

First Mennonite Church Annual Business Meeting

January 13, 2010

- Opening/Devotions
 - John Penner, Church Board Chair opened the meeting.
 - Dolores Jantzen led the gathering in devotions.

- Minutes of the 2007-2008 Annual Business Meeting – January 14, 2009
 - The minutes of the 2008 Annual Business meeting were read by Mary Baumfalk. They were approved as read.

- Pastor's Report
 - Pastor Weldon reviewed his printed report. He briefly discussed that his fear of announcing his retirement so far in advance was a sense of disconnection afterward. However, Pastor Weldon spent the first part of 2009 trying to connect people for the Goossen Building project then spent the fall and winter busy with the Catechism Class. Overall, he had a very focused, busy year.
 - Pastor Weldon is looking forward to the future. It will be interesting for him to sit in the pew again after 30 years behind the pulpit. Weldon also informed the group that he would give any perspective pastors encouragement in the form of a good recommendation of this congregation.
 - Pastor Weldon briefly touched on the tragedy in Haiti stating that he had received the MCC response and guidelines this afternoon. That information will be passed along to the congregation this Sunday.
 - Pastor Weldon reflected on the "lasts" he has been doing over the past few months. As this is his last Annual Business meeting, he thanked the congregation for the past 12 years as their pastor.

- Deacon's Report
 - Jerry Reimer spoke to the group about the enjoyment he has had in serving the congregation as a Deacon for the past six years. He highlighted his enjoyment of having the opportunity to serve communion and actively participating in prayer with and for the congregation and it's members. He thanked the group for the allowing him to serve.

- Deacon Election
 - The nominee for Deacon is Marcia Regier. Election tellers were Pat Penner, Bev Claassen, and Doug Casey. The group voted and the meeting moved forward while the votes were being tallied. Later in the meeting, it was announced that Marcia received 42 yes votes for Deacon. Marcia Regier was elected Deacon.

- Main Ballot

- The ballot was read by Vern Jantzen. He thanked the Nominating Committee for the help. John Penner then asked the floor for additional nominees. None were received. LeRoy Janzen moved to accept the slate. Kathy Casey seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

- Building Committee
 - The Building Committee report was given by Don Jantzen. Don informed the group that the church mower is done. A new Hustler mower needs to be purchased. Funds for the purchase have been added to the 2010 budget.
 - Don also talked about the leaking roof. Insurance rep is coming out soon to look at the damages and determine if repairs will be covered by insurance or not. Don has contacted Weathercraft in Lincoln to come out and look at the damages and give an estimate on repairs.
 - The gathering was opened to questions. The first question was if the roof damage was due to previously unrepaired tornado damage or just age. Don answered that he believes that the damage is probably just from age. The group asked if there is only one place leaking. Don informed the group that there are at least three areas that are leaking.

- 429 Factory Report
 - The report on the 429 Factory was given by Dorothy Zimmerman. Dorothy gave a brief rundown of all of the things that have happened in the past year regarding the usage of the Goossen Building.
 - The Advisory Board of the 429 Factory has adopted a vision and mission statement, started working on fundraising, filed articles of incorporation with the State of Nebraska. The Advisory Board looks toward the next 90 days to file with the IRS as a 501C3 non-profit organization, create a budget and a job description, and hire a staff person.
 - Dorothy stated that she is very pleased with the members of the Advisory Board and the talents and commitment they all bring to the program.
 - John Penner thanked Dorothy for all of her hard work over the past year. He then announced that the Church Board has planned to offerings for the 429 Factory in 2010.

- Committee Reports
 - Auditing Committee – Mike Goossen reported for the Committee that the finances had been looked at and found to be in order.
 - Other – None.

- Church Board Recommendation
 - John Penner read the Church Board recommendation as printed in the booklet. John discussed the matter briefly allowing the group to ask questions or comment on the matter. As the Church Board made the recommendation, Louie Esau then seconded the recommendation. A hand vote was called. Motion carried.

- Central Treasurer's Report
 - Presentation of 2009-2010 Budget – Central Treasurer, Sharon Janzen, presented the Budget, highlighting the Building Committee addition of \$8000 to the budget for the purchase of a new mower. John asked if there was a motion to approve the budget. Mike Goossen so moved with LeRoy Janzen seconding the motion. A hand vote was taken. Motion carried.
 - Sharon then briefly presented the other financial reports.

- Other Business or Concerns
 - Letha Hamm brought up the subject of Parkview's eminent closing. She stated that the old pump organ is still located in Parkview. She had done some calling and found that the Gage County Museum doesn't have room for it and the Kaufman Museum already has a couple and doesn't need/want it. The group discussed the organ. When it was used by the church, whether it still works, if there was room for it here at the Church. It was determined that the pump organ was in the old building at least as early as 1937. There was a consensus that instead of it being disposed of, it should be brought back to the church.
 - John Penner spoke briefly about the coming year of transition. Outlining a general timeline for upcoming events.
 - Louis Goossen brought up that since the Church has over \$43k sitting in the Foundation in undesignated funds, with the tragedy in Haiti, should a portion of those funds be used toward that need. The matter was discussed by the group. The consensus was that the congregation should wait to review the MCC response and guidelines before deciding what if anything should be done at this time. Along this topic, Gail announced that MCC/MDS international staff of nine, and local staff of seven workers have all been accounted before.

- Adjournment
 - John Penner closed the meeting with prayer.