MINUTES
MUSIC COMMITTEE
Bethesda Mennonite Church
Henderson, Nebraska
February 19, 2014

Attendance: Mike Wall, Dorothy Balaban, Rod Drews, and Burton Peters
Absent: Bennett Friesen

1. Mike Wall opened the meeting with prayer.
2. We reorganized and Mike Wall will continue to be the chairman and Burton Peters will be the new secretary.
3. We still need special music for Sunday morning March 30. Mike will make some contacts.
4. Had some discussion about the Messiah which will be performed in December. Rod has received a lot of feedback that people are happy to see that the Chancel Choir will again be performing with the orchestra. Rod will look into the possibility of live streaming the performance.
5. We thank Dorothy for serving on the Music Committee for the past six years. This was Dorothy’s last meeting.
6. Our next meeting will be April 2 at 7:30 p.m.
MINUTES
MUSIC COMMITTEE
Bethesda Mennonite Church
Henderson, Nebraska
April 2, 2014

Present: Mike Wall, Rod Drews, Burton Peters, Bennett Friesen

Mike Wall opened with prayer.

Treasures report was approved as presented.

Some time was spent discussing summer music schedule for Sunday morning worship. Mike will begin to make some contacts, and will put an announcement in the Bethesda news to encourage individuals, and or groups to volunteer to provide Sunday morning music.

Rod Drews reported on the Messiah, which will be presented by the Chancel Choir & Nebraska Chamber Orchestra. The Orchestra has been secured and Rod is making contacts with individuals to be the soloists.

Rod also mentioned that there is still some money left in two estates that was designated to be used for music at Bethesda. This money could possibly be used to pay some expenses for the Messiah.

The next meeting will be May 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Mike Wall, Chair
Burton Peters, Secretary
MINUTES
MUSIC COMMITTEE
Bethesda Mennonite Church
Henderson, Nebraska
MAY 7, 2014

Present Mike Wall, Rod Drews, Bennett Friesen, Burton Peters

Rod opened with a devotional and prayer.

No treasures report this month. Nothing has really changed since our last meeting.

Rod reported that a little repair work needs to be done on the organ and that will happen later this summer.

Rod also reported that he has confirmation from two soloists for the Messiah performance, and two others out checking schedules.

Several people have been contacted about providing special music for Sunday morning worship and are looking at schedules. We will continue to look for others who are willing to share their talents in this way. Anyone wishing to provide music for Sunday morning worship should contact either Mike Wall or Rod Drews.

Our next meeting is planned for June 11 at 8:00 p.m.

Mike Wall, Chair
Burton Peters, Secretary
MINUTES
MUSIC COMMITTEE
Bethesda Mennonite Church
Henderson, Nebraska
June 11, 2014

Present Mike Wall, Rod Drews, Bennett Friesen, Burton Peters

Burton opened the meeting by reading Psalms 128 and prayer.

Rod presented the treasures report. Some music has been purchased, and minor work has been done on the sanctuary piano and the upright piano in the Fellowship Hall.

Mike reported that individuals and groups who provide special music during the summer months are receiving a gift certificate from Starbucks.

The Music Committee and Bethesda appreciate very much the contributions these people are making. Discussion was had about the summer music schedule. Nearly all Sundays are covered at this point. Rod reported that soloist for the Messiah performance have all been secured. We are very thankful to these individuals and believe that it will be a very special event. Advertising was also discussed.

At our next meeting we will move some music supplies that are being stored in the upstairs Sunday school rooms. These rooms are scheduled to have asbestos removed so we will be looking for another place to store these supplies temporarily.

Next meeting will be July 2 at 7:30

Bennett closed with prayer.

Mike Wall, Chair
Burton Peters, Secretary
MINUTES  
MUSIC COMMITTEE  
Bethesda Mennonite Church  
Henderson, Nebraska  
July 2, 2014

Present: Mike Wall, Rod Drews, Bennett Friesen, Burton Peters

Bennett opened with prayer.

Secretary minutes were approved as written.

Treasures report showed no change from last month.

Summer music was again discussed. Several changes were made. We still have several openings with some possible groups possibly filling those openings.

The Messiah performance was also a discussion item. We would like very much to have a large group sing with the Chancel Choir. Rod will talk with Lynn Hall about inviting as many high school youth as possible to sing with us. We also will extend invitations to former singers, as well as anyone living in the surrounding area.

Some discussion as well about seeing if the Henderson Chamber would be interested in allowing the Chancel Choir to sing at the Christmas open house evening in December.

After our meeting we spent some time moving old music from the second story Sunday school rooms. Some music was discarded and some was temporarily put in the auxiliary room.

Our next meeting will be August 6 at 8:00.

Mike closed with prayer.

Submitted by Burton Peters, Secretary
MINUTES
MUSIC COMMITTEE
Bethesda Mennonite Church
Henderson, Nebraska
August 6, 2014 @ 8:00 p.m.

Present: Mike Wall, Rod Drews, Bennett Friesen, Burton Peters, and music personal Jay and Marilyn Kroeker, and Laura Steingard

Mike opened the meeting reading from a book called Singing a Mennonite Voice. He then shared thoughts about music in the church, and how fortunate we are to have the diversity and quality of music we have at Bethesda. The group then sang Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow.

Considerable time was spent discussing the fall choir schedule. Would we again split time between Power House and Chancel Choir singing at church services or do we make a change? Powerhouse struggles to get enough time to practice and learn new music and be prepared for morning worship. Mike will speak with Pastor Andrea and the Wednesday evening committee to see if a small change in scheduling can happen. It was the opinion of the group that Powerhouse should sing two times per month if at all possible.

The secretary’s report was approved.

The treasures report was presented and approved. Rod noted that we are under budget at this point in time, but that we will have some significant bills to pay later in the year.

Choir practice will began on September 3. The music committee will be serving root beer floats. All music committee members need to be there by 7:30 to get ready.

Submitted by Burton Peters, Secretary
Present: Mike Wall, Rod Drews, Bennett Friesen, and Burton Peters

Bennett opened the meeting by reading Psalms 91.

The secretary’s report was approved.

Treasurer’s report was approved. Rod explained that we have only spent about 20% of our budget and we are pretty much where we need to be at this time. A big share of our budget will be spent in the last month of the year. The pipe organ will be tuned in early December and we will have the Messiah expenses to pay.

Spent some time discussing advertising for the upcoming Messiah performance. It’s important that we get the word out because this is something that is not done by anyone else in the Midwest at this point.

Had some discussion on next year’s budget and how we plan for the future. Not only for next year but for two to five years down the road.

The next meeting will be held November 5 at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by:
Burton Peters, Secretary
MINUTES
MUSIC COMMITTEE
Bethesda Mennonite Church
Henderson, Nebraska
November 12, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mike Wall, Rod Drews, Bennett Friesen, Burton Peters

Rod opened with prayer.

Time was spent working on next year’s budget. We adjusted the organist’s compensation from $75 to $80 for 35 performances. Pianist performances were changed from $35 to $40 for 30 performances. Chancel Choir accompanist changed from $25 to $30 per performance. All other music personnel remained the same. Rational for these changes is that we have a very limited pool of people that are being called on to perform these duties, and some day we may need to go outside our church membership to fill these duties. If we ever reach that point these rates will still be too low to bring in people that would be willing to do the job. Hopefully we can encourage more people to help out with music responsibilities in the church.

Discussed hosting Bluffton University Camerata Singers directed by Mark Suderman. The event will be held on Wednesday March 4, 2015. The choir has 31 members and three adults including Mark who will need a supper meal on March 4 and housing for 34 people on Wednesday evening then a sack lunch for Thursday. We will make more plans at a later date.

We will once again have a social time following the Messiah performance on December 21, 2014. Rod will speak with Chancel Choir members about bringing cookies for the event. Mike will contact some people who are not in the choir to help host this event. Rod will check with Monroe to see if he can get all the furniture in the front of the church into the old choir room during the Messiah.

Our next meeting will be held on December 10, 2014.

Submitted by:
Burton Peters Secretary
MINUTES
MUSIC COMMITTEE
Bethesda Mennonite Church
Henderson, Nebraska
December 15, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m.

Present: Rod Drews, Mike Wall, Bennett Friesen, Burton Peters

Mike opened the meeting with a devotional reading from O Come Emanuel.

The secretary’s report was approved.

The treasurer’s report was handed out after which there was some discussion on some budget items. We discussed the need to include the down payment for the orchestra in our 2016 budget which will be done next year. It is anticipated that we will do the Messiah in the year 2017. Treasures report was approved. Rod informed us on the media outlets that will be advertising the Messiah performance that will be presented on December 21. Final arrangements were discussed concerning the reception following the Messiah.

Our next meeting will be January 7, 2015, at 9:00 p.m. following choir practice.

Mike closed with a word of prayer.