

## FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH BOARD MEETING March 19, 2026, 7 pm FMC Church Basement

Chair Brett Esau 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 Brett Esau, Pastor Josh Janzen, Pastor Sarah Neher Reimer, Don Esau, Sue Gerber, Lori Thimm, Grace Tegmeier, Jane Esau, Dorothy Zimmerman, Administrative Assistant Vicki Frerking. Absent: Tracy Crawford. Jane Esau led devotions on grace. Three members of the young adult Baptism class, Kollins Hohensee, Riley Schardt, and Eli VanderSchaaf also attended.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Lori Thimm moved to **approve the February Board meeting minutes** as presented; seconded by Sue Gerber. Motion passed.
2. FMC Sesquicentennial Celebration Committee: The committee will publish a new edition of the **FMC Cookbook**.
3. Constitution/By-Laws Review: No report.
4. **Homestead Harmonizers**: They will lead worship at FMC on **July 5**, followed by a potluck meal.
5. Monthly reports by the **Tech Committee** will be taken off the agenda. When they have something to report, they'll contact Chair Brett Esau.

### NEW BUSINESS

▼ Don Esau moved that the church will pay for the registration of FMC youth to attend one **Mennonite affiliated camp** and a camp T-shirt per year; seconded by Lori Thimm. Motion passed. Parents will be encouraged to register their children early enough to get the early registration discount.

### PASTORS' REPORTS

#### Senior Pastor Josh:

1. He has two more sessions of premarital counseling with Ann Regier and Dan Scheer prior to their April 25 wedding.
2. He's worked with Worship Council on the Lent, Maundy Thursday/Good Friday services.
3. He's been invited to participate in an ecumenical service in Omaha at Kuntz Memorial Lutheran Church on Good Friday from noon-3 p.m. The service will be live streamed @klmchurch.org.
4. Eric Litwiller, Camp Mennoscah's Director of Development, will be leading Adult & Youth Sunday School and preaching on April 12.
5. He is participating in the BHS Baccalaureate.
6. Eight people will take his membership class, three of those are members of other Mennonite churches who may be transferring membership to FMC.
7. His office chair is malfunctioning. He wonders if it could be replaced. The Building Committee will see if it can be fixed.

#### Pastor of Faith Formation Sarah:

1. The Young Adults enjoyed time together on Friday evening playing games and Saturday morning with brunch and conversation.
2. Baptism will be on June 7 at the Baade's pond.
3. The youth will hold a Taco Fundraiser on May 3.
4. The book study on "Woven" that she is helping to lead online will end in the next couple weeks.
5. She is making the final edits by the end of March on the Safe Church document.
6. She is participating in an online Good Friday service with her Pastor Peer Group. The Zoom link will be distributed to the congregation.
7. A light breakfast will be served on Easter Sunday at 9:30 followed by an intergenerational activity and scavenger hunt for the youth.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### Mission, Peace & Service Council: Dorothy Zimmerman

1. Falisatey S. Dunn, Director of Mother to Mother will have a mission moment during sharing time on April 12.
2. She is working on setting the date for the church picnic in September.

#### Worship Council: Grace Tegmeier

1. The committee has worked with Pastor Josh on Holy Week services.
2. A member of the congregation has purchased the projection edition of Voices Together with preprinted power point slides of hymns with words and music for worship service use.

**Education Council: Jane Esau**

1. Sunday School classes are going well.
2. VBS plans are well underway.
3. Ed Council will meet on April 7.

**Building Committee:**

1. Some shingles have blown off with the high winds. Schoen's have been notified to make the repair.
2. Church cleaning went well.
3. The large floor fan used in the balcony by the audio/video crews is missing.

**Central Treasurer: Lori Thimm**

1. Don Esau moved to take Mike Goossen and Dorothy Zimmerman off as signers on the Everence accounts and add Lori Thimm; seconded by Sue Esau. Motion passed.
2. There was discussion on the decrease in general fund offerings. It was suggested that members be reminded to note in the memo line of their check if their offering is for the general FMC fund or one of the other special offerings held two Sundays a month.

**Other Agenda Items**

1. The NE Quilting Guild has found another place to hold their district meeting.
2. Shana Ensz would like to lead a Diaper Drive for Beatrice Sixpence, a home visiting program for children ages birth to three years old. The board okayed this.

With no further business, Chair Esau adjourned the meeting with prayer at 8:45 pm and extinguished the lamp, signifying that the Holy Spirit goes with us into the world. The next meeting is Thursday, April 16 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Frerking, Adm. Asst.