

## FMC Church Board meeting July 18, 2024 7:00 p.m.

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. In attendance were Jerry Reimer, Sue Gerber, Vicki Hinz-Ensz, Pastor Josh Janzen, Dan Kunzman, Neal Trantham, Vicki Hinz-Ensz, Larry Thimm and Adm. Asst. Vicki Frerking. Don Esau, Pastor Sarah Neher, and Mike and Debbie Goossen were absent.

### OLD BUSINESS:

1. The **June Church Board minutes** were reviewed and approved by acclamation.
2. **WDC Annual Assembly Aug 2-4 planning:** Time was spent going over the details for the Annual Assembly being held at FMC Aug 2-4. Set up in the fellowship hall will be Thursday evening at 7:30 pm. Approximately 130 attendees are expected. WDC will order pizza and salad for Friday evening. Colleen's Catering will provide the Saturday noon meal, Bev Acton will provide the Saturday evening meal. Tracy Crawford will provide homemade ice cream for the Family Fest on Saturday evening. FMC people are scheduled for piano, audio, ppt, and livestreaming. Communion will be held on Friday evening. WDC provides guest speakers for Friday evening and Sunday morning. WDC vans will transport people between FMC and Summit Street Church where workshops are being held throughout the day. Pastor Sarah is designing and implementing the workshops. FMC Instrumental Quartet will play Sunday morning as well as prelude/postlude duets by Karen Wiebe and Michelle Shima. Katie Jantzen will be the worship leader. Some new technology equipment will be needed to satisfy WDC's requirements. This and the coffee used throughout the weekend will be reimbursed by WDC. The Hospitality Committee is taking care of duties such as welcoming and registration check in, serving, kitchen supplies, etc.
3. **Delegates for WDC Ann. Assembly:** FMC's delegates are Jerry Reimer, Dan Kunzman, Dorothy Zimmerman, Pastor Josh, John Reiger, Jim Ensz, and Mike Goossen.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. ▼Larry Thimm moved the board adopt the **"Parental/Family and Medical Leave Policy"**, adding leave for **adoptions and foster placements for FMC credentialed Pastors**, as written below. This policy will supersede the policy adopted at the June meeting. Seconded by Neal Trantham. Motion passed unanimously. The Board thanks the committee that worked on this policy.

**"Parental/Family and Medical Crisis Leave (for credentialed Pastors):** As a congregation which calls both women and men, young, and old, to ministry, it is crucial to support those who are called during the various stages of their lives. We believe Pastors thrive when their family life is prioritized and is monetarily supported. The following guidelines reflect this commitment.

Job-protected leave of up to 12 weeks (per 12-month period) may be granted for any of the following reasons:

  1. To care for the Pastor's child after a birth, or when a child is added to the family by adoption, or placement for foster care.
  2. To care for the Pastor's spouse, child, or parent who has a serious health condition.
  3. For a serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the pastoral responsibilities.

The congregation will provide up to eight weeks paid leave (including salary and benefits). This leave may be taken in non-consecutive time periods but will not exceed eight weeks in a 12 month period.

The pastor may use his/her accrued vacation and sick time to cover the remaining four weeks.

It is understood that the Pastor will assist the congregation in planning for interim ministry needs during the leave."
2. The church received a request from **Michelle Decker**, in-home day care operator who lives near the church. She needs to have an **emergency evacuation plan** in place for parent pick up of their child in case of an actual emergency. The board gives her permission to list the church as the parent pick up site of their child in case of an emergency. She was also given names and numbers of church personnel to call if the emergency would require sheltering in the church building.

## **PASTOR REPORTS:**

### **Senior Pastor Josh:**

1. Their home study for adoption has begun.
2. They are downsizing, selling their home, and in the process of buying a different home.
3. Pastor Cluster met today at Summit Street Church
4. He and Pastor Sarah meet on Tuesdays at 1:30 for church ministry planning.

### **Pastor of Faith Formation Sarah:**

- She is working on starting a Family Formation time to be held during Peace Club every two weeks on Wednesday nights.

#### **For the WDC Assembly, she is**

1. Leading a planning committee for faith formation sessions for children and youth Saturday morning.
2. Planning a three-hour workshop for adults about intergenerational faith formation.
3. Planning an intergenerational hour for Saturday afternoon.
4. Planning Saturday afternoon activities for children and youth
5. Planning intergenerational Sunday School for all of the assembly on Sunday morning.

#### **Regarding Faith Formation at FMC, she is**

1. Ordering curriculum for children and youth.
2. Brainstorming possible volunteers.
3. Planning Sunday School schedule for the year.
4. Planning Wednesday night schedule for the year.
5. Beginning to recruit volunteers.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Mission, Peace, & Service Council:** He is making plans for the church picnic to be held September 15.

**Worship Council:** They have been involved in planning for the Annual Assembly. Instrumental Quartet will play Aug. 4.

### **Education Council :**

1. Lori Thimm will be the **2025 VBS Chair** replacing Erin Vanderschaaf who will be out of the country during VBS.
2. They are evaluating the **Adult Retreat Budget**.

### **Building Committee:**

1. They're working on leveling the headstones.
2. Wrightsman's Plumbing was called to check sewer lines which were clear. The septic system seems okay.
3. They have ordered new toilet paper holders.
4. Lights and other building amenities are being checked prior to the Annual Assembly.

**Central Treasurer:** WDC sent via email a suggested honorarium for guest speakers of \$150 to \$250 plus mileage reimbursed at the IRS mileage rate. FMC currently pays \$300 plus mileage to guest speakers. No change is needed. The treasurer's report.

**Adjournment:** With no further business, Chair Reimer closed the meeting with prayer and extinguishing the candle, signifying that God not only remains in this place but also goes with us into the world. The next meeting is Thursday, August 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Vicki Frerking, Adm. Assistant