February 20, 2023 MEFC Board Minutes

Scott Lovell called the meeting to order. Scott led the devotion asking “How have you seen God at work in your life recently?” Several meaningful stories were shared about the faithfulness of God. Scott opened the meeting in prayer.

Secretary’s Report: The January minutes were approved via m/s/c.

Treasurer Report: Kerwin gave the Treasurer’s Report. Please see the attached report. The total income for the month of January was $46,576.16, and total expenses were $24,486.24. The carpet fund is just shy of completion with a balance of $49,296. The people of our church have given generously and God continues to provide. The Treasurer’s report was approved via m/s/c.

Trustees Report: Doug gave the Trustees Report.

* The library renovation was put on hold until after the carpet installation was done. Once we know what is left in the capital improvement fund, a proposal for improvements will be made.
* The water fountain is broken. The trustees are looking at options to replace it.
* The majority of the carpet installation should be done by the end of the week.

Senior Pastor Report

Scott welcomed Pastor Nelson to the church officially as our Senior Pastor. We are thrilled to have Pastor Nelson and Susie here and are excited to see how God uses him to further the kingdom.

* Pastor Nelson shared that he and Susie feel very blessed to be here.
* Pastor Nelson said that when people think of our church, he wants them to know we are a church who loves God, loves people, and points people to Christ. He asked the board to hold him accountable to doing everything through the eyes of Christ.
* He has been trying to make sure he connects with those who can’t make it to church due to health limitations.
* Pastor Nelson started leading a new member class which was attended by 11 potential members.
* He shared his desire to make sure that everything we do is bathed in prayer.

Youth and Discipleship Report: Pastor Pete shared his report. Please see attached.

* This year the youth theme is Bible Basic and they have been studying 1 John.
* A group of 17 went to Impact in Des Moines. Shawn McDowell shared about Apologetics.
* Parent Equip Nights continue on a monthly basis.
* The 3C event was well attended.
* 6 men went to the Men’s retreat at Hidden Acres. It was a great time of growth and fellowship.
* 242 groups have been meeting. Supper for six is in the works to encourage fellowship in the church and to help connect those who are new.

Sunday School Report:

* Thanks to Kyle for teaching on Colossians.
* Mark and possibly Eli will be leading the next class.

Deacon Report: The Deacons report was given by Scott Lovell.

* The Deacons talked about ways to increase Sunday School attendance.
* Church attendance was up with 161 at service yesterday.
* The non-profit status had been completed.
* On March 12th and 19th the Deacons will meet with the new member candidates. There were 11 in the new member class and potentially another 5 who may be applying for membership.

Deaconess Report: Jen gave the Deaconess report.

* The Deaconesses ordered cupcakes for Valentines Day which Pastor Nelson and Susie delivered to shut-ins and those in care facilities from our church body.
* They will use the calendar money to buy gift cards so that they can bless people as they find a need.
* The Deaconesses continue to hold birthday coffees for the women, which have been well received.

Old Business:

* Pastor Pete shared that the nursery computers are in. They should be running in March once they are setup and people have been trained to use the system.
* Pastor Pete talked with the Awana IT person. A new laptop computer could be ordered for around $400 that would support the Awana software. A motion was m/s/c to have him order the new laptop for Awana.

New Business:

* The new Missions budget was discussed. Green Pastures was removed because it no longer exists, a donation to Crossroads Church in Sheldon was added, and support for the Erdman’s was reduced due to communication issues. The Missions budget was approved via m/s/c to put before the congregation for final approval. Please see the attached Missions budget.
* The nominations for offices for 2023-2024 was approved via m/s/c to put before the congregation for final approval. Please see the attached nominations.
* The church budget for 2023-2024 fiscal year was approved via m/s/c pending the congregational approval of the Missions budget. Please see the attached budget.
* Doug shared that this spring there will be some church work days. Projects will include touching up paint in the parsonage and repairing pews.
* There will be no general board meeting in March because of the annual meeting.
* Scott thanked Brian, Doug, and Roger for their service to the church.
* Scott read a thank you from Pastor Ostercamp for the gas card we gifted him for his service during our transition.
* Scott thanked the board for their prayers and support through the last three months. He is very excited for what God is going to do in and through this church. Roger expressed appreciation to Scott for his godly leadership.

It was m/s/c to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was closed in prayer.

The minutes were taken by Kimber Younker, board secretary.