**February 3, 2020 MEFC Board Meeting Minutes**

The regular monthly board meeting was held on Monday, February 3, 2020, with 12 members present. Devotions, taken from the book, “Husband after God,” were given by Eli Paulsrud. Scott Lovell will do devotions at the April meeting. Pastor Pete opened the meeting in prayer.

Secretary’s Minutes were reviewed. It was m/s/c to approve the minutes as recorded.

Treasurer’s Report: Doug Goodburn gave the treasurer’s report. It was m/s/c to accept the report as written. It was noted that the Haiti trip fund has now been created, with approximately $3302 at this time, which will be kept separate from the church general funds. Whitney Farver, Molly Paulsrud, and the two current church treasurers will be in charge of this trip fund.

Trustee’s Report: A heater has now been installed in the women’s bathroom. It has been suggested in the past that the trees on the west side of church property need to have every other tree cut down. Rick Angel has offered to donate four Red Oak trees to replace the four trees that are removed. This would be done in the next couple of months before the trees bud. New church sign quote was received from Pilot Rock Signs. The trustees will install this sign rather than Pilot Rock. State regulations will be checked to be sure the dimensions of the sign are within state limits for size. The new office printer arrived this morning.

Pastor Andrew’s Report: The theme for 2020 is “Kneeling to Stand”. Special events were Men’s Retreat (bad weather led to low attendance), 3C’s event with great engagement, and a special business meeting with 24 members signed as being present. 24 Pastoral care visits were made. Average monthly church attendance trends: October – 155, November – 150, December – 141, and January – 142. Connection cards are no longer being included with the bulletin but instead are now placed in the pews for easy access. Annual meeting will be in March and board was reminded that committees need to get their report information to church secretary. 75th Year Anniversary of the Church will be planned by this committee with the first meeting in February. There will possibly be two Haiti trips this year due to a large amount of interest, with one being in June and one in November.

Pastor Pete’s Report: “A Year with Jesus” is this school year’s theme. Thank you was given to Scott Lovell for teaching the winter quarter on Ephesians. Mark Johnson will be teaching the spring quarter. Bible Instruction Class will continue through the end of April. 14 people attended Impact HS retreat. Men’s Retreat had a low attendance due to weather. Winterblast Jr. High Retreat is coming in the near future. Pastor Pete will also be the Winterblast Director this year. Cornhole, Chili, and Cinnamon Roll Day had a good turnout of church family. 2:42 groups are up and running. Pastor Pete held a meeting and training for this last month. 1 on 1’s continue with students and adults. Pastor Pete will be preaching in March. The new giving platform for Church Community Builders will be coming soon. Nursery Check-in/Security is being manned and scheduled out a few months.

Deacon Report: The vote at the congregational meeting about the proposed change in the National EFCA Statement of Faith was significant to approve the change in wording of the Statement of Faith. The deacons will bring this to a vote at the annual meeting and this information will be announced and posted ahead of time.

Dr. Calvin Swan will be retiring as the Central District Superintendent in March of 2020. The deacons have suggested MEFC contribute a free will gift to him for his years of service in the $300-$500 range. It was m/s/c to make a gift of $500 from MEFC.

It has been noted that the church library is not being actively utilized and board should be thinking of other possibilities for the church library space. At present there is no one to serve on next year’s music committee, as it is felt there is currently no work needed for this committee.

The role of church treasurers will be outsourced, as both Doug Goodburn and Steve Nelson will be stepping down at some point in the future. However there will remain a need for someone to function in the overseeing of accounts payable and to scan/count weekly incomes. More details will need to be worked out in the future.

Pastor Andrew’s review will be done on February 24th. A baby dedication service will be held February 23rd.

Deaconess Report: no new business to report

Old Business: A computer has been located with the requirements for the sound booth at a cost of $875. It was m/s/c that Pastor Pete should proceed with purchasing this computer.

New Business: Scott Lovell and Eli Paulsrud volunteered to be the auditors for this past year. March 22nd will be the Annual Meeting. The 75th Celebration Committee currently consists of Jim Hughes, Pastor Larry Ostercamp, Randy and Carroll Eaton, Doug Goodburn, Linda Chapman, Marlys Anderson, and Jennie Mogensen. The Missions Committee has recommended a 20% increase, which would be about $5000. The method to raise this increase is recommended to be a monthly spotlight on a missionary, with a special offering toward missions being taken at the time of this spotlight. At the end of the year these special offerings would be divided toward each mission according to the current percentages each is now receiving. It was also noted that Tim and Ann Wester have now retired from serving and perhaps their mission funding could go toward FCA or to the Marcus Food Pantry. A vote will be taken at the Annual Meeting regarding trying to reach the goal of a 20% increase in mission funding. If this goal would not be reached, the missions would receive only the additional amount that was actually raised. Salaries of church staff were reviewed by board members.

It was m/s/c to adjourn the meeting with no further discussion.

The meeting was closed in prayer.

Minutes recorded by Board Secretary, Linda Grauer