

The first Church Congregational meeting for the coming Church Year was held on December 8, 1953, at 8:30 o'clock in the Church Hall. The meeting was opened with a prayer by President Fred. W. Gross in the absence of Rev. Lehmann.

All the various departments of the Church submitted yearly financial reports to the Congregation. They were duly read and approved by the Congregation. The copies of these reports are considered to be a part of these minutes as if they were copied verbatim into the records of this meeting.

After Rev. Lehmann had read his Annual Report of the Pastor to the Congregation, and had commented on the report, Mr. Fred W. Gross suggested that a canvas of the members of the Church who were not making contributions to its existence be made. He thought it an excellent idea to start a Visitation Campaign in this way.

Mr. Fred. W. Gross made the appointment of the various committees for the coming year. A copy is herewith included in the minutes.

Rev. Lehmann told the Congregation that in his opinion the Parsonage would need a painting and papering this year. He also commented on the repairing of the door at the entrance to the Sunday School Hall.

Our Church Council President then took up the matter of the Church Organ and the poor condition it was in. He spoke briefly of the need for a new organ but thought that a regular Pipe Organ would be too expensive. He offered the suggestion that perhaps a Portable Electric Organ would serve the purpose.

A motion was made by Albert A. Hofmann and seconded by Albert Fader, Sr., that the Church Council be given permission to look into the subject of securing an electric organ on trial so that the Congregation might consider the question at its later meeting in the Spring. A committee was duly formed by Mr. Fred W. Gross to take proper charge of the investigation.

12/8/53

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Mr. Gross then ask the Congregation to give the Church Council permission to exercise the power to purchase such an Electric Organ if the situation became such that an organ might have to be purchased in order to carry on the Church Services ~~in~~ before the regular Spring Meeting of the Congregation is held. The permission was given upon the motion of Mr. Albert Fader, Sr. and seconded by Mr. Albert A. Hofmann, the Congregation duly voing upon the question in the affirmative.

Mrs. Virginia Gross then brought before the Congregation the question of protection to the various organizations of the church during, before, and after such organizations hold their meetings. It has been noted by various heads of the organizations of the church ~~xx~~ that a problem of protection of the various groups is sorely needed, especially when the Ladies Aid and the Ladies Guild of the church leave after their regular meeting nights.

The subject of a telephone to be placed somewhere in the Church Hall is to be taken up by the Church Council at its regular monthly meeting.

A motion was made that the meeting be adjourned, such motion was made by Fred Hutchinson, duly seconded by John J. Will, Jr., and approved by the entire Congregation. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 P.M. It was noted by Rev. Lehmann after he had closed the meeting with a prayer that much had been accomplished, and that the meeting had drawn more members of the Congregation then pervious meetings.

Respectfully submitted

William Bark Jr.
William Bark, Jr. Recording Secretary