FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH BOARD MEETING MINUTES – October 14, 2026, 7:00 pm FMC Church Basement

Chair Brett Esau called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. The lamp was lit symbolizing the presence of the Holy Spirit over the meeting. Attending: Brett Esau, Pastor Josh Jantzen, Sue Gerber, Lori Thimm, Don Esau, Dorothy Zimmerman, Jim Ensz, Jane Esau, and Adm. Assistant Vicki Frerking. Jim Ensz was in attendance for the Building Committee. Associate Pastor Sarah Neher Reimer is on maternity leave. Pastor Janzen led devotions.

OLD BUSINESS:

▼Dorothy Zimmerman moved to approve the **September minutes**; Sue Gerber seconded. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Two additional Nominating Committee members** are needed to fill the Nominating Committee. Appointing these two members was forgotten last year in October. Two more committee members will be appointed prior to the end of the year.
2. No speaker is needed for **All Saints Day** as there were no deaths in the congregation since last years' service.
3. ▼Dorothy Zimmerman moved to approve the **Offering schedule** as presented; seconded by Lori Thimm. Motion passed.
4. **Board Executive Session**: The Board moved into Executive session at 7:38 pm, asking Pastor Josh to not be present for this session. The discussion was centered on the Assistant Pastor's compensation package. The Board moved out of Executive session at 8:10 pm.

PASTORS' REPORTS:

Senior Pastor Josh:

1. **Constitution/By-law Changes**: He hasn't received any feedback from congregation members.
2. The **Ministerial Association** will talk with FoodNet of Lincoln.
3. He is planning a **Youth Sunday**, having youth participate more in the service.
4. **Dorothea Mae Janzen's dedication** will be November 15.
5. He plans to take **vacation time** November 0-13 and November 16-22.
6. **Pastor exchange**: He will preach at Summit Street Church on November 8 and Pastor Andrew of Summit Street will preach here on November 22.

Associate Pastor of Faith Pastor Sarah (absent. No report.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee:

1. Dorothy reported that the **postcards** are done and will be distributed in mailboxes and mailed out to former members, attendees, summer assistants, and pastors.
2. The 2027 **Calendar** highlighting FMC will be available by the end of November.
3. The Committee's planning continues.

Mission, Peace & Service Council: The picnic was well attended.

Worship Council: They are discussing how to involve kids in worship more.

Education Council:

1. The **Christmas Program** will be December 13.
2. **Peace Club** is closing every session with the Lord's Prayer so the kids are learning it.
3. **Background checks** are being done. These were budgeted for.
4. They will do a **congregational survey** prior to Pastor Sarah's Covenant of Understanding.
5. Their **next meeting** is January 19 and will include members going off and coming on.

Building Committee:

1. They **fixed** the reflectors, nursery sink, and lift pump.
2. They had a zoom meeting with Tri City Sign Company to discuss a **4' x 6' LED sign** to replace the current sign and permits required. A preliminary quote is $17,600.

Central Treasurer: The September financial reports were reviewed. The board also discussed the 2027 budget.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS: The next meeting will be December 3 at 7 p.m., combining the November and December meeting.

With no further business, Chair Esau adjourned the meeting with prayer and extinguished the lamp, signaling that the Holy Spirit goes with us into the world.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Frerking, Adm. Assistant