technology Committee and will contact current committee members to see if they will continue serving on the committee. She will meet with them in January to create a plan to address recommendations made in November.
3. Sign-ups for **the new church pictorial directory** photography times has begun. Dates for sessions are January 30 and 31, 2023. Dolores Jantzen and Zella Penner are chairing this project. Appointments may be made online or after worship in the church office with Zella. Dolores and Zella ask that church members send any photos of church activities they may have that could be used in the directory to the church office.
4. **Homer Friesen Retirement reception** is scheduled for January 8, 2023, 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. in the church basement. Everence contacted FMC for permission to hold a retirement reception here and will cover the expenses. All are invited.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. **Covid Update:** Dorothy reported that Covid cases are rising again, along with cases of flu and RSV. Local and state hospitals are feeling the strain of the many cases. No COVID protocols will be put in place at FMC, but all are encouraged to receive vaccinations for flu and COVID.
2. **Annual Meeting Agenda:** Dorothy presented a draft of the agenda for the Annual Meeting. With Board input, the draft was finalized.

### Pastor's Report:

1. **The Cottage Prayer Meeting** topic will follow up on the Vision of FMC as was discussed earlier this year at worship services held in the basement.
2. **His 2023 goals** are to
  - a) **study Family Systems Theory** and how churches function in regard to that theory.
  - b) **learn Spanish** to enable him to better serve the mission of ministering to the newcomers.
3. He will be gone on **February 12** with the Young Adult Retreat.
4. He will hold a **Christmas party for JYF and SYF** on December 28 from 6-midnight at FMC.
5. **Annual Study Series Speaker** will be Trey Ferguson, Pastor of The Refuge Church in Homestead, Florida and founder of RFX Ministries. He has been working with Pastor Time of Summit Street Church to coordinate this event. FMC will host the Sunday morning session.
6. **The New Year's Eve Service** will be a service of Communion and feature several Reflections from congregation members.
7. He has several **sermon series** planned for 2023.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Mission, Peace, & Service Council:** Jim says the Missions, Peace, and Service Committee is thankful for the generosity of congregation members for their time, talents, and donations to help the newcomers. Those most involved in the mission will meet next week to discuss how they might empower the newcomers to become more independent.

**Worship Council:** They met today. They thank Don & June Diller for the donation of their piano to use in the church basement. The Diller's organ was donated to Samaritan Springs for their use. Their piano was donated to FMC basement. The old basement piano was donated to someone who will use it for a recycled project. Thank you to Rodney Ensz, Brad Thimm, Brett Esau and Brandon Esau for moving everything around.

**Education Council:** Children's Sunday School will resume on January 8. They are looking for another JYF and SYF sponsor to help John Regier.

**Building Committee:** No repairs have been needed last month.

### Central Treasurer:

1. The **November treasurers' report** was presented and discussed. Mike noted that the donations received to support Missionaries Dave & Rebekkah Stutzman falls about \$2000 short of meeting our \$5000 yearly commitment. He also pointed out that 2022 yearly contributions have fallen short of the expenditures, resulting in a negative balance. The congregation will be made aware of this. The average 2022 Sunday general fund donations were \$4,600. It's noted that to meet the 2023 budget, the average Sunday general fund donations will need to average \$6,100.
2. Mike Goossen presented the **proposed 2023 Budget** totaling \$171,797.
  - a. ▲ Vern Jantzen moved to add \$1500 to the budget for an HSA contribution for Pastor Josh's account when he has one set up. Seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed on voice vote.
  - b. ▲ Mike Goossen moved to add \$500 to the Special Congregational Events line item. Seconded by Vern Jantzen. Motion passed on voice vote.
  - c. ▲ Mike Goossen moved that the amended proposed budget totaling \$173,797 be presented to the voters for approval at the Annual Meeting; seconded by Vern Jantzen. Motion passed on voice vote.

### Other Agenda Items:

Dorothy Zimmerman thanked the board for their involvement, patience and problem solving in the challenges encountered in 2022. The board thanked Chair Dorothy Zimmerman for her leadership.

### Adjournment:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:00 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 January 19, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. with the new board members. The current board members will be invited to attend that meeting also. Pastor Josh will have devotions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vicki Frerking, Administrative Assistant