December 19, 2022 MEFC Board Minutes

Scott Lovell called the meeting to order. Kerwin Van Houten did a devotion from the Rick Warren, Purpose Driven Life on Temptation.

There were 13 members present: Jen Hart, Eli Paulsrud, Kerwin Van Houten, Randy Eaton, Marlys Anderson, Roger Smith, Kyle Oswald, Pete Younker, Keith Grauer, Doug Goodburn, Bryan Bush, Mark Johnson and Scott Lovell.

Kyle Oswald prayed.

Secretary’s Report: The November minutes were m/s/c, minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report: Kerwin gave the Treasurer’s Report.

The total income for the month of November was $36,835.17, total expenses were $44,196.67. The increase in expenses were due to the $15,000.00 down payment of the carpet. $37,346.00 has been given to the carpet fund as of 12/18/22. The quote for the new carpet was $47,710.00 (including installation), with $15,000.00 now paid, we have a balance of $32,710.00. We have had some special offerings and some was given for the area food pantries. It was mentioned that we are doing well with the budget. It was mentioned that they would like to nail down a list of people who charge at the grocery stores and Bomgaars. The Treasurer’s report was m/s/c.

Trustees Report: Doug gave the Trustees Report.

The Security Procedures at church have been updated. The doors will now be locked at 10:45 on Sunday’s until after the service. We will be looking at getting new security cameras.

There were LED bulbs put in the basement to help with the lighting.

Youth and Discipleship Report: This was given by Pastor Pete.

The Sr. High Fellowship outing was well attended, with a time of eating and bowling. The Parent Equip Night was a sweet time of prayer. The next meeting is on Wednesday, January 4th. The FCA Community night was at Oakdale last month, and the I was Wondering Night was with Oakdale at MEFC.

The 2:42 Groups are going well, but some have slowed down for Christmas.

Sunday School Report: Pastor Pete thanked Bruce Schmadeke and Randy Eaton for teaching the Men’s Sunday School Class and also thanked Brigette Van Houten and Molly Paulsrud for teaching the Ladies class through the fall.

Pastor Pete would like to claim $15,000.00 for his housing allowance for 2023. This was m/s/c.

Deacon Report: This was given by Scott Lovell.

Pastor Larry Ostercamp will be doing the 4:00 Christmas in a Barn Service and the 5:30 service at MEFC. Due to the possible bad weather, it was discussed that they will put it on the radio, on Facebook and on the email prayer chain if they have to cancel any of these services.

Scott shared that the Pulpit will be filled with Brad Gotto and Michael Slininger throughout the month of January.

Yvonne Caldwell has done some checking and has found a company that would do a church directory for $300. Pictures would be taken on 2 different Sundays both before and after the service, with people signing up for times to have this done. This directory would be accessible online once it was finished, or could be printed. There would be a yearly subscription fee of $100 for keeping the directory online. It was m/s/c to proceed with this process. Yvonne will work with the photographer to get the sign ups organized.

Deaconess Report: This was given by Jen Hart.

The Deaconesses have reached out to people as needed. They did have flowers delivered to Dorothy Sonksen, who is now out of the hospital but back at the nursing home and is on hospice care.

Old Business:

The Nominating Committee has met and are ¾ done with their tasks and all is going well.

Scott will take care of renewing the non-profit status with the state of Iowa.

Kathy Nelson and Kimber Younker have presented the “Hidden Acres Extra Scholarship Hours Log.” This includes 10 hours of service, with different tasks that students can do to get an additional $100 toward their Hidden Acres camp fee. The sheet with these tasks listed, along with parent approval, will need to be turned into the church office or Kathy Nelson by May 10, 2023.

It was m/s/c to give each child attending Hidden Acres a scholarship of $200 per child. The additional $100 (above the $200) will need to be earned by the tasks on the sheet, which will be presented to the children and their parents.

It was m/s/c to give Pastor Larry a gas card for all of his work performing pastoral care that required him to drive.

The Budget Committee will meet in January to start the 2023 budget process. The budget will be presented to the Board in February for recommendation to the congregation at the annual meeting. The Budget Committee consists of Scott, Pastor Pete, Kerwin and Bryan Bush.

Marlys shared that the Haiti trip was a great trip, they appreciated the money that they were able use to buy food and Bibles to the Haitians. She also shared that to be able to be there at their Anniversary Celebration Service was a special time!

It was m/s/c to approve the financial package in the the offer of employment to Pastor Nelson Jenkins. He will start his ministry at MEFC on February 5, 2023.

It was m/s/c to adjourn the meeting.

The minutes were taken by Karen Johnson, due to Kimber Younker being ill.

Minutes approved 1/16/23 via board vote.