

FMC CHURCH BOARD MEETING JULY 20, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Church Chair Jerry Reimer. The lamp was lit symbolizing Christ's presence over the meeting. Present were Jerry Reimer, Sue Gerber, Debbie Goossen, Mike Goossen, Pastor Josh Janzen, Vicki Hinz-Ensz, Dan Kunzman, Amanda Thimm, and Adm. Asst. Vicki Frerking. John Regier and Don Esau were absent. Mike Goossen led devotions.

OLD BUSINESS

The June meeting minutes stand approved as presented.

MC-USA Delegate session report: Pastor Josh, Vicki Hinz-Ensz and Debbie Goossen reported on their attendance at the delegate session, noting there were three resolutions. The resolution to change the delegate sessions to a three-year rotation instead of the current two-year rotation was defeated. The other two resolutions were minor and met with no opposition. The delegates all reported that the main benefit of participation was blessings of shared worship and the fellowship of old and new friends.

WDC Listening Process visit: WDC Conference Minister Heidi Regier Kreider will schedule this in late February or early March, 2024.

Pastoral Staffing update: Pastor Josh and the Deacons presented a list of qualifications and expectations for the position of a faith formation leader to the church board for discussion. Pastor Josh suggests this position be titled "Associate Pastor of Faith Formation". ▼ Dan Kunzman moved the board go forward in pursuing this position through church discussion and a congregational vote at a special meeting; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed. Round Table discussions with the congregation will take place on Sunday, August 20 at 9:30 a.m., led by Pastor Josh, the Deacons, and Church Chair Jerry Reimer. A special Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, September 10, 2023 at 11:30 a.m. following worship. The description of the duties of this position will be distributed to the congregation next week.

NEW BUSINESS

Technology Update: Midwest Sound and Lighting will move the balcony camera this Friday at 9:30 a.m. to a position below the balcony that has a clear view with no obstructions or vibrations to the camera. The congregation is warned to be aware of scans that may come to them through FMC Facebook "friends". We have recently had many new "likes" from people in distant places in the world who may contact members through Facebook. Do not open or click on any message from someone you do not know.

WDC Annual Assembly at Tabor Mennonite August 11-13, 2023: Pastor Josh will be our in-person delegate. Congregation members are encouraged to talk with Jerry Reimer if they are interested in attending either in-person or virtually.

PASTOR REPORT

1. Our Missionary Partner Dave Stutzman will be here on Sunday, August 20 to present the message.
2. The Deacon Fund is being used to help meet the needs of people in the community who have called the church asking for help with utilities, rent, etc.
3. He is in communication with WDC regarding his Ordination Process.
4. He is now serving as President of the Beatrice Ministerial Association.
5. He has applied to be a member of the Gage County Young Professionals Group.
6. He has applied to be a member of the next Beatrice Leadership Program through the Chamber of Commerce.
7. He will be judging the poultry show at the Gage County Fair next week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mission, Peace, & Service Council:

1. The **Los Companeros Committee** continues to meet. Crete Public Schools donated six computer tablets to help the newcomers in learning English. The committee is looking at computer programs to facilitate this. The newcomers are playing baseball on Saturday and Sunday evenings on the Scott St. fields. On September 17 they will hold a potluck and baseball game at the field.

2. The committee is going to meet with the Ministerial Association to promote the newcomers' program to more churches via the Pastors attending the Ministerial Association meeting.
3. ▼ Dan Kunzman moved that a free will offering breakfast be held in late fall at FMC on a Sunday morning to benefit the Camp Menno's M & M Project; seconded by Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Motion passed.

Worship Council:

Amanda reported that Vicki Hinz-Ensz will continue to present Children's Stories through the month of July. Other volunteers will be sought to present them during August. The regular rotation of Worship Council members recruiting volunteers to present Children's Stories will begin again in September. They will meet again on August 17 at 5:45 p.m.

Education Council: They met July 19.

1. The Preschool through Middle School "Orange" curriculum has been ordered for preschool through middle school to be used for Sunday School and Peace Club.
2. They are looking for JYF sponsors. Marci Regier will continue to lead their sessions.
3. The Library Committee reported purchasing twelve new books.
4. An updated Safe Sanctuary document reflecting the references to Dove's Nest being changed to MC USA Church Safety will be sent to FMC's insurance provider.

Building Committee: In John's absence, he reported the following items are in various stages of completion:

1. Fence/tree removal: areas around cemetery will need additional dirt as rain has settled dirt from previous fill work.
2. Downspouts on church: need to call for quotes to repair and secure downspouts.
3. Mailbox: Doug and I are working on a solution to fix the mail from getting wet when it rains.
4. Re-shingling the cemetery display board: finding materials .
5. They will also be notified of a ceiling leak in the nursery.

Central Treasurer: The treasurer's report was presented showing June offerings of \$8,713.

Additional Items to discuss: The Gage County Historical Society is sponsoring a Church Windows Bus Tour on September 9. Chair Reimer will ask Vern Jantzen if he could be available to answer any questions from tour participants if FMC is a stop on the tour.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:15 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 is Thursday, August 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Vicki Frerking, Administrative Assistant