

FMC Church Board Meeting May 16, 2024

Chair Jerry Reimer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The lamp was lit symbolizing God's presence over the meeting. In attendance were Jerry Reimer, Sue Gerber, Vicki Hinz-Ensz, Don Esau, Pastors Josh Janzen and Sarah Neher, Dan Kunzman, Neal Trantham, Larry Thimm, Mike and Debbie Goossen via Zoom, and Admin. Asst. Vicki Frerking. Pastor Josh led devotions on Pentecost.

OLD BUSINESS

1. The **April Church Board meeting minutes** were accepted by consensus.
2. The Homestead Harmonizers will be in charge of the July 7 worship service. A potluck will be served after with singers, spouses and the congregation. This will be in the bulletin. Drinks and table service will be provided.
3. Pastor Josh reported on plans for the **WDC Annual Assembly** to be held at FMC August 2-4, 2024. He and Pastor Sarah are part of the WDC Annual Assembly Planning Committee and will relay more information as it's available. WDC will obtain a Zoom license for the delegate sessions and worship services on Friday evening and Sunday morning, all being held at FMC. The Faith Formation workshops will be held at Summit Street Church on Saturday and will not be zoomed. First Mennonite is hoping to fill our 8 delegates positions.

NEW BUSINESS

PASTORS REPORTS

Senior Pastor Josh:

1. The **pulpit exchange** on September 1 with one of the pastors from Bethesda has been canceled.
2. The graduation ceremony for Leadership Beatrice was held last Wednesday with a luncheon. As a graduate, he now will help plan two sessions for the next class. His class project of building a "Pocket Park" on the south side of Court Street between 4th and 5th Streets should be complete by Homestead Days.
3. He updated the board on the pastoral care he has been providing to church members.

Pastor of Faith Formation, Sarah:

1. She reported that the youth overnighter and Fiesta Fundraiser went very well with more than \$3,400 being raised.
2. She will lead **Safe Church training** on Sunday, May 19. All who will be working with FMC youth are required to participate.
3. **Summer Sunday School** Intergenerational sessions are being planned.
4. She will accompany husband John to **Camp Mennoscah** in June when he is scheduled as a leader.
5. She will distribute a Faith Formation **newsletter** soon.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mission, Peace, & Service Council:

1. Dan will be setting the date for the **church picnic**.
2. **John Penner** has been speaking to groups regarding the Los Companeros and the things being done to help them settle.

Worship Council:

1. Neal sent a report stating that the Lent and Easter week services were well received.
2. They are **suspending Children's Stories for the months of June, July, and August** again this year. If anyone wants to volunteer for a Sunday, please let the Worship Council know.

Education Council:

1. Debbie reported that there will be **Sunday School this summer** on the second and fourth Sundays in June and July and second Sunday of August. Pastor Sarah is planning these.

2. **Safe Church (previously Safe Sanctuary) training** is May 19 and will be recorded for anyone who can't attend.
3. There are **some new children's books** in the Library.
4. **VBS is asking for volunteers** from FMC and Summit Street Church to help with VBS.
5. **Teacher Appreciation** will be April 28.

Building Committee

1. Larry reported a problem with the **west entrance door** closing all the way. He's looking into it.
2. **Shingles were blown off** near the tower with the recent high winds. He is coordinating repairs.
3. The **trees for the cemetery south side** are Red Oaks and will be arriving next week. These trees are coming from the NRD. Extra trees will be planted elsewhere on the church property.
4. **Crushed rock** has been delivered to fill the holes in the parking lot.

Central Treasurer:

1. Mike presented the reports for the month of March. There were three general fund offerings in March which helped the deficit. **Monthly reports are published in the bulletin.** Members are encouraged to look at those.
2. **QuickBooks** has changed to a cloud based system with continuous updates. The monthly subscription for FMC will be \$37.50 for the first year and \$75 for following years. The transition between treasurers will be easier if the church has its own subscription.

Other Agenda items:

1. Mosaic found a **large coffee stain** in the sanctuary between the pews on the east side. This will need to be scrubbed/shampooed.
2. The **Prayer Blankets** that were in the office are available to be given to anyone who needs to know that they are wrapped in the prayers of the congregation. Please talk to a Deacon if you know of someone who needs one. The recipient will keep the blanket.

Adjourn

With no further business the meeting was adjourned with prayer at 8:35 p.m. The candle was extinguished signifying that God remains in this place and also goes with us into the world. The next meeting is Thursday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Vicki Frerking, Adm. Assistant