

**First Mennonite Church**  
**Church Board Meeting Minutes**  
**January 19, 2010**

Church Board Chair, John Penner, called the meeting to order. Pastor Weldon then lit the lamp to symbolize the presence of God. Kathy Casey led the group in devotions and prayer about transitions.

Board members present: John Penner, Pastor Weldon Schloneger, Leroy Janzen, Gail Cross, and Sharon Janzen, Kathy Casey, Barb Thimm, Marcia Regier, Dorothy Zimmerman, Vicki Ensz, Don Jantzen, Jim Ensz and Jerry Reimer.

**Celebrating Mission**

- Minutes of the December meeting were reviewed. Approved as offered.

**Missions, Peace and Service Council**

- Steve Kyser has address for 15 new area residents to invite to the next Dinner and a Movie event. A scheduling conflict has come up for the Dinner and a Movie tentatively scheduled for February 7. The event has been postponed.
- MPSC will meet on February 21, 2010

**Worship Council**

- Kathy welcomed Barb to the Board.
- Worship is planned through January.
- Kathy asked the Board if there is anything that the Board needs from the Worship Council for 2/28, Weldon's retirement. If anything is needed, they should let the Worship Council know as soon as possible.

**Education Council**

- Education Council will meet on February 11, 2010.
- Vicki reported that the Senior High youth would like to continue having joint Sunday School. BMC has met and approved changing their worship time to accommodate the students meeting together. The details still being worked out.
- It was also reported that SYF plans to start meeting more often.
- The Education Council is looking for ideas, teachers, etc.

**Building Committee**

- The window in Weldon's door is being taken care of.
- American Roofing came out Monday, January 18, 2010 to check the roof for leaking. They found some leaks and did some caulking. They were not able to find any leaks over the organ loft. The Committee will receive more information from American Roofing then will schedule an appointment with the insurance adjuster.
- The discussion then turned the lawnmower. Jim reported that the Church can purchase a Hustler Super Z 60" 31 HP mower for \$8581.30. The Church receives a 30% discount for being a tax-exempt entity. Jim reported that the trade in on the old mower will be \$700.00. Therefore the new mower will cost just under \$8000.00.
- Jerry then reported on the meeting with BVH Architects. Jim, Jerry and Dick Penner were able to meet with BVH representatives. It was reported that the church building itself is in very good shape structurally. Ideas for areas of improvement included in-floor water tube heating. BVH will be sending information on similar projects. It was suggested that the Church establish a timeline of changes that will be needed/desired over the next 20-40 years, then begin working toward those goals. BVH is LEED certified.

## **Pastor's Report**

- Pastor Weldon reported that he felt that Baptism Sunday was a wonderful experience for all involved. He felt that there was good communication/cooperation. Pastor Weldon felt that starting with Conference last summer enthusiasm has been building within the youth. Hopefully, this relationship of togetherness between the youth of the two churches will lead to more inter-congregation enthusiasm in general.
- Pastor also reported that he is embarking on an extensive round of visitations with members in the next six weeks before retirement.

## **Church Board**

### **429 Factory**

- Dorothy reported that the Advisory Board will meet on January 20, 2010. The main focus is to draft a lease agreement for the building. Dorothy also reported that Attorney Jim Nelson is assisting with matters. Work continues on the IRS application. Also work is currently being done on a job description. All in all there are some major things going on for the project at this time.

## **Annual Meeting**

- Minutes of the Annual Business meeting were reviewed. Approved as offered.
- The Board needs to appoint a new person to the Worship Council since Marcia Regier will be serving as a Deacon instead. After some discussion, Barb Thimm moved to appoint Karen Wiebe, seconded by Don Jantzen. A voice vote was taken, motion carried.

## **Annual Study Series**

- There will be a change to the Annual Study Series schedule. Sunday morning will be at BMC at 10am. The rest of the series will continue as traditionally scheduled. It will be listed in the Breeze and on the website that no activities will take place at FMC that morning.
- It was thought that choir directors from local churches should be invited to the series as well. Weldon will put something together and Mary will send it out to local churches. We will also attempt to have something added to the Beatrice Daily Sun.

## **Search Committee Selection Process**

- John briefly outlined how the Search Committee selection has been conducted in the past. A special church meeting is called and a blank ballot is conducted the first time. Then the votes are tallied and the top vote receivers will be voted on again to reach 5 Committee members.
- The Board agreed with this method. A tentative date of March 21<sup>st</sup> has been sent. The special meeting will be held after Worship. A light lunch will be served. The Board will discuss this further at the February Board meeting.

## **Church Foundation Monies**

- After the Annual Business meeting several members of the Board heard from members of the congregation regarding how much, if any, money from the Foundation should be sent to MCC to support their efforts in Haiti. There was support from the congregation to send anywhere between \$10,000 to the bulk of the Undesignated Funds amount. After discussion amongst Board members. Dorothy Zimmerman moved to use \$10,000 from Undesignated Funds in the Foundation and donate to MCC for use in Haiti, with the condition of revisiting the issue at a later date for an additional donation. Furthermore, a collection should be accepted in the Narthex for members of the congregation that wish to add to the total amount sent by the church. This collection should be collected to and blessed by the congregation on February 7, 2010. Vicki seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. Motion carried.
- **Nominating Committee** – Callbacks need to be done to fill the last position. Ushers need to have another appointment. After some discussion, John will contact Dolores Jantzen

### **Celebrating God's Provision – Central Treasurer's Report**

- Sharon presented the account balances and register through December 31, 2009. The general fund balance as of 12/31/09 was \$ 8,890.04.
- Sharon discussed the time commitment needed to fulfill the Central Treasurer position. Sharon feels that she no longer has the necessary time to dedicate to the position and has decided to resign her position. She will continue to perform the responsibilities until a replacement Central Treasurer can be found.

### **Celebrating New Mission Possibilities**

- Nothing new at this time

The meeting was adjourned with a prayer and a blessing.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Baumfalk