

Annual Business Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2025

Opening and Devotions: Church Chair Jerry Reimer called the meeting to order on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. with forty members present. The lamp was lit, symbolizing God's presence at the meeting. Justin Schardt led the group in devotions on "Fear, Faith, and Following Jesus".

Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the 2024 January 10 annual meeting are in the Annual Report and read at the meeting by Adm. Asst. Vicki Frerking. ▼ Vern Jantzen moved to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Dorothy Zimmerman and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Deacons Report: Vicki Hinz-Ensz thanked the congregation for allowing her to serve. The Deacons appreciate the prayers, encouragement, and open communication they receive from the congregation. She is excited about the growth and scope of FMC in 2025 and beyond. FMC has many positive attributes including great pastoral leadership, members who willingly give of their time and talents, enthusiastic participation of the children and youth, and caring members with a long history of working as the church in service to God wherever He leads. She presented the Deacons Fund report, thanking the congregation for their support so they could once again help those in need in the community.

Deacon Election: The nominee for Deacon is Vicki Hinz-Ensz for her second 3-year term. Vicki was elected Deacon for the next three years unanimously on a ballot vote. Tallying votes were Brad Thimm and Neal Trantham.

Main Ballot: Nominating Committee Chair Sue Gerber presented the slate of nominees. ▼ Dan Kunzman moved that those on the presented ballot be elected; seconded by Katie Jantzen and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Committee Reports: These are in the Annual Report. There were no questions or comments from the floor.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Josh referred to his report in the Annual Report and Jeremiah 6:16a. He feels he has settled into his role as Pastor of FMC and looks forward to listening and discerning God's paths in the future.

Associate Pastor's Report: Pastor Sarah referred to her report in the Annual Report and outlined her schedule as she returns from maternity leave. She will work 10-hour weeks through January and begin her regular 20 hours a week in February. She finds her work at FMC energizing and appreciates how FMC supports the youth.

Treasurer's Report: Mike Goossen presented the treasurer's report. There were no questions or comments.

2024-2025 Budget: Treasurer Mike Goossen presented the 2024-25 proposed budget of \$209,500. ▼ Larry Thimm moved to approve the proposed budget; seconded by Vern Jantzen. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote. The Church Board presented a request for the congregation to authorize up to \$20,000 from the Faith Formation Everence Fund to use only if needed, to meet the needs of the Faith Formation program, including the Assistant Pastor of Faith Formation's salary. ▼ Mike Goossen moved to approve this request; seconded by Lori Thimm and passed unanimously.

Everence Report: FMC Everence Advocate Vern Jantzen explained the allocation process of the Everence Sharing Fund. Everence intended to allocate \$3000 to each church that applied but did not have enough funds, so FMC received \$2,394 in 2024 to add to the Deacon's Fund. Everence will disperse \$990,000 through their Sharing Fund in 2025. He will apply for FMC to receive a portion of that.

Adjournment: With no further business, Pastor Josh closed the meeting with prayer and Chair Reimer adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m. He extinguished the lamp; symbolizing God does not only stay in this place but goes with us into the world.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Frerking, FMC Administrative Assistant