

FMC CHURCH BOARD MEETING, May 18, 2023

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. The **April meeting minutes** stand approved as corrected.
2. **Homestead Harmonizers** will not be available to come to FMC this year.
3. **Pulpit fill** for August 27 will be Katie Jantzen and Ruth Harder for September 3.
4. **FMC's MC USA delegates are** Pastor Josh and Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Debbie Goossen will attend as a delegate representing WDC. They plan to attend the assembly only. Glen Guyton, Executive Director of Mennonite Church USA will provide a pre-recorded message to use on July 9 for use by those churches whose pastor is attending the assembly.
5. **Ordination for Pastor Josh:** Jerry Reimer has been in communication with Kathy Neufeld Dunn and Cynthia Neufeld Smith (Ministerial Leadership Commission Chair) regarding working toward Pastor Josh's ordination this fall.
6. **Hosting WDC Annual Assembly: Vicki Hinz-Ensz moved** that FMC host the WDC Assembly in August 2024, contingent on more details; seconded by Sue Gerber. Motion passed. Jerry Reimer will get more details.
7. **Visioning uses for Undesignated Funds:** Since there are no pressing needs, this conversation will be tabled for now.
8. **The Annual Study Series:** Discussion was held regarding the future of the Annual Study Series. Before committing to a speaker for next year, the board will explore other options that may be better attended and more family oriented.
9. **Warren's Table:** Two small groups from FMC will serve on December 19. Don Esau clarified that the Church Board will serve on September 12. These dates are in addition to the usual five served by the Shepherd Groups.
10. **Technology Update:**
 - a) Committee member Dan Kunzman reported that the committee has purchased a Chrome Book to be used by youth classes.
 - b) Pam is getting a quote from Midwest Sound and Lighting for moving the camera from the balcony to the back entrance of the sanctuary.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Matching Congregational needs with our Pastoral staffing:** A discussion was held concerning the possibility of adding a part time staff position for family ministry, with the goal of lifelong faith formation.

PASTOR'S REPORT

1. Orange Conference 2023: Pastor Josh attended the conference virtually. The conference addressed the Orange Curriculum and family ministry in general; specifically, faith formation of the next generation.
2. He has met with all of FMC's elementary students one on one, mostly over school lunch.
3. He led the Lord's Prayer and introduced speaker Tim Amor at the Beatrice High School Baccalaureate last night.
4. He has been asked to consider chairing the Beatrice Ministerial Association. He is considering it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mission, Peace and Service Council: Dan Kunzman reported the **Los Companeros** group met with approximately twelve pastors/community members attending. They continue to explore ways to help the Newcomers adjust to life in Beatrice. He received a large donation of baseball equipment that was formerly used by the Beatrice Bruins from Bob Steinkamp.

Worship Council: No report.

Education Council:

1. Debbie Goossen reported that the Council has approved the use of the Orange Curriculum beginning this fall. They will evaluate after one year.
2. Intergenerational Sunday School will be held this summer with materials based on the books of Mark and John. Volunteers are being recruited to teach or help for Sundays this summer.

Building Council: John Regier reported that they will be removing the rest of the cemetery fence and are researching what type of trees to plant on the south side of the cemetery.

Central Treasurer: The treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:50 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, June 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Frerking, Administrative Assistant