

FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH BOARD MEETING April 24, 2025, 7 p.m. FMC Church Basement

Chair Jerry Reimer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The lamp was lit symbolizing the presence of the Holy Spirit over the meeting. Attending were Jerry Reimer, Pastor Josh Janzen, Pastor Sarah Neher Reimer, Mike Goossen, Debbie Goossen, Dan Kunzman, Doug Casey, Kathy Casey, Sue Gerber, and Administrative Assistant Vicki Frerking. Absent were Don Esau and Vicki Hinz-Ensz. Sue Gerber led devotions.

OLD BUSINESS

1. The **March Board meeting minutes** were accepted as presented.
2. **MC USA Conference** in July: Current delegates are Pastor Josh, Pastor Sarah

NEW BUSINESS

1. The upcoming FMC 150th Anniversary year was briefly discussed.

PASTORS' REPORTS

Senior Pastor Josh:

1. His **summer sermon series** is "Women of the Bible".
2. The church has received more **assistance requests** than usual recently. He and the Deacons will be establishing clearer guidelines of when to help fund the needs of those callers (electrical bill, rent, transportation, etc.) He has a meeting scheduled with **Southeast Nebraska Collaborative** to find other resources to suggest to those requesting monetary help from FMC.
3. The ecumenical **Easter Sunrise service** held at Charles Park was attended by approximately 25 people, despite the drizzly weather. This service is led by Centenary United Methodist Church.
4. He will be participating in Beatrice High School **Baccalaureate** on May 7.

Pastor of Faith Formation Sarah:

1. She is refocusing her time to spend more time on **youth faith formation** and less time on family faith formation due to schedule limitations.
2. She is leading **Safe Sanctuary training** on April 27, following the youth fundraiser meal that day.
3. She and the Safe Sanctuary Committee will meet in May to **review the Safe Sanctuary policy**.
4. **Vacation Bible School plans** are well underway.
5. Two FMC youth are registered to attend **the MC USA Conference** in July. She is coordinating travel plans and room accommodations with two Kansas Mennonite churches to help with expenses.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mission, Peace, & Service Council:

1. **Mother to Mother Brunch fundraiser** is Saturday, May 4 at the Vintage Venue.

Technology Committee:

1. **The new microphones** are backordered. Midwest Sound will schedule installation with Pam when they come in.

Worship Council:

1. The **Maundy Thursday service** went well.
2. **Pastor Sarah** is not officially on Worship Council but is available when needed.

Education Council:

1. They met April 8.
2. There are **49 volunteers on the Faith Formation team** who will be recognized in the bulletin this Sunday.
3. May 7 will be the **last Community event for the spring**. They will restart in the fall.

Building Committee:

1. Doug reported that he fixed the **broken storm window** in Pastor Sarah's office.

2. **A new water meter** was installed that sends the readings automatically to the Lower Big Blue Natural Resources District.
3. Schoen's Roofing has repaired the **shingle damage** from the recent high winds.
4. Cenex repaired a **lawn mower flat tire** free of charge.
5. There is a **new sign at the cemetery** listing the dates the graves can be decorated.
6. A plumber will be installing a new **faucet on the west side of the church**.

Central Treasurer:

1. Mike presented the **March treasurer's report** showing an income of \$16,221.33 and expenses of \$17,083.52.

With no further business, Chair Reimer adjourned the meeting with prayer at 7:45 and extinguished the lamp, signifying that the Holy Spirit goes with us into the world. The next meeting will be Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 7 p.m. Pastor Josh will lead devotions.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Frerking, Adm. Asst.