

FMC CHURCH BOARD MEETING, JANUARY 19, 2023

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 outgoing members Dorothy Zimmerman, Vern Jantzen, Barb Thimm, Jim Ensz, Jane Esau; incoming members Jerry Reimer, Amanda Thimm, Debbie Goossen, Dan Kunzman, John Regier; ongoing members Pastor Josh Janzen, Don Esau, Mike Goossen; and recording secretary Vicki Frerking. Incoming Chair Jerry Reimer led devotions on Hebrews 10:10-23, asking the questions "Does Jesus really not remember our forgiven sins?"

Retiring board members were thanked for their service and new member were welcomed onto the Church Board. The 2023 Devotion Schedule was distributed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. The December board meeting minutes stand approved as presented.
2. The Annual Business meeting minutes were reviewed. The 2023 budget approved at that meeting was reviewed.
3. The approved motion from the Annual Business meeting to serve at three additional dates for Warren's Table in 2023 was discussed. The first date added is February 21. Jerry Reimer will call Shana Ensz to see if the youth will serve this date, possibly in connection with another church group.
4. Covid Update: Dorothy reported that Covid activity continues to trend down in Nebraska and the nation. No protocols will be put in place.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Dorothy presented a request received by mail from **the Beatrice Back Pack program** to sponsor a food filled back pack(s) for the school year. The program is available to elementary students in Beatrice Public Schools who face food insecurity over the weekend when they can't receive school meals. The request was discussed by no action was taken.
2. ▼Don Esau moved to nominate Debbie Goossen to serve as **official Church Board Secretary** for 2023; seconded by Jane Esau. Motion passed. (Vicki Frerking remains the recording secretary. In her absence at meetings, Debbie will record minutes.)

Pastor's Report:

1. **The Annual Study Series** will be February 19, 2023 with sessions being held at First Mennonite for the Sunday School hour and worship. The evening session will be held at Summit Street Church, Beatrice. Featured speaker will be Pastor Trey Ferguson of RFX Ministries: Rebellion for Christ.
2. **Cottage Prayer meetings** showed that members top priorities for FMC are ministering to Youth and families and Newcomers, and addressing the Economic Disparity and Poverty in the community. Pastor is pleased that these coincide with his goals. He is planning to set up lunch dates at school with the youth who attend Tri County.
3. He will be attending a **WDC Pastor's Day Apart** at Prairie View in Newton on February 7.
4. He and the Missions, Peace, and Service Council chair have been trying to meet with **Nita Nickel**, of the WDC Church Planting Commission, as she is interested in learning about work FMC has done to help the Newcomers.
5. He will be **gone on February 12** for the Young Adult Retreat. Jerry Reimer and the Worship Council will look for a guest speaker.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mission, Peace & Service Council: Jim Ensz reported that he has met with Dan Kunzman, new chair, about the scope of this committee. Members of FMC furnished a complete house for Newcomers this week. WMS supplied four blankets.

Worship Council: They met this evening with Pastor. They discussed how to involve the youth more in worship services. Pastor Josh is determining the services for Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday.

Education Council: They met last week. Peace Club and JYF will begin February 1 and go through April 5. No decision has been made on the curriculum for Vacation Bible School, May 30 – June 2.

Building Committee: John Regier reported that

1. Larry Thimm and Don Jantzen fixed the **leak in the attic**.
2. the **fuel tank** in the boiler room will be drained and capped.
3. they will look into the condition of the **Bradford Pear trees** lining the cemetery.

Technology Committee: They are meeting next week. No report at this time.

Central Treasurer: Mike Goossen presented the financial reports. He also had communication from Everence on recommended compensation for guest speakers. ▼ Mike Goossen moved to increase the **guest speaker compensation** to \$300 per event, plus travel and accommodation expenses; seconded by Jerry Reimer. Motion passed.

Other Agenda items:

The church office has a **new phone number: 402-251-7180**. This is a cell phone that will remain in the church office in place of the land line. The change was needed due to technology advances. Messages may be left, but keep in mind that Vicki is not in the office every day to check the messages. For time sensitive matters, please contact her at 402-239-5312. The land line account with Windstream has been discontinued.

Adjournment:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:10 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 February 16, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Don Esau will have a devotion.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Frerking, Administrative Assistant