

FMC CHURCH BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 17, 2024 7:00 pm

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, Associate Pastor of Faith Formation Sarah Neher, Sue Gerber, Vicki Hinz-Ensz, Mike Goossen, Larry Thimm and Adm. Asst. Vicki Frerking. Absent: Neal Trantham, Don Esau, and Debbie Goossen. Jerry Reimer led devotions.

OLD BUSINESS

1. ▼Larry Thimm moved to approve the September Church Board meeting minutes; seconded by Sue Gerber. Motion passed.
2. Pastor Josh and Summit Street Church Pastor Dungan are continuing discussions on who to have speak at the Annual Study Series next winter/spring.
3. Dorothy Zimmerman will be the speaker for All Saint's Day Memorial service on November 3.
4. Pastor's phone seems to be working for now. No action will be taken regarding its warranty.
5. Sue Gerber reported the Nominating Committee has sent letters to the nominees and they are waiting to hear back.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Pastor Sarah will receive her Licensure toward Ordination at the worship service on Sunday, November 20. Kathy Neufeld Dunn will be here to assist with that.
2. The Annual meeting will be on January 8, 2025.
3. Cottage Prayer meetings will be January 12.
4. The 2025 Offering Schedule worksheet was presented ▼Mike Goossen moved to approve the schedule as presented; seconded by Larry Thimm. Motion passed.

PASTORS REPORTS

Senior Pastor Josh:

1. He's been invited to sit in on Zoom meetings on the Companion's Table.
2. FMC is invited to participate in Summit Street Church's Trunk or Treat on Oct. 31.
3. On November 3, he will hold a short blessing of the cemetery.
4. The Leadership Beatrice Project for his class will hold a ribbon cutting on Thursday, October 24 at 11:30 a.m. at the Shuffleboard Pocket Park on Court Street between 4th and 5th Streets.
5. He has finished his AMBS Transition to Leadership course today.

Pastor of Faith Formation Sarah:

1. She has been working ahead to prepare for her maternity leave which she plans to begin when the baby is born. She plans to return to work in January.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Missions, Peace, & Service Council: In Dan's absence, Larry Thimm reported:

1. Everything is in place for the Mini Auction this Sunday evening.
2. There won't be any meat canning at Milford this year. There are only two meat canner guys and the schedule has been altered to only set up at locations that are able to can for more than two days. It is hoped that Milford will be on the MCC meat canning schedule again next year.
1. Dan thanked those who helped with the **Church Picnic** on September 15.
2. He reported that the **Mini Auction** will be October 20.
3. He reported that on October 12, childcare will be provided so the **Young Adults** to get together for an evening out.

Worship Council: Neal's submitted report:

The Worship Council met October 1, 2024. At that meeting, they discussed :

1. World Communion Day (Oct. 6) - incorporating with Children's story, etc.
2. Katie Jantzen will be filling in for Pastor Josh on Oct. 27 while Pastor Josh is away for a wedding. Pastor Josh will be arranging the worship order for this service.
3. All Saints Day celebration (Nov. 3) to remember those who passed away this last year: Edna Ensz, Betty Esau, June Diller. (Edited 10-25-24 to add Laura Franz.) Pastor Josh said that Church Chairman

Jerry Reimer will be taking the lead. The Worship Council discussed several ideas that may be included in the service including the playing of bells (organ) upon the remembrance of each person, adding photos to the morning PowerPoint slides, or playing the person's favorite hymn or a hymn that best represents the life of each person.

4. Christmas Program (Dec. 15) - Worship Council is deferring to Grace T, Paula H, and Laura W who are leading the Christmas Program this year but will be available to support with decorations or whatever is needed.
5. Also, Worship Council discussed the Passing the Peace time, as it relates to those that may be immunocompromised. Pastor Josh agreed to draft appropriate wording for the worship leaders to introduce alternate ways to greet one another to help everyone feel safe and welcomed.

Education Council: Debbie's submitted report:

1. Safe Sanctuary Committee will meet in February to review our church policy
2. There are 18 participants in Peace Club.
3. The October 9 Community Event had 65 in attendance. They enjoyed a soup supper and tying comforters. A big thank you to those preparing the meals!
4. 2025 DVBS theme is "Waves of Wonder" published by MennoMedia.
5. 16 adults attend the Salt and Light Adult Sunday School class.
6. Education Council would like the board to discuss where Faith Formation's unexpected expenses should be accounted for in the 2025 budget.

Building Committee:

1. He's going to put a **larger window in Pastor Sarah's office door.**

Central Treasurer:

1. He reported the three offerings for FMC in September (\$21,602) met the expenses (\$8,241) of the month eliminating the deficit from August.

Additional Business:

Adm. Asst. Vicki Frerking thanked those who have submitted updates to the Handbook for Committees and Councils. Some updates are still in progress. When complete, the Handbook will be available on the website, fmcbeatrice.org, so updated information on the duties of elected positions is always available. Currently, there are many out-of-date handbooks in the hands of congregation members.

With no other agenda items, Chair Reimer adjourned the meeting with prayer at 8:15 p.m. The lamp was extinguished signifying that the Holy Spirit goes with us into the world.

The next meeting will be November 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki Frerking, Adm. Asst.