**COUNCIL DELEGATES & OFFICERS PRESENT:** Eric Tieszen, Michael White, Lindsey Mehlbrech, Jerry Bertelson, Cody Church, Karyn Montgomery, Jeff Scott, Sarah Woltzen, Dick and Dianne Dawson, Carol Woltzen, Doreen Fry, Ivan and Katie Ortman**.** **A Quorum Was Present**

**COUNCIL DELEGATES & OFFICERS ABSENT:** Larry Nebelsick

**ELDERS PRESENT:**

**ALTERNATES PRESENT:** Carol Woltzen

**STAFF PRESENT:**

**VISITORS:**

**MODERATOR:** Rev. Jerry Bertelson

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Cody Church

**DEVOTION AND OPENING PRAYER:** Carol Woltzen

**\*APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Ivan Ortman made a motion to approve the April 23, 2023, agenda as printed. Eric Tieszen seconded the motion. Council VOTED and approved the agenda.

**\*APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Lindsey Mehlbrech made a motion to approve the March 26, 2023, minutes as printed. Dick Dawson seconded the motion. Council VOTED and approved the minutes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**TRUSTEES:** no report

**STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE:** Finance committee met Sunday 16th 2023 with all members present. \* Quarterly reports reviewed, expenditures and giving \* Discussed purchase of short-term CDs \* Discussion on 3rd stage construction project, council and congregation approval Wednesday April 19th Finance members Brad Schroeder, Eric Tieszen, and Dianne Dawson met with exploratory committee members: Cody Church, Sarah Woltzen, Pastor Jerry and Tami and John Remacle. Finance reviewed with committee the overall budget and what past years show of discretionary income over the past 40 years. Discussion followed; exploratory committee would like to have finance decide the amount of debt that finance feels the church can incur if project gets approval. Finance will decide on the percentage of funds that need to be raised, prior to starting the project. Finance will meet prior to council meeting on Sunday.

1. Ballet vote taken by council supporting the project and recommending it be taken to the congregation. 1. If the vote does not pass, the building project dies. 2. If the vote passes. The finance committee would recommend that the project be evaluated by the Presbytery prior to the congregational vote as this will be our most likely source of outside funding. 2. Ballet vote taken by the congregation to move forward with the project. 1. If the vote does not pass, the building project dies. 2. If the vote passes the following would happen 1. The exploratory committee would dissolve, and two new committees would be formed: A 5-person fundraising committee who would be responsible for raising funds for the life of the project. (The Finance committee would not be involved in this). The second committee would be a 5-person building committee which would be responsible for overseeing construction phase of the project when it began. 2. The Finance committee would make available up to $50,000 for the building committee to get the architectural drawings and firm cost estimate/budget in preparation for the fundraising campaign. 3. Fundraising committee would be responsible for raising 60% expected cost of the project. The committee would be given 2 years from the date of the congregational vote to raise the 60%. If 60% is not raised during that timeframe the project dies and donors are asked if they would like their funds returned or left as part of the general fund. 4. The Finance committee would make available an additional $75,000 to jump-start the fundraising campaign. 5. Once the 60% fundraising campaign is believed to be met Council will vote to finalize building plans and begin to solicit building bids. 6. When all bids have been received a council vote to award the contract to the winning bidder and construction may begin. 7. Once construction begins the finance committee recommends that if needed up to $225,000 could be financed from an outside source for no more than 5 years. 8. It will be the responsibility of the Fund-raising committee to raise the remaining 20-30% during the construction phase of the project. $1,000,000 Capital Raise Example Finance Committee for Architectural plans $50,000 Finance Committee Fundraising Jump Start $75,000 Pre-Construction Raise 475,000 $600,000 or 60% in this example Construction phase Raise $175,000 5-year note $225,000 Total $1,000,000

Submitted by Dianne Dawson

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FUND** | **Mar 1, 2023**  **BALANCE** | **DEPOSITS** | **DISBURSEMENTS** | **Mar 31, 2023**  **BALANCE** |
| **General Fund** | 252,798.03 |  |  | 253,519.33 |
| **Capital Improvement** | 50,733.33 |  |  | 44,534.49 |
| **Special Services** | 5,567.96 |  |  | 6,242.96 |
| **Music-Choir Fund** | 124.25 |  |  | 124.25 |
| **Scholarship Fund** | 41,234.53 |  |  | 41,234.53 |
| **Riverside Cemetery** | 11,681.23 |  |  | 11,681.23 |
| **Memorial Funds** | | | | |
| **Undesignated** | 8,837.91 |  |  | 8,837.91 |
| **Library** | 311.60 |  |  | 311.60 |
| **Music** | 2,065.15 |  |  | 2,065.15 |
| **cd #4878** | 4,649.93 |  |  | 4,649.93 |
| **Horse Camp** | 4,516.61 |  |  | 4,516.61 |
| **TOTAL MEMORIAL FUNDS** | 20,381.20 |  |  | 20,381.20 |
| **riverside cemetery upkeep** | 789.78 |  |  | 789.78 |

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:**

The confirmation banquet was held on March 26th. There were 12 confirmands, their parents, and mentors. On April 2nd, we celebrated the confirmation of 12 confirmands, Prayden Acheson, Rebecca Bond, Hadassah Church, Jack Conn, Katelyn Engbarth, Becket Hutcheson, Adam Kleinsasser, Hunter Mehlbrech, Easton Miller, Emma Sandman, Landon Tieszen and Malachi Weber. The committee served cake and refreshments after the service. Graduation Sunday is going to be held on May 14th.VBS is going to be held on May 22-26. The theme is going to be "Stellar."

Submitted by Michael White

**WORSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP:** no report

**PASTORAL RELATIONS**: no report

**WORLD OUTREACH**: 572.00 was also raised in addition to the 2500.00 dollars that was given to the Canistota School for unpaid lunch bills and whatever else they needed.

**UWS:** Donuts were served by the UWS for "Spring Ahead" Sunday."  The donations totaling $1914.00 will be used to fund the school weekend food bag program.  UWS is working with the trustees to replace the flooring in the kitchen and bathrooms and a new sink/faucet in the kitchen.

Submitted by Carol Woltzen

**MEMBER AT LARGE**: no report

**ELDERS:** no report

**COMMISSIONER TO PRESBYTERY:**

I attended the Feb. 17th meeting of Presbytery via zoom.  A program being offered through the Presbytery "Energy for purpose" provides energy audits conducted by a certified energy manager to help churches with cost effective uses of energy. More information is available by contacting the Presbytery office.  Camp Rimrock updates:  retreat usage has increased, camp staff and counselors are needed, groundbreaking was held in Sept. for the new Creekside Cottage with plans to be completed by the fall of 2023.  The cottage will sleep 20 and will have a kitchenette, bathrooms with showers, and heat.  The cabin will be called the Peace Cabin to honor the gracious financial gift from the Yankton church that closed.  There will be a work camp held at the camp May 19-21.  The Oct. 27-28 Presbytery meeting will be held at the camp. There are plans for a women's retreat to be held in Sept.  Information was given about a new ministry in Sioux Falls called Hope Coop. Chad Ensz leads the ministry which started by gathering in the lobby of the Woodgrain Brewing Co. for bible study.  A community grew around Thirsty Thursdays with people from all walks of life. Their common goal and effort are to bring hope to the people of Sioux Falls--hope for those who have given up on the church, hope for those who feel spiritually lost, hope for people who know nothing about God, hope because of the radical love God showed us through Jesus. The June 23rd Presbytery meeting will be held at the United Church of Canistota.

Submitted by Carol Woltzen

**LAY MEMBER TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE:** no report

**EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE:**

The Building Exploratory Committee met on April 16, 2023. Committee members present were Sarah Woltzen, Cody Church, and Tami Remacle. The committee discussed the next step for the project. The committee would like the council to recommend the project to the congregation and take the project to a congregational vote. If recommended, the committee would present information to the congregation on April 30th and May 14th. Information would be presented briefly during announcements and then the committee would be available after the church service to answer any questions. The committee recommends a June congregational vote if approved. The Building Exploratory Committee (Sarah Woltzen, Cody Church, Tami Remacle, John Remacle and Pastor Jerry) and the Finance Committee (Eric Tieszen, Dianne Dawson, and Brad Schroeder) also met on Wednesday, April 19th to discuss the project. The committees discussed how the project would be financed. The finance committee will determine what percentage of the project’s projected cost they would want collected/pledged before breaking ground. This percentage will have to be determined before information is presented to the congregation. Pastor Jerry is also going to collect funding options from both the Presbyterian and Methodist denominations. The next committee meeting will be April 23, 2023.

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE:** no report

**PASTOR’S REPORT:**

April 2023

What an exciting month April has been! Celebrating three baptisms and 12 confirmands was a delight and acknowledgment to the good work that God is up to in our midst. As Lent came to an end and Easter Season is now upon us re-birth is all around – from the new life in the church to the new life budding in creation, it all points to God’s goodness. As we look forward to May and then the summer months, there are a number of exciting events and opportunities in the life of the church. God is at work in our church and in the lives of those in our community! God is good!

Below are a few notes from April:

* Helped to sort pizzas for youth fundraiser on April 1. A special thank you to Mandy and Chad Keller for organizing the fundraiser, again, this year!! Over 530 pizzas were sold!
* Facilitated congregational merger talks between two PCUSA churches in Sioux Falls (at the request of the Presbytery of South Dakota) on April 1
* Celebrated 12 confirmands and two baptisms on Palm Sunday, April 2
* Helped to host a Palm Sunday hymn sing service at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church in Marion, SD on April 2
* Met with pastor discussion group on April 3, 18, and 26
* Celebrated Holy Week services, including at a nursing home in Sioux Falls on Good Friday
* Celebrated Flynn Marie Kerrigan’s baptism on April 9
* Attended a conference on leadership on April 12 and 13
* Hosted American Baptist Missionary Kristy Engel via Zoom during the worship service on April 16
* Attended a theological conference in Chicago on April 27-29 with a pastoral colleague from Sioux Falls
* Led worship w/communion at the Good Samaritan Skilled Nursing Facility in Canistota on April 23rd at 2:30 pm.
* Made no hospital visits, four in-person home visits, seven phone calls, numerous text messages, and continued preaching, teaching, and leading worship.
* Summer mission projects in Sioux Falls are being planned for middle and high school youth. We will not be taking a mission trip this year but will be next year.

Upcoming in May & June

* Sunday, May 14 – Mother’s Day and Graduation Sunday worship service
* Sunday, May 21 – committees meet after worship service.
* Monday, May 22 – Friday, May 26 – Vacation Bible School
  + Meal at 5:30 pm
  + VBS from 6:00 pm – 8:15 pm
* Sunday, May 28 – church council meeting at 7:30 pm
* Monday, May 29 – offering prayers at the Memorial Day service at the American Legion
* I will be gone on Sunday, May 21 for Anna Schroeder’s wedding (May 20). Steve Richarz will be filling in for me.
* I will be hosting a Healthy Congregations workshop on Saturday, June 3 form 9 am – 4 pm. Church council and visioning team are all encouraged to attend. All are welcome. Information will also be distributed through the Presbytery of South Dakota and Dakotas UMC Conference.
* I will be attending the Dakotas UMC Annual Conference on June 8-10
* My family and I will be on vacation June 15 – 22. Cody Church will be filling in for me on June 18.
* Our church will be hosting the Presbytery of South Dakota gathering on June 23
* Kim Bunger will be getting married at the United Church on June 10th.

Follow-up: new church computers have been delivered to the church and have been installed!

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Jerry

**APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Jeff Scott made a motion to approve the committee reports. Eric Tieszen seconded the motion, Council VOTED and approved the reports.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Lindsey Mehlbrech made a motion that the council supports taking the proposed building project, as presented by the building exploratory committee, and the financial framework as presented by the financial committee, to a called congregational special meeting, at a date to be determined, to vote on the proposed building project. Carol Woltzen seconded the motion. Council VOTED and the motion was approved.

**NEXT MEETING: May 28th** at 7:30 PM Chairperson will have opening devotions.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Dick Dawson made a motion to adjourn. Lindsey Mehlbrech seconded the motion, Council VOTED and adjourned.

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Cody Church

CLERK\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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