

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Prairie to Pine Region

PEMBINA PARISH PASTORAL CHARGE
Zion-Calvin, Darlingford & St Paul's, Morden



Mission Statement

Pembina Parish is a caring Christian community, welcoming all people to join in our journey of celebrating God's presence, sharing our gifts locally and globally, while exploring our faith.

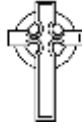
2023 ANNUAL REPORT

www.pembinaparish.com

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IN MEMORIAM



Betty Duncan
Bob Jordan
Jean Ching
Herman Doerksen
Arnold Krueger
Kathryn Gillis
Evelyne Holenski
Russel Knowles
Bob Stark
Phyllis Cochrane
Janette Phillips
Elma Jones
Steven Eveleigh
Isabelle Reichert
Edith Johnston
Chris Barron
Reinold Holenski
Peter Buhler
Harold Bollenbach

TRANSFER OUT

Norm Fife
Katheryne Lumgair

TRANSFER IN

Beth Lovell
Debbie Nelson
Judy Elliott

BAPTISMS

Joanna Dueck

**Pembina Parish Annual General Meeting
Sunday, February 26, 2023, following worship and lunch
St. Paul's United Church, 353 Thornhill St. Morden, Manitoba**

Pembina Parish is a caring Christian community, welcoming all people to join in our journey of celebrating God's presence, sharing our gifts locally and globally, while exploring our faith.

Attendance: 40

Rev Carrie Martens	Mary Ann McElroy	Rick Britton
Della Duncan	Margot Craig	Glenn Dyck
Laverne Lovatt	Brian Nedohin	Karen Dyck
Roxanne LeBlanc	Chelsey Giesbrecht	Leslie Bezte
Grace Young	Fay Carruthers	Marlene Holewka
Fred Mayor	Myrna Mayor	Esther Rothenburger
Susan Morgan	Sharon Deceuninck	Kathryn Luger
Henry Penner	Nancy Penner	Edith Lovatt
Jean Motheral	Betty Dong	Sue Nelson
Wayne Motheral	Earl Gardiner	Louise Gardiner
Bob Luger	Shannon Holenski	Karen Ching
Carol Burton	Lois Dudgeon	Brian Andrew
Theo Allen	Heather Hargreaves	Lesley Andrew
Lynn Bollenbach		

1. CALL TO ORDER 1:50 pm

Sharon Deceuninck, meeting chair and Leadership Team chair, called the meeting to order and asked Rev Carrie Martens to open the proceedings in prayer.

2. OPENING WORSHIP

Rev Carrie prayed to our God of all seasons, expressing thanks for those present and gratitude for our ability to meet together in-person. She expressed gratitude for the resumption of many activities including vibrant Sunday school programs, book studies, fund-raising dinners and concerts and gratitude also for the new choir director, new caretakers and the renovations at St. Paul's. There were many joys during the year, but losses too. Soon after in-person worship began there were several cancellations due to poor weather and frozen pipes. Thong Bouachanthala, St. Paul's caretaker, retired following health concerns. During the year we lost many loved members of our congregations. Regarding the meeting ahead, Rev Carrie prayed that God would guide our decisions and help us to hear one another in our deliberations.

3. VOTING

MOTION:

That voting on all matters be extended to all adherents.

Moved by: Nancy Penner Seconded by: Jean Motherall

CARRIED

4. SCRUTINEERS

It was suggested that scrutineers would not be required.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION

That the Agenda be approved as circulated.

Moved by: Lesley Andrew Seconded by: Marlene Holewka

CARRIED

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF TWO CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS IN 2022

MOTION

That the minutes of the Pembina Parish Annual General Meeting held on 13 March 2022 be approved. (page 5 of the 2022 Annual Report)

Moved by: Carol Burton Seconded by: Fred Mayor

CARRIED

MOTION

That the minutes of the Pembina Parish Congregational Meeting: Regarding a Ministerial Call held on 17 May 2022 be approved. (page 11 of the 2022 Annual Report)

Moved by: Earl Gardiner Seconded by: Brian Andrew

CARRIED

7. BUSINESS ARISING

None

8. REPORTS

Sharon Deceuninck read the names of the reports presented in the 2022 Annual Report and invited comments or questions as each report was identified.

3. Ministry and Personnel Committee	page 16
4. Finance	page 18
5. Opportunity Fund	page 29
6. St. Paul's Sunday School	page 30
7. Zion-Calvin Sunday School	page 31
8. Zion-Calvin Congregation	page 32
9. St. Paul's House Groups	page 33
10. Affirming	page 34
11. St. Paul's Choir	page 35
12. Outreach	page 36
13. Caring and Sharing	page 36
14. Fall Supper	page 37
15. Worship Interest Group	page 38

Comments: Rev Carrie Martens commented that a Worship Interest Group survey about summer worship had been left on tables. She asked that the surveys be completed and returned to the church office by March 19th. Further, she reported that the Worship Interest Group has only two members, but requires six to have good representation. She outlined the responsibilities of the group and indicated that changes would be required if more members are not found.

16. Pastoral Care	page 40
17. Prayer Shawl Ministry	page 41
18. Christmas Poinsettias Ministry	page 42
19. Book Club	page 43
20. Thornhill UCW	page 44
21. Zion-Calvin UCW	page 46
22. Prairie to Pine Regional Rep Report	page 47
23. St. Paul's Trustees	page 51
24. Zion-Calvin Trustees	page 52

MOTION

That the above-named reports be approved as presented.

Moved by: Rick Britton Seconded by: Lesley Andrew

CARRIED

9. NOMINATIONS FOR 2023-2024

Sharon Deceuninck outlined the position vacancies within Pembina Parish as outlined in the 2022 Annual Report, pages 53-54 and then identified the following nominations:

Susan Ching nominated for Leadership Team

Leslie Bezte nominated for Leadership Team

Carol Burton nominated for Ministry and Personnel

Lesley Andrew nominated as St. Paul's House Group Co-ordinator

Margot Craig nominated as St. Paul House Group Co-ordinator

Bob Luger nominated as Rep to Rock Lake United Church Camp

Louise Gardiner nominated as Rep to Rock Lake United Church Camp

Further nominations were requested from the floor. None were received.

MOTION

That nominations cease.

Moved by: Henry Penner

Seconded by: Earl Gardiner

CARRIED

MOTION

To accept the slate of officers for 2023-2024.

Moved by: Shannon Holenski

Seconded by: Marlene Holeyka

CARRIED

At this point, Esther Rothenburger rose to speak. She indicated it was 55 years ago that she joined the church. There have been many changes over the years. She said goodbye to many ministers and welcomed many more. She served the church in various capacities but the last three years on Leadership Team were the most difficult—however, she did learn to use email and Zoom! She thanked all those who serve or have served the church specifically mentioning Karen and Glenn Dyck, Rev Carrie and Laurie Wiebe. As she returned to her seat, the gathering gave her a standing ovation.

Rick Britton rose to reiterate the need for members on the Worship Interest Group. He cited the significant number of Sunday services for which cover-of is required and noted that pulpit supply is virtually non-existent.

Brian Nedohin, chair of St. Paul's Trustees, rose to name fellows trustees whose names were not included in the Annual Report: Craig Kestirke, Brian Andrew and Rick Britton.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Finance Report with the 2023 Budget and 2023 M&S Goal: Treasurer Nancy Penner thanked Alex Fedorchuk, Earl Gardiner and Wes Schroeder for their assistance in preparing the budget. She noted that Hugh Lumgair's presence and contribution were greatly missed this year. Nancy referred to *the Statement of Income and Expenses for the period ending December 31, 2022*, page 19 of the 2022 Annual Report, noting St. Paul's higher than usual building expenses. This was attributed to higher heating costs during renovations and to the rental use of the Hall. Costs were also incurred from damage related to frozen pipes. She commented that in times of rising interest rates, the church is fortunate to have a \$179,242 mortgage at a fixed rate of 2.3% for 15 years. The monthly payment is \$1,625 per month with prepayment of up to 20% allowed on the annual anniversary. Nancy thanked the people who are meeting their commitments to the mortgage and building costs as well as the people who are involved in and support fund-raising efforts.

Nancy referred to the 2023 Budget as outlined on pages 21-28 of the 2022 Annual Report. She cited statistics indicating a decline in the number of people giving and the amount of givings per individual. The 2023 budget is pared down to needs. In order for expenses to be covered, \$1,300/year or \$116/month is required from each of the current givers. In January 2023 givings for the month did not cover payroll. Nancy indicated that many churches are experiencing financial stress with the number of congregants in decline since Covid. She expressed confidence that we can be successful if we work together to give a little more and support fund-raising efforts.

Earl Gardiner rose to caution that the budget is balanced only because there is an assumption/belief that givings and other income will increase. We must all be aware of this assumption and act accordingly. We need to increase givings and look for ways to grow and build on success.

MOTION

To approve the 2023 Budget.

Moved by: Bob Luger Seconded by: Rick Britton

CARRIED

MOTION

To approve the Mission and Service Goal for 2023 as \$30,000.

Moved by: Sue Nelson Seconded by: Edith Lovatt

CARRIED

Following the approval of the M&S goal, Earl Gardiner commented that the goal is significantly decreased from past years while needs are growing. Sue Nelson noted that there are only 66 people who regularly give to M&S.

10.2 Concluding Comments: Rev Carrie reported that, beginning in March, the upstairs west-facing room of the CEU will be rented on a month-to-month basis for a sewing business. She noted there have been suggestion to rename the St. Paul's Christian Education Unit (CEU) as it is now available for rent. She asked that ideas for names be written on the back of the attendance sheets which will be gathered at the end of the meeting. Sharon Deceuninck mentioned that all rental rates are being reviewed by the Leadership Team.

11. CLOSING PRAYER

Rev Carrie closed saying that while the meeting ends, living with God carries on as we make decisions, face challenges and experience joys. For all things we give thanks to God and ask for help as we carry out God's work.

12. MOTION TO ADJOURN at 2:00 pm Moved by: Louise Gardiner Seconded by: Heather Hargreaves

APPOINTMENTS FOR 2023

Leadership Team:		Appointment	Service
Member	Susan Ching	2023	2 years (+1 year)
Treasurer	Nancy Penner	2021	2 years (+1 year)
M&P Representative			2 years (+1 year)
Member	Leslie Bezte	2023	2 years (+1 year)
Member	Mary Ann McElroy	2022	2 years (+1 year)
Member	Sharon Deceuninck	2021	
Member	vacancy		2 years (+1 year)
Minister	Rev. Carrie Martens		
Ministry & Personnel			
	Carol Burton	2023	2 years (+1 year)
	Lesley Andrew	2021	2 years (+1 year)
	Cathy Sandercock	2021	2 years (+1 year)
	Kathy Menzies	2022	2 years (+1 year)
Elders	Myrna Mayor	2021	3 years (+1 year)
	Fred Mayor	2020	3 years (+1 year)
	Deb Hamilton	2020	3 years (+1 year)
Regional Council Reps	Sharon Deceuninck	2019	3 years (+1 year)
Youth Representatives	Vacancy		Annual Appointment
St. Paul's House Groups	Lesley Andrew Margot Craig	2022	Annual Appointment
Zion-Calvin Trustees			5 years (+2 extra years)
	Martin Worrall	2019	5 years (+2 extra years)
	Brian McElroy	2017	5 years (+2 extra years)
	Bob Luger	2020	5 years (+2 extra years)
St Paul's Trustees			5 years (+2 extra years)
	Brian Nedohin	2018	5 years (+2 extra years)
	Rick Britton	2018	5 years(+2 extra years)
	Brian Andrew	2022	5 years(+2 extra years)
	Craig Kestirke	2021	
Rock Lake UC Camp	Bob Luger	2023	Annual Appointment
	Louise Gardiner	2023	Annual Appointment

Minister's Report

Greetings friends,

When I think about 2023, I am reminded of the story of Israel returning home after exile. They were filled with joy to be back in the land of their ancestors but there was also a lot of work involved in settling and rebuilding. This is what I have witnessed in Pembina Parish this year as we fully returned to life together following the pandemic. While we know Covid 19 is still with us, we have had no threat of closure due to outbreak and that has been a relief. However, because we could not simply pick up where we left off back in 2020, we have had the challenge of discerning what to reclaim or restart and what to leave behind. So, this year has been busy, but ultimately stabilizing, and I think we needed that after several years of instability and upheaval.

The image of the rock is often used as a sign of stability. It is something firm and unmoving. Yet, it is important to note that in the Bible, the church is not meant to be a rock, but is built upon one. The Lord is our rock and our deliverer. Jesus, the living corner stone. The stability of the church comes from our divine foundation. So, while we seek stability as a faith community, we are not meant to be static or unchanging, but to rest against the one who is our foundation. And from that foundation, the Spirit breathes life into our ongoing creation and re-creation.

Throughout 2023 we had opportunities to connect to our foundation. Confirmation Camps for youth and grown-ups were wonderful spaces in which to discover our foundation in scripture, prayer, and community. Outdoor worship, our parish picnic, and a climate change webinar drew us deeper into relationship with Creator and Creation. Shifting in Fall to a story-based worship lectionary also allowed us to become more familiar with God's work among our ancestors in the faith; the ways in which God was present to them in seasons of stagnation and movement, oppression and freedom. God truly is our Rock, Refuge, and Deliverer – the foundation upon which our church is built.

When I think of firm foundations, two other inspiring images come to mind outside of building metaphors. First, a tree with roots that sink deep and branches that flow with the breeze. Second, two acrobats. One, creating the base, the other supported and connected in a way that allows for all manner of movement and beauty. This is my prayer for our parish this year; that we might settle into the stability of our divine foundation, and thus come to live and move freely with the Spirit in this time and place.

Blessings,
Rev. Carrie

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Leadership Team Report

The Pembina Parish Leadership Team is responsible for the life and work of the parish in accordance with The Manual of The United Church of Canada, https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/the-manual_2021.pdf and as described in The Constitution of Pembina Parish (5.1). Our constitution describes the work of various committees, interest groups, and house groups, and all are accountable to the Leadership Team.

Through direct involvement or liaison, members of Leadership have ties to the various interest groups, with open communication – we will adjust our agenda to include these discussions. The monthly Leadership meetings begin and end with worship and reflections from our minister. Included is a monthly treasurer's report, staffing matters (M&P) and minister's report. A motion archive is kept at the church office, and meeting minutes are on our website, <https://www.pembinaparish.com/minutes-of-meetings.html>

We have had a busy year with many items coming across our desk:

- ◆ Securing funds or solutions to deal with any needs that arise such as: leaking toilets, roof repairs, lawn mowing, and snow removal. We approved the purchase and installation of motion sensor lighting (after vandalism during pride month) and of a new dishwasher. Special thanks to Lesley Andrew for researching and taking care of these tasks and to Robbins Electric for offering his time. Zion-Calvin had some building improvements with the addition of new space heaters in the entrance and new storm windows.
- ◆ Kathryn Luger was asked to help with written articles for News and Notes
- ◆ We heard from the Elders, Trustees, Sunday School, BAG, M&P reps
- ◆ The Bequest Policy was edited as well as the letter of thanks to the families and their invitation to attend a worship service honoring the bequest.
- ◆ Dissolution of the Darlingford UCW
- ◆ We reported progress from the photo Directory team and saw it's completion this summer. We confirmed the Parish Picnic, soup and pies (Outreach), and Fall Supper. By helping to plan events such as these, congregants can take some of the pressure off the leadership team while only making short term commitments.
- ◆ The formation of the Budget Action Group was approved to deal with finance and stewardship.
- ◆ Rental Fees for the Event Centre at St. Paul's United (Sanctuary and classroom spaces) were re-assessed and it was confirmed that all rentals are to be made through the office.
- ◆ The Pembina Parish Christmas Concert fund-raiser became a reality, with special thanks to Myra Amy-McElroy and Fay Carruthers for their wonderful leadership skills.
- ◆ We approved staff salary increases in keeping with suggestions from the United Church of Canada
- ◆ To address year end shortfalls, a transfer of funds from Zion-Calvin was accepted.
- ◆ We held discussions about long-term renters and eventually welcomed the Finer Spirits group to take over our CEU space. Special thanks to Earl Gardiner for all his hard work and reporting to us and the congregation about this new venture in keeping with our discernment process.

We are thrilled to see our Communities of Faith coming back to life after the lull of the pandemic and look forward to serving the needs of our parish.

Respectfully Submitted by Sharon Deceuninck (chair) on behalf of Rev. Carrie, Leslie Bezte (co-chair), Mary Ann McElroy (secretary), Nancy Penner (treasurer), Lesley Andrew (M&P rep), and Susan Ching (Zion-Calvin Rep).



Ministry and Personnel Committee

The Ministry and Personnel (M&P) Committee acts under the guidelines of the The Manual of The United Church of Canada. The committee functions around three roles, which are the consultative and supportive role, the healthy relationship role, and the supervisory role. We provide resources and support for the staff and the community of faith with respect to any issue affecting staff of our churches, including ministry personnel and lay employees. The committee works to build positive and trusting relationships between staff and members and adherents of the community of faith. It has been our great privilege to work together in this consultative and supportive committee building lasting relationships with each other and the fantastic staff of Pembina Parish while making recommendations to Leadership regards to work-life, salaries and policies to enhance the life and work of the staff and parish.

We continue to reconnect with members of Pembina Parish and our broader community. Our “Congregational Care” model provides an opportunity for all members of the parish to share in their abilities/interests in either spiritual, emotional or practical ways as we show God’s Love to one another and the surrounding community. Please contact the office and let Laurie know your interests in serving on any of the interest groups.

(visitation, card writing, prayer warrior, baking, cooking, cleaning, errand running or taxi services)

2023 was a busy year for Pembina Parish with more gatherings in house.

- Rev Carrie led a Lent Book Study, had 35 books sold, 15-20 attended weekly sessions. Some opted to study on their own following Carrie’s weekly email updates.
 - The Affirming group is now called the Peace & Justice Action group with 15 members.
 - June was Pride month, parade June 10, 2023
 - Sunday School blankets given out to graduates
 - Indigenous day gathering at the Morden park
 - June 25th was Carrie Martin's 1 year anniversary accepted as a United Church Minister.
 - Confirmation, baptism, membership transfer celebrations in the New Year.
 - Climate Vigil at St. Paul’s hosted by the new ecumenical climate group
 - Provided monthly coffee snacks and connecting with staff, a Christmas lunch celebration.
- Involved with Prairie to Pine Equity & Diversity group

We are blessed to have such incredibly dedicated staff at Pembina Parish and we thank God for their willingness to share their gifts with us.

Minister: Rev Carrie Martens

Office Administrator: Laurie Wiebe

Custodial Staff: Mel and Sheila Worms (St. Paul's)

Deb Hamilton (Zion-Calvin)

Pianists: Fay Carruthers (St. Paul's)

Myra Amy-McElroy (Zion-Calvin)

Sound Technicians: Doug Lone, Joe Teigrob

Audio/Visual Technicians: Kari Unger, Beth Lovell, Asten McGill, Raina Teigrob,
Lauren McPhail, Nancy Penner, & Sharon Deceuninck

The committee met 6 times in person over the last year as well as email contact as issues arose. M&P committee members: Kathy Menzies, Carol Burton, Cathy Sandercock and Lesley Andrew. 2024 will see two new members. We thank Cathy and Lesley for their three year terms.

Respectfully Submitted by Lesley Andrew



Budget Action Group

Beginning in February 2023 discussions began related to the financial challenges that had occurred through Covid and were continuing, and which the Leadership Team was struggling with.

Through additional discussions at that time, it was identified that for multiple reasons both the Stewardship and Finance Interest Groups, which are key teams to support the viability of any congregation, were struggling with membership, leadership and new ideas. From these discussions and with the help of Rev. Carrie, we began to explore the concept of combining faithful stewardship, financial planning and financial oversight into one committee. Over time what was proposed to, and accepted by the Leadership Team was to combine the responsibilities and work of Stewardship and Finance into ONE interest committee and Earl Gardiner was asked to form this new team.

Currently we have a group of 7 enthusiastic and committed members, which include: Cathy Lone, Ryan McGill, Martin Worrall, Bruce Shewfelt, Bob Luger, Brian Saunderson, Earl Gardiner, Nancy Penner as the Parish Treasure, and at the present time Earl acting as the Chair of the Team. Our group spent considerable time educating ourselves on the past work of the two committees, learning about the current financial situation of the Parish and thinking about the goals, opportunities and interests that each of us had. This led us to develop our own Terms of Reference and Vision statement which is as follows:

Vision:

The vision for the committee is to create short, medium and long-term financial plans that guide Leadership decisions regarding Pembina Parish's financial sustainability.

One of the early actions that we as a committee agreed on was that we needed to look at the work of Stewardship and Finance in a way that was current to today's society. We felt it was important that we didn't get stuck or default into thinking about Stewardship like "it's always been done"! For example, we felt we needed to be able to think about Stewardship as more than an annual campaign and Stewardship being more that just being about congregational givings.

This time and contemplation led us to two key outcomes that I'd like to share:

First, the name we came up with for our committee: We are now referred to ourselves as the Budget Action Group which rather humorously creates the acronym of BAG!! We felt the name needed to reflect that our group had a broad responsibility to the whole financial viability of the Parish, not just congregational givings, so thus the term **BUDGET**. We wanted to convey that involvement and working to planned outcomes was needed, and thus the word **ACTION** was included. **Group** is to indicate we need a team to complete the work we've been called to do.

The second outcome was that we came to view Stewardship as all the monies that come into the Parish, not just congregational givings. Stewardship also involves how we spend and invest our money. This became a real pivotal moment for us and is now how we plan and delegate the work of our committee. Fundamentally we have three distinct sources of income: 1) Congregational givings (which comes in many forms – regular weekly or monthly donations, legacy gifts, special project givings), 2) Fund Raising (choir concerts, fall supers, bake sales, Co-op card, and events we haven't dreamt up yet), and 3) Rental of our facilities.

o, we proceeded to organized ourselves into 3 sub-committees around these three sources of revenue. Cathy, Nancy and Martin have responsibility to ensure the congregation is motivated to do fundraising. They aren't responsible to do the fundraising, but they are there to gather and generate ideas, and to support moving the ideas into action. Bob and Brian have taken on the responsibility of communicating to the congregation around donations by increasing awareness on the needs and reminding and supporting people's enthusiasm to donation. Bruce, Ryan, Martin and Earl have the responsibility to generate rental revenue through the appropriate use of our facilities. We believe with a focus on these three areas, we can, with greater confidence, ensure we have the resources to: First - maintain our current ministries, and Second - give us the opportunity to grow our programing and flourish in the future.

Although the committee feels we are just getting our feet under us, we have been pleased with the progress we have made to learning (a number of committee members participated in a Stewardship course offered by the United Church), to planning (what are the priorities and how do we get the required work done) and are already executing on some of these plans (for example: new fund raising ideas, improving communications, promoting rental opportunities for our newly renovated facilities, and finding a permanent renter for the CEU).

We recognize that as a community of faith we will need to work together to ensure we have the resources required to carry out the work of our congregations. To this end, we invite everyone to share your ideas with any of the three sub-committees as we would welcome your ideas on how we can continue to grow our revenue, so please feel free to contact any of us, at any time. Recognizing Stewardship is the work of our whole congregation, our goal as we move forward to the future, is to have frequent communications with the Parish, so there is a collective awareness on the needs and the importance of ensuring the long term financial viability of our community of faith.

We are thankful for the opportunity to serve and support the work of the Parish.

Budget Action Group

Pembina Parish Year-End Finance Statements 2023

**Pembina Parish United Church
Summary Statement of Income and Expenses
For the period ending Dec 31,2023**

	Actual to Dec 31, 2022	Actual to Dec 31, 2023	Budget to Dec 31, 2023	Variance (Budget)
Income				
Givings	\$ 181,225	\$ 196,736	\$ 225,137	-\$ 28,401
Fundraising	17,291	20,872	18,800	2,072
Other	10,855	13,943	875	13,068
Total Income	\$ 209,371	\$ 231,552	\$ 244,812	-\$ 13,260
Expenses				
Salaries	\$ 124,349	\$ 129,139	\$ 132,329	-\$ 3,190
Administration	29,157	27,674	29,993	- 2,319
St. Paul's Bldg Expenses	69,274	61,786	53,830	7,956
Zion-Calvin Bldg Expenses	13,118	10,858	14,433	- 3,575
Interest Groups	4,886	3,835	8,650	- 4,815
Interest on Mortgage	6,062	4,459		- 1,118
Total Expenses	\$ 246,846	\$ 237,750	\$ 244,812	- 7,062
Net Surplus (Loss)	-\$ 37,475	-\$ 6,198	\$ -	-\$ 6,198

Pembina Parish

Operating Fund Balance Sheet - Dec 31, 2023

Assets

Access Credit Union - Oper Acct	\$ 122,114.73
Cash On Hand	925.00
ACU Platinum S/V	24,828.09
	<u>147,867.82</u>
ACC Parish Share	5.00
Due From - Restricted Fund	<u>87,522.27</u>

Total Assets

\$ 235,395.09

Liabilities

Accounts Payable		\$ 1,650.06
Payable to M & S Fund/Flow Throughs		5,951.00
UCC Pension	\$ 84.37	
UCC Benefits	35.20	
UCC Group Insurance	14.91	
		<u>134.48</u>
Total Due - UCC		134.48
GST Payable on Purchases (Refund)	-	542.24
Soup & Pie Interest Group Payable		<u>5,715.29</u>

\$ 12,908.59

Mortgage ACU (ST P right sizing)

164,322.43

Total Liabilities

\$ 177,231.02

Retained Earnings

Retained Years - End of Prior Yr	\$ 64,362.38
Current Loss 2023	<u>- 6,198.31</u>
Subtotal	<u>58,164.07</u>

58,164.07

Total - Liabilities and Equity

\$ 235,395.09

Pembina Parish

Restricted Fund Balance Sheet - Dec 31, 2023

Assets

Restricted Fund Bank Account	\$ 88,276.95	
Restricted Fund - ACU Share	<u>5.00</u>	<u>\$ 88,281.95</u>

Liabilities

Due To - Operating Fund		\$ 87,522.27
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Retained Earnings

Restricted Fund - Zion Projects	\$ 8,888.17	
Opportunity Fund - Endowment	60,498.13	
Opportunity Fund - Avail to Spend	<u>12,616.85</u>	
Subtotal	\$ 82,003.15	
Restricted Fund - St Paul's Building	<u>- 81,243.47</u>	<u>759.68</u>

Total - Liabilities and Equity		<u>\$ 88,281.95</u>
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Comparative Income Statement

	Actual 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023	Budget 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023	Difference
REVENUE			
Givngs			
Envelop & PAR Givings	193,924.33	223,062.00	-29,137.67
Open Offering	2,713.70	2,000.00	713.70
Sunday School	<u>98.00</u>	<u>75.00</u>	23.00
TOTAL GIVINGS	<u>196,736.03</u>	<u>225,137.00</u>	-28,400.97
Fund Raising			
Fall Supper - Income	7,767.00	8,400.00	-633.00
<Fall Supper Expenses>	<u>-1,247.41</u>	<u>-1,500.00</u>	252.59
Net	6,519.59	6,900.00	-380.41
Choir Fund Raising Event	3,020.00	3,500.00	-480.00
<Choir Event Expenses>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-300.00</u>	300.00
Net	3,020.00	3,200.00	-180.00
Coop Coupon Fund Raising	67,355.00	50,000.00	17,355.00
<Coop Card Expenses>	<u>-61,065.00</u>	<u>-45,000.00</u>	-16,065.00
Net	6,290.00	5,000.00	1,290.00
Poinsettias Revenue	1,215.00	1,400.00	-185.00
<Poinsettias Expenses>	<u>-233.04</u>	<u>-1,400.00</u>	1,166.96
Net	981.96	0.00	981.96
Broadview/Upper Room/Pub Revenue	185.00	225.00	-40.00
<Broadview/Upper Room/Pub Expenses>	<u>-381.64</u>	<u>-275.00</u>	-106.64
Net	-196.64	-50.00	-146.64
Funeral Revenue	5,691.99	7,500.00	-1,808.01
<Funeral Expenses>	<u>-3,966.61</u>	<u>-3,750.00</u>	-216.61
Net	1,725.38	3,750.00	-2,024.62
Misc Fund Raising Revenue	4,399.85	0.00	4,399.85
<Misc Fund Raising Expenses>	<u>-1,867.67</u>	<u>0.00</u>	-1,867.67
Net	<u>2,532.18</u>	<u>0.00</u>	2,532.18
Fund Raising Sub Total	<u>20,872.47</u>	<u>18,800.00</u>	2,072.47
Other Revenue			
Interest on Bank Accounts	929.34	375.00	554.34
Rent - Other	12,872.97	0.00	12,872.97
Misc. Income	<u>140.85</u>	<u>500.00</u>	-359.15
Other Income - Sub Total	<u>13,943.16</u>	<u>875.00</u>	13,068.16

	Actual 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023	Budget 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023	Difference
FLOW THROUGH INCOME			
Mission & Service Donations	22,488.00	0.00	22,488.00
<Paid Out>	<u>-22,488.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	-22,488.00
Net	0.00	0.00	0.00
Soup & Pie Income	6,496.05	0.00	6,496.05
<Purchases>	-863.63	0.00	-863.63
<Paid Out to Committee>	<u>-5,632.42</u>	<u>0.00</u>	-5,632.42
Net	0.00	0.00	0.00
Opp Fund Income	104,416.12	0.00	104,416.12
Opp Fund - Balancing Acct	<u>-95,356.32</u>	<u>0.00</u>	-95,356.32
Net	<u>9,059.80</u>	<u>0.00</u>	9,059.80
Net Owing or <Receivable>	<u>9,059.80</u>	<u>0.00</u>	9,059.80
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>240,611.46</u>	<u>244,812.00</u>	-4,200.54
	231,551.66		
EXPENSE			
Salaries, Benefits and Contracts			
Ministers	65,962.56	65,421.55	541.01
Office Admin	30,605.86	33,224.86	-2,619.00
EI Expense	1,746.02	1,331.23	414.79
CPP Expense	5,293.63	5,447.82	-154.19
UCC Pension	8,637.15	8,877.42	-240.27
Group Benefits	8,887.57	8,683.56	204.01
ADP Service Charge	<u>214.32</u>	<u>335.00</u>	-120.68
Sub Total	121,347.11	123,321.44	-1,974.33
Office Admin Relief	1,013.94	472.00	541.94
Sound and PowerPoint Techs	1,277.88	1,256.80	21.08
Musicians - St. Pauls	2,592.78	2,045.16	547.62
Musicians - Zion	532.56	1,996.80	-1,464.24
Choir Director	1,584.69	1,636.40	-51.71
Pulpit Supply/Honar/Travel	<u>789.60</u>	<u>1,600.00</u>	-810.40
Total Employee Costs	<u>129,138.56</u>	<u>132,328.60</u>	-3,190.04
Ministers Expenses			
Continuing Education Allowances	1,372.96	1,543.00	-170.04
Vehicle / Mileage Expenses	846.12	1,375.00	-528.88
Misc Expenses	<u>404.52</u>	<u>300.00</u>	104.52
Sub Total	<u>2,623.60</u>	<u>3,218.00</u>	-594.40

	Actual 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023	Budget 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023	Difference
Administration Expenses			
UCC Assessment	9,220.00	9,220.00	0.00
External Accting and Legal Fees	1,310.75	1,372.00	-61.25
Postage	552.00	850.00	-298.00
Bank SC	381.50	400.00	-18.50
Office Supplies	1,066.50	1,200.00	-133.50
Telephone Charges - Cell/St Paul's	1,195.52	528.00	667.52
Internet Expenses - St Paul's	978.56	1,065.00	-86.44
Copier Lease Agreement Fees	3,525.84	2,900.00	625.84
Copier Service Fees	994.72	825.00	169.72
Advertsing and Printing Costs	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Computer Maintenance & Repairs	85.00	1,500.00	-1,415.00
Sound System & Misc Equip Mtc	110.19	500.00	-389.81
Worship Related Exps	626.12	900.00	-273.88
GST Expense (50% of Purchases)	1,508.18	1,500.00	8.18
Software Licesnes/ChurchTrac/Office	2,377.90	2,500.00	-122.10
Christian Education	-75.91	350.00	-425.91
Internet Expenses - Zion-Calvin	1,043.25	1,065.00	-21.75
Misc	150.00	0.00	150.00
Sub Total	<u>25,050.12</u>	<u>26,775.00</u>	-1,724.88
St. Pauls			
Insurance	12,236.00	12,500.00	-264.00
Property Taxes	4,041.35	3,850.00	191.35
Janitorial and Hospitality Supplies	1,732.39	3,000.00	-1,267.61
Electricity	3,284.71	2,600.00	684.71
Heating Natural Gas	6,054.30	7,000.00	-945.70
Water & Sewer	504.55	750.00	-245.45
maintenance & Repairs	13,088.39	4,000.00	9,088.39
Yard Upkeep and Snow Removal	3,704.00	4,000.00	-296.00
Contractor Fees - Janitor	17,140.40	16,130.40	1,010.00
Sub Total	<u>61,786.09</u>	<u>53,830.40</u>	7,955.69
Zion			
Insurance	2,159.00	2,200.00	-41.00
Property Taxes	264.59	265.00	-0.41
Janitorial and HospitalitySupplies	0.00	400.00	-400.00
Electricity	6,229.76	7,000.00	-770.24
Maintenance & Repairs	136.48	2,000.00	-1,863.52
Yard Upkeep and Snow Removal	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Contractors - Janitor	2,068.08	2,068.00	0.08
Sub Total	<u>10,857.91</u>	<u>14,433.00</u>	-3,575.09

	Actual 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023	Budget 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023	Difference
Leadership Team			
Recognition	<u>120.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	120.00
Sub Total	<u>120.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	120.00
M & P Committee			
Staff Appreciation Expenses	128.04	750.00	-621.96
Misc	<u>1,460.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	1,460.00
Sub Total	<u>1,588.04</u>	<u>750.00</u>	838.04
Choir			
Music Purchases	178.07	500.00	-321.93
Repairs to Piano	221.90	3,500.00	-3,278.10
Misc	<u>199.68</u>	<u>0.00</u>	199.68
Sub Total	<u>599.65</u>	<u>4,000.00</u>	-3,400.35
Other Interest Groups			
Sunday School	702.44	2,000.00	-1,297.56
Pastoral Care	125.73	600.00	-474.27
Worship	0.00	150.00	-150.00
Caring & Sharing	209.78	350.00	-140.22
Banner & Quilting	92.27	400.00	-307.73
Affirming Conversation	<u>396.81</u>	<u>400.00</u>	-3.19
Subtotal	<u>1,527.03</u>	<u>3,900.00</u>	-2,372.97
Opportunity Fund Expenses			
Opportunity Fund General	7,957.14	0.00	7,957.14
Opportunity Fund Zion	1,102.66	0.00	1,102.66
Mortgage Interest	<u>4,458.97</u>	<u>0.00</u>	4,458.97
Subtotal	<u>13,518.77</u>	<u>0.00</u>	13,518.77
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>246,809.77</u>	<u>239,235.00</u>	-230,175.20
NET INCOME	<u>-6,198.31</u>	<u>5,577.00</u>	-11,775.31

Pembina Parish 2024 Budget

Pembina Parish United Church					
Summary Operating Budget Projection					
For the 12 month period ending Dec 31,2024					
			Actual	Budget	
			Dec 31, 2023	Dec 31, 2024	Net
					Change
Income					
	Givings	*	196,736	188,100	-8,636
	Fundraising		19,147	20,400	1,253
	Rent		14,598	32,250	17,652
	Other		1,070	1,150	80
	Total Income		231,552	241,900	10,348
Expenses					
	Salaries		129,139	141,293	12,155
	Administration		32,124	28,761	-3,363
	St. Paul's Bldg		61,786	64,447	2,661
	Zion-Calvin Bldg		10,858	12,394	1,536
	Interest Groups		3,835	4,420	585
	Total Expenses		237,741	251,315	13,574
	Net Surplus		-6,189	-9,415	-3,226

Pembina Parish Budget
January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Account
 Number Account Description

Givings

	Actuals 2023	Budget 2024	Net Change	Deficit -9,415
4001 Envelop & PAR Givings	193,924	185,000		
4002 Open Offering	2,714			
4003 Sunday School	98	100		
4077 Other Givings			-	
	<u>196,736</u>	<u>188,100</u>		-4.39%

Fund Raising

4110 Fall Supper - Income	7,767			
4111 <Fall Supper Expenses>		(1,400)		
4120 Choir Fund Raising Event	3,020			
4121 <Choir Event Expenses>				
4130 Coop Coupon Fund Raising	67,355	70,000		
4131 <Coop Card Expenses>		(63,000)		
4140 Poinsettias Revenue	1,215			
4141 <Poinsettias Expenses>		(1,300)		
4150 Broadview/Upper Room/Pub Revenue		200		
4151 <Broadview/Upper Room Expenses>	(382)	(400)	(18)	
4177 Misc Fund Raising Revenue	4,400			
4178 <Misc Fund Raising Expenses>		(1,500)	368	
	<u>19,147</u>	<u>20,400</u>		6.54%

		Actuals	Budget	Net	
		2023	2024		
Facility Rentals					
New	Rent - CEU		19,000	19,000	
New	Rent - Upper Level Offices		6,400	6,400	
		(all			
		rentals			
New	Rent -Event Centre at St. Pauls	in 2023)	12,873	7,850	(5,023)
New	Rent - Other (Equipment, Sound & Maintenance Staff)				-
New	Rent - Funerals		5,692	6,000	308
	Sub Total		<u>18,565</u>	<u>39,250</u>	<u>20,685</u>
Less: Direct Expensed					
New	Rental Related Reno's and Mtc Expenses			(3,000)	(3,000)
New	Funeral Related Expenses		<u>(3,967)</u>	<u>(4,000)</u>	<u>(33)</u>
New	Sub Total		<u>(3,967)</u>	<u>(7,000)</u>	<u>(3,033)</u>
New	Total Net		<u>14,598</u>	<u>32,250</u>	<u>23,718</u> 162.47%
Other Income					
	4201 Interest on Bank Accounts		929	1,000	71
	4277 Misc. Income		141	150	9
			<u>1,070</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>80</u> 7.46%
Total Income			<u>231,552</u>	<u>241,900</u>	<u>10,348</u> 4.47%

Expenses:	Actuals	Budget	Net	
Salaries, Benefits and Contracts	2023	2024	Change	
5002 Ministers	65,963	71,631	5,669	8.59%
5003 Office Admin	30,606	32,559	1,953	6.38%
5005 EI Expense	1,746			7.89%
5006 CPP Expense	5,294			7.89%
5007 UCC Pension	8,637			7.89%
5008 Group Benefits	8,888			7.89%
5009 ADP Service Charge	214	350	136	
5012 Office Admin Relief	1,014	1,100	86	
5014 Sound and PowerPoint Techs	1,278	1,500	222	
5015 Musicians - St. Pauls	2,593	2,800	207	
5016 Musicians - Zion	533	1,000	467	
5017 Choir Director	1,585	2,000	415	
5018 Pulpit Supply/Honar/Travel	<u>790</u>	<u>1,850</u>	1,060	
	<u>129,139</u>	<u>141,293</u>	<u>12,155</u>	9.41%
Minister Expenses				
5101 Continuing Education Allowances	1,373	1,640	267	
5104 Vehicle / Mileage Expenses	846	1,375	529	62.51%
5177 confrence registration and expense	<u> </u>	<u>750</u>	345	
	<u>2,624</u>	<u>3,765</u>	<u>1,141</u>	43.51%
Administration Expenses:				
5201 Conference Assessment	9,220	8,496	(724)	
5202 External Actcing and Legal Fees	1,311	1,350	39	
5203 Postage	552	850	298	
5204 Bank SC	<u>382</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>19</u>	



NEW Interest On Mortgage

5205 Office Supplies

5206 Telephone Charges

5207 Internet Expenses

5208 Copier Lease Agreement Fees

5209 Copier Service Fees

5211 Computer Maintenance & Repairs

5212 Sound System & Misc Equip Mtc

5213 Worship Related Exps

5214 GST Expense (50% of Purchases)

5215 Software Licesnes - Church Trac

5216 Christian Education

5217 Internet Expenses - Zion Calvin

5277 Misc

Actuals **Budget** **Net**
2023 **2024**

4,450 4,200 (250)

1,067 1,100 34

1,196 1,200 4

979 1,000 21

3,526 600 (2,926)

995 300 (695)

85 100 15

110 100 (10)

626 600 (26)

1,508 1,000 (508)

2,378 2,400 22

(76) 200 276

1,043 1,000 (43)

150 100 (50)

29,500 24,996 (4,504) -15.27%

St. Pauls Building Expenses

5402 Insurance

5403 Property Taxes

5404 Janitorial and Hospitality Supplies

5405 Electricity

5406 Heating Natural Gas

5407 Water & Sewer

5408 Maintenance & Repairs

5409 Yard Upkeep and Snow Removal

5410 Contractor Fees - Janitor

5477 Misc. Expenses

12,236 12,300 64

4,041 4,300 259

1,732 1,800 68

3,285 3,500 215 6.55%

6,054 6,300 246 4.06%

505 600 95

13,088 14,600 1,512 11.55%

3,704 3,900 196 5.29%

17,140 17,147 6

-

61,786 64,447 2,661 4.31%

Zion Calvin

5502 Insurance

5503 Property Taxes

5504 Janitorial and HospitalitySupplies

5505 Electricity

5508 Maintenance & Reparis

5509 Yard Upkeep and Snow Removal

5510 Contractors - Janitor

5577 Misc

2,159 2,200 41

265 275 10

200 200

6,230 6,600 370 5.94%

136 500 364

500 500

2,068 2,119 51

-

10,858 12,394 1,536 14.15%

	Actuals 2023	Budget 2024	Net
Leadership			
5601 Special Events and Projects			-
5602 Recognition	120	120	-
5677 Misc	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	-
	<u>120</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>-</u>
M&P			
5702 Staff Appreciation Expenses	128	300	172
5705 Moving Expenses			-
5777 Misc	<u>1,460</u>	<u> </u>	(1,460)
	<u>1,588</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>(1,288)</u>
Music			
5801 Music Purchases	178	500	322
5802 Repairs and Msc to Piano	222	250	28
5877 Misc	<u>200</u>	<u> </u>	(200)
	<u>600</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>150</u>
Other Interest Groups			
5901 Sunday School	702	800	98
5902 Pastoral Care	126	600	474
5903 Stewardship			-
5904 Worship Interest Group		400	400
5905 Finance			-
5906 Caring & Sharing	210	350	140
5908 Womens Retreat			-
5909 Banner & Quilting	92	200	108
5913 Peace and Justice	397	500	103

	Actuals 2023	Budget 2024	Net Change	
New Outreach				
5916 Hospitality	<u> </u>	<u>400</u>	400	
	<u>1,527</u>	<u>3,250</u>	<u>1,723</u>	112.83 %
Total Expenses	<u>237,741</u>	<u>251,315</u>	<u>13,574</u>	5.71%
Net Loss for the Year	(6,189)	(9,415)	(3,226)	

OPPORTUNITY FUND INTEREST GROUP

The role of this Interest Group is to receive and assess requests for programs or projects to be funded from the "Available to be Spent" portion of the Opportunity Fund. Recommendations are then forwarded to the Leadership Team for final approval.

Individuals or groups within the parish are invited to make a request of money to support programs or projects which will enhance and support the ministry of Pembina Parish. Requests may be thought of as representing the following areas of work in the church:

"Reaching Up" through leadership courses of training, Christian development activity, grants for short-term ministry programs, music enrichment, etc.

"Reaching Out" to support activity related to the outreach of the church, assisting community programs, institutions and other agencies to which the parish relates.

"Reaching In" for physical changes in the church buildings: ie. capital improvements.

These requests should not be for those programs or projects that would normally be supported by regular and ongoing operational funds. Application forms for the funds are available in the parish office.

Two requests were made in 2023. Both were reviewed and approved via emails with the group.

The amounts spent from the fund were:

Peace Table Bibles	\$1229.70	
Dishwasher	\$ 5417.44	
Continuing Professional Development Course for Office Administrator		\$ 1310.00
Total expenditure	\$ 7957.14	

The installation of dishwasher and directory cost were approved but not needed from the fund.

The fund amounts on Dec 31 2023 are as follows:

Endowment fund	\$60,498.13
Available to be spent	<u>\$12,616.85</u>
Total in Fund	\$73,114.98

Respectfully submitted by

Members of the Opportunity Fund Interest Group:

Fred Mayor, Nancy Penner (treasurer), Brian Nedohin, (Chair & (trustee St. Paul's), Martin Worrall, (trustee Zion-Calvin), Lesley Andrew, Rev Carrie Martens

St. Paul's Sunday School

"Then our mouths were filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;" Psalm 126:2



Humour Sunday

Flower Sale for CFSF

Bible Presentations and Grad Blankets

Donations collected for Many Hands and Genesis House

The Wonder of a Star and a Messy Christmas

We have had a year filled with joy in our Humour service, hope of a baby in a Messy situation, love wrapped in a blanket to remind our grad we are always with them, and peace of a good story or two in the presentation of Bibles. Our group of children have shown the leaders that acceptance, comfort and peace is a smile away. Laughter has filled our rooms, and we are grateful.

As always, we would like to thank the parents and our congregation for your continued support, encouragement, and acceptance of our loud loving group!

Zion-Calvin's Sunday School

Its been another busy year at Zion-Calvin. Some of the activities included:

- ◆ Holy Humor Sunday. Who didn't like cracking a few jokes and bunny hopping around the sanctuary!
- ◆ Bible presentations
- ◆ Sundae Sunday with hot dogs and goodies
- ◆ Christmas Cheer collection
- ◆ Christmas presentation of the Little Drummer Boy

We have an energetic group who have been enjoying the new curriculum and Peace Table Bibles. These bibles were presented, one for each family, in early September. The stories have been enjoyed by young and old. Rev Carrie tells a great story!

The lighting of the candles at the beginning of church is very popular and its been a great way to remember the importance of taking turns.

We enjoy crafts and games and make our fair share of joyful noise each Sunday. Congregation members take turns bringing treats for our snack time which we appreciate very much. The lego table at the back is still a favourite place for everyone before, after church and sometimes during.

Music is still a part of our time together and we are very grateful to Myra Amy-McElroy for helping us.

We also appreciate the support from Rev Carrie, the congregation and parents.

Submitted by: Karen Ching



St. Paul's House Group

Our house groups have had a few changes in this past year. We have taken ten house groups and merged them into seven larger house groups.

If you would like to join a house group please let us know and contact the office administrator. Our congregation is continuously changing with new members, members who are returning after covid years, as well as transfer of memberships.

We thank you for your participation in this important ministry as we welcome people into worship and love and serve God in the life of the church.

We acknowledge parishioners who are no longer able to participate in our house group duties but still need support in our outreach programs.

If you would like to become a house group leader please contact Margot Craig or myself Lesley Andrew.

Respectfully submitted

Lesley Andrew and Margot Craig

St. Paul's Choir

St. Paul's Choir had a busy and successful year in 2023. From January to May, we continued to meet weekly with our expert conductor, Angel Mok. We enjoyed a combination of new repertoire along with past favorites such as "The Prayer" and "The Holy City". On alternate Sundays, soloists from the choir served as song leaders. A party hosted by Kathy Menzies rounded out the term.

With Angel's resignation, we were unable to start the September term. However we collaborated with the Douglas Kuhl School of Music string ensemble to present a fundraising concert on Dec. 7th. Myra Amy-McElroy, from the Zion-Calvin congregation, directed an expanded choir and with Doug Lone's help at the soundboard, made us sound glorious. Cathy Lone's committee provided festive refreshments. Many people helped in various ways to make the concert a success and we had no storm delay this time! The proceeds from the free-will offering totaled \$3000.

The choir completed 2023 with several Advent anthems and took part in both Christmas Eve services.

Submitted by,
Fay Carruthers



Outreach Interest Group

Interest Group Members: Lesley Andrew, Karen Ching, Pat Gibson, Edith Lovatt, Freda Lumgair, MaryAnn McElroy, Sue Nelson, Mary Lou Schroeder, Rish Law

Outreach Interest Group is pleased to be able to raise funds for charitable groups in our community. It is the outside part of Pembina Parishes Mission. Our major fund raiser has been the Soup and Dessert Lunch, which is held the third Friday of the month. We held six Soup and Dessert Lunches in 2023 one of them designated for the Pembina Parish Building Fund and Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, which was designated for The Mission and Service Fund. Our total income was \$7,366.05 and Expenses totalled \$863.63.

Thank you to the many volunteer workers, makers of soup, desserts, breads, and all the people who came to break bread with us. The visiting and socializing at the lunches is most welcome. We were very pleased to have Sunday school members help out at the March and April events.

Our annual Christmas Cookie Walk was held December 8th and was another tremendous success with \$1,078.15 raised. Thank you to all those who donated cookies and those who came to buy. The support for this event was fabulous as ever.

We are sad to say goodbye to Marylou Schroeder who has been an active member of our interest group since its beginning. Thank you for all your time MaryLou. New members are always welcome.

Donations made in 2023

Mission and Service Fund	\$ 370.00
Genesis House	\$ 1,000.00
Morden Christmas Cheer	\$ 500.00
Many Hands Resource Centre	\$ 1,000.00
Spiritual Care at BTHC	\$ 1,000.00
Western School Division Home/School Liaison	\$ 500.00
Truth and Action Working Group	\$ 300.00
<u>Pembina Valley Pride</u>	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
Total Outreach Donations	\$ 5,170.00

Pembina Parish Building Fund	\$ 956.23
<u>Pembina Parish Caring and Sharing costs</u>	<u>\$ 200.00</u>
Total Donations	\$ 6,326.23

Respectfully Submitted by
Sue Nelson
For Outreach Interest Group

Fall Supper Interest Group

Our fall supper succeeds only when it has its supporters. Our 10th annual fall supper did just that. We sold close to 300 meals, including our outreach. The hall and the Sanctuary were turned into beautiful dining areas. It was a beehive of people preparing meals to be delivered or picked up at the back door.

We all want to thank you who purchased meals, cooked 2-3 pots of veggies, baked pies and desserts, offered garden veggies, and workers who diligently cleaned, set up and takedown tables and chairs.

We raised **\$7352** from our meal tickets, donations and an anonymous donor to cover our expenses. Thank you Laurie Wiebe, our office administrator keeps us organized by selling tickets and managing our finances. Thank you.

As always a special thanks goes to the Fall Supper Committee who go above and beyond. Sue Nelson, Freda Lumgair, MaryAnn McElroy, Lois Dudgeon and Edith Lovatt.

Respectfully submitted

Lesley Andrew



Worship Interest Group

The Pembina Parish Worship Interest Group members are Leslie Bezte, Myrna Mayor, Karen Ching, Louise Gardiner, Rev. Carrie Martens.

The Worship Interest Group strives to be an active support to ministerial staff and to be involved in organizing and planning for the worship component of our Parish's life. Our group began our work together in March after the annual meeting. We were all new to the group apart from Myrna who had joined the interest group during the past year. We have been fortunate to have regular in person services this year and continue to provide online services through the You Tube channel.

We have reviewed the House Group handbook and updated how worship is supported by the House Groups. A new Scripture Reader volunteer list has been created for St. Paul's and a rotation has been established. Zion- Calvin uses lay readers for special Sunday services.

Highlights from the year in our Faith Formation were our Lenten book study, *See No Stranger*, Baptismal Classes in the spring, Good Friday storytelling stations and evening service, Youth Confirmation Camp in August, fall Adult Confirmation Classes and Labyrinth walk in Advent.

We welcomed Joanna Dueck, being baptized Easter Sunday and a Membership confirmation and welcoming for Bev and John Murray held in June. In January 2024 the Parish held a joint family service to celebrate Baptism/Confirmation/ Membership. Alexis Hoepfner, Mason Hoepfner in Baptism, Kylie Pazmandy, Laverne Lovatt, Paul Lemire in a Renewal of Baptismal Faith (aka Confirmation) and Bernie Thiessen in Reaffirmation of Baptismal Faith, and Debbie Nelson and Judy Elliott in Membership Transfer.

After reviewing the summer surveys, it was decided to hold July services in Darlingford, with the first at the Darlingford Memorial Park, and August Services at St. Paul's, with no service on the Corn and Apple weekend. All summer services were held at 10:00 and one service each month was held outdoors. A joint outdoor intergenerational service and picnic was held on Gathering Sunday, September 10th with backpack blessing, then the regular fall services resumed.

Services were also shared at Tabor Home in April and August, at Homestead in October and December, and at Legion House in December. A Christmas Tea was held at both Homestead and Legion House in December following the service.

Many events and special services were delivered during the year. A list of them are as follows: Pancake and Ashes, PIE day, Good Friday storytelling stations for children and evening service, Holy Humour Sunday was taken by the Sunday School, Quilt story Sunday service, Family Sunday, Celebration Sunday with Sundae Sunday, Presentation of bibles to Sunday School, Membership and confirmation welcoming service, Indigenous Day of Prayer, Darlingford Memorial, Joint Gathering Sunday in the park in September, World Communion, Gratitude Sunday, World Food Sunday, Peace Sunday, Remembrance Sunday, Trans Day of Remembrance, Eternity Sunday, Advent, Longest Night service, Christmas Eve services, Baptism, Renewal of Baptismal Faith (aka Confirmation) Reaffirmation of Baptismal Faith, and Transfer of Membership.

A huge thank you to all who have participated in the worship life of Pembina Parish and the giving of your time, talents and enthusiasm in music, scripture reading, banners, sound, recording, PowerPoint, coffee, greeting and all who join and participate in person or on line make our worship a place to live out our mission.

Respectfully submitted by,
Louise Gardiner – Worship Chair



Pastoral Care

2023 brought opportunities for us to embrace our new Care Plan which includes Congregational Care, Community Building, Pastoral Care, Ritual Care and Support. Many thanks to all those who have shown compassion and care to Pembina Parish siblings.

Visitation

Cathy Sandercock, our visitation coordinator, did a wonderful job of connecting visitors with those in our parish who are homebound or living alone, and informing Rev. Carrie if pastoral care was requested. Bouquets in summer, a Christmas tea at Homestead and Legion House, and poinsettias at Christmas all served to communicate the love and care of the Pembina Parish family. A huge thank you to Cathy and all our visitors! If you would like to become a visitor, more are always needed, just speak with Cathy.

Card writing

When significant death or illness impacted parish folks, Jean Motheral and Esther Rothenburger were always ready and willing to write cards on behalf of the church to let those folks know they were held in love and prayer. Thanks to Jean and Esther! And if anyone would like to join them, a third writer wouldn't go amiss.

Prayers

We are still looking for folks who are willing to take on the specific role of praying for folks in the congregation who are undergoing challenges. However, we also know that you all pray for each other all the time! If you are interested in this role, contact Rev. Carrie.

Physical Support

Thank you to all who offered physical support this year in the form of rides or meals. They were greatly appreciated.

Community Building

Ad hoc groups were formed to ensure ongoing fellowship in our community. It was wonderful to receive newsletters, gather for Pancake Tuesday, the Parish Picnic, and Caroling this past year. Thanks to all who offered leadership and support. The Parish Lenten book study, *See No Stranger*, Confirmation camps for youth and grown-ups, and the Xplore Climate Change Webinar facilitated by Rev. Carrie also served to build community.

Pastoral Care

Rev. Carrie offered pastoral care to those who requested visitation. Given that we have a large number of folks on the Parish Roll and only one minister, visitation by request has seemed like the most effective approach to pastoral care. Rick Britton and Kathryn Luger were willing to be on-call for urgent care needs when Carrie was away. Thanks so much to Rick and Kathryn.

Ritual Care and Support

A significant portion of Rev. Carrie's time is filled with preparing weekly worship, which is a joy. Alongside Sunday worship, she also performed one baptism, one confirmation, one reaffirmation of faith, eight funeral/memorial services, several worship services outside of Pembina parish, and our longest Night service this year.

Huge thanks to Worship Interest Group, Laurie in the office, the Funeral/Memorial serving groups, Poinsettia volunteers and others. We are grateful for them all.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Interest Group is a Pembina Parish Ministry which combines compassion with the love of knitting and/or crocheting to produce Prayer Shawls. These shawls support and comfort people during times of change; loss of a loved one, transition, celebrations of baptism, confirmation or the birth of a baby. In the 2023 calendar year 11 shawls were presented. Anyone can be a presenter of a shawl, they can be found in the cupboards in the Quiet Room and a sign out book is kept in the office.

If you have an interest in joining this Interest group please speak to one of the members. Donations of yarn are always welcomed.

Respectfully submitted by Prayer Shawl Interest group coordinator, Edith Lovatt along with fellow knitters Rish Law, Eldith Hildebrand, Kaye Lyng and Sue Nelson.

Poinsettia Ministry

Once again we have been able to give a poinsettia to our members who have experienced grief, serious health issues, are house bound or living in personal care to make Christmas a little more bright.

We were able to do this again due to the generosity of everyone who donated to the Poinsettia Fund and purchased plants. The revenue of \$1885.00 and our expenses were \$1138.63. Our new project of selling and taking orders for plants went over so well this year we will be doing that again next year so you can plan to buy your poinsettia next November from us! We also depend greatly on the people who deliver the plants for us. Thank you to Bruce and Bev Shewfelt and their family for helping to get the Poinsettias bagged up and ready for delivery. This outreach project has been going on for many years and has touched the hearts for so many of our church family and it will be a privilege to do it again next.

This report is submitted by Shannon Holenski and Cathy Lone

Book Club

We have 8-11 people that meet monthly, the last Thursday of the month at St.Paul's. Books are available at the library and everyone is welcome.

Our reads are recommended by the members. We try to focus on books that challenge our perspective on many issues and encourage members to read genres that they normally would not.

Titles read in 2023 included:

What's Worth Keeping Kaya McLaren

The Strangers Katharina Vermette

Five Wives Joan Thomas

The Hate U Give Angie Thomas

Greenwood- Michael Christie

Mad Honey- Jodi Picoult /Jennifer Finney Boylan

Submitted by Sue Nelson



Thornhill U.C.W.

This year our group consisted of eight members and each meeting we met in a different home. We had a total of 10 meetings including special activities and wind-ups. For some of our devotions we used the tenants of the U.C.W. Purpose "Witness", "Study", "Fellowship", and "Service". Some of our members are very involved with other activities at church, such as, Soup and Pie, Banners, Choir, and Christmas events, so we are encouraged to attend and reports of these activities are always of interest at our meetings.

One of the highlights of our year was the day we attended the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the Domain MB Women's Institute. They had a full day of activities and a luncheon and a special guest speaker, Catherine Wreford. She is a cancer survivor and co-winner of the Amazing Race Canada. She was very interesting and does alot of speaking promoting cancer awareness.

For our wind-up in June, we travelled to Altona to tour their Gallery in the Park. We had lunch at theT to Z restaurant, and in the afternoon toured Barb Wiebe's Pottery Studio. It was a very enjoyable day out.

In September we enjoyed taking desserts and helping at the Hospital Auxiliary Luncheon. Our group also helped with some phoning for the Church Photo Directory. Pat Gibson gave us a report on the Medical Bursary called "Learn and Return", that is being started to encourage students to stay at BTHC after they graduate. We were able to send a small donation to help through the Morden Area Foundation.

In November, we do our disbursements of funds, and decided to give Pembina Parish, \$200.00, M&S \$100.00, and as mentioned, \$100.00 to the BTHC Bursary Fund. We also make a personal donation of \$10.00 each to Genesis House at Christmas. We enjoyed having Rev Carrie as our guest at our November meeting.

Altogether, we've had a much more normal kind of year. We have enjoyed our U.C.W. group, as we try to live by its Purpose, of Christian Witness, Study, Fellowship and Service.

Respectfully submitted by:
Valerie White

President: Carol Burton
Secretary, Treasurer: Valerie White
Fellowship: Pat Gibson

Thornhill U.C.W. Treasurer Report for 2023

Balance as of January 1, 2023 \$117.45.

Income:		Expenses:	
Collection:		Least Coin	\$17.50
Jan.	\$45.00	Membership Fees	\$40.00
Feb.	\$45.00	Pembina Parish	\$200.00
March	\$53.00	M&S	\$100.00
April	\$60.00	BTHC Bursary	\$100.00
Sept.	\$60.00	Genesis House	\$70.00
Oct.	\$55.00	Total:	\$527.50
Nov.	\$50.00		
Dec.	\$50.00		
Genesis House	\$70.00		
Least Coin	\$17.50		
Total	\$505.50		

$-\$527.50 - \$505.50 = - \$22.00$

Bank Balance Dec. 31 2023 \$117.45-\$22.00= \$95.45.

Least coin as of Dec. 31, 2023 = \$ 7.60.

Respectfully submitted by:
Valerie White
Secretary, Treasurer,
Thornhill U.C.W.

Prairie to Pine Regional Council

I will begin with a short summary about the annual meeting written by Pat Bird “The Prairie to Pine Regional Council Annual Meeting” held at the United Church in Meadowood from June 1-4, 2023 was well attended. Throughout a very warm weekend, over 200 people gathered in person and via Zoom to review the year's work, share worship, sing, laugh, and do the business of the P2PRC. We were joined by our Moderator and staff from the General Council Office. We celebrated the retirement of several beloved ministers and welcomed three new ministers through Ordination, Commissioning, and Admission to the United Church of Canada. We raised over \$7,000 through the song clips M&S fundraising event. We were fed delicious meals and got to attend some wonderful workshops.”

A three-year meeting rotation was decided upon by the tri-regions to free staff from having to attend 3 in-person conferences a year and to save money. We ran out of time for discussion, but a proposal was made suggesting they re-consider that option. Some of the opposition to this was that the omission of presbyteries followed by Covid had left members feeling quite disconnected. It was suggested that 3 years was a long time in the life of youth who may have less chance to connect with other young people for the work of the Church via zoom alone. We were asked to provide our feedback on the proposal.

There was also a proposal (agreed upon with some opposition) that Faith Communities do their best to divert from using banks which invest in Fossil fuels in response to our climate change initiative.

We are in the process of reviewing a remit to “remove any structural barriers that would prevent the development and sustaining of an autonomous **National Indigenous Organization** within The United Church of Canada”. They will not be leaving the United Church but we ask that we be like two canoes travelling along the river together and support them without forcing a lot of structure upon them. We felt that this was vital regarding reconciliation promises.

Another item on the agenda off and on is “**Who you gonna Call?**”

Are you new to a committee or interest group or considering starting one but don't know how? Sometimes, in our struggles to “be the Church”, we forget that our parish is just one of many United Church Communities of Faith across Canada. The Prairie to Pine website is a tool to access many resources that can help you out.

Please continue to reach out to: Rev Carrie, the P2P Regional rep, or the P2PRC office to ask questions and keep our lines of communication open so we can build on the relationships formed and renewed at the Annual Meeting.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be your representative to Prairie to Pine Regional Council and the chance to make lasting friendships with others while supporting our work and ministry.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Deceuninck

St Paul's Trustees

Duties of the Trustees include oversight of building and property.

Meeting of Trustees, in person, was held on December 19 2023.

Insurance

- ◆ Ice dam on north side of CEU caused damage to the roof and water damage to inside and outside wall of CEU. No insurance claim was made but repairs were completed in the fall of 2023 to the roof and downspouts.
- ◆ Trustees looked into flood insurance and decided cost/benefit not feasible.
- ◆ Insurance policy through BSI with Red River continues into 2024.
- ◆ Need to make a list of everything in the building plus pictures of same.

Building construction

- ◆ Some renovation will be required in the former CEU space and hallway to bathrooms to accommodate the lease arrangement

Fire Drill suggestions

- ◆ Another drill should be held in 2024. How do we verify who is in the building when no list is required (Post Covid)?
- ◆ Requested Fire Chief complete an occupancy limit for CEU and it has been done

Other

- ◆ Building and equipment maintenance will be assigned to the trustees for the time being
- ◆ We are currently looking for an additional 2 trustees
- ◆ Brian Andrew signed the lease agreement for CEU on behalf of the trustees

Respectfully submitted by Brian Nedohin, Chair, on behalf of Trustees

Rick Britton, Brian Nedohin, Craig Kestirke, Brian Andrew and Rev Carrie Martens.

Zion-Calvin Trustees

Zion-Calvin United church trustees experienced a quiet 2023 year.

Minor activity was installing a heater inside the foyer, similar to St. Paul's, to help keep the outside door from freezing up. Foyer windows were measured so Plexiglas can be installed so during winter to help keep cold out therefore lower heating costs.

Maintaining cleanliness and constant awareness of potential fire issues in order to adhere to the insurance policy and procedures has been a major priority.

The congregation is very proactive looking after our Zion-Calvin church. We are smaller but very proud congregation that take immense pride with the church. The recent article in the Winnipeg Free Press certainly highlighted the uniqueness of Zion-Calvin.

We currently have two vacancies for Trustee; My term has come to an end. Martin Worrall has another year on his term, so if anyone is interested filling any of vacancies please let me know.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent Zion-Calvin as a trustee.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brian McElroy

Brian McElroy, Bob Luger, Martin Worrall

PEMBINA PARISH Vacancies / Nominations 2024-2025

Positions	Name	Year Appointed	Service
Leadership			
Member			2 Years (+1 year)
Member			2 Years (+1 year)
Member	Leslie Bezte	2023	2 Years (+1 year)
Treasurer - outgoing	Nancy Penner (final year)	2021	3 Years (+1 year)
Treasurer - incoming			
Member	Susan Ching	2023	2 Years (+1 year)
Member	Mary Ann McElroy (final year)	2022	2 Years (+1 year)
M&P Rep			
Minister	Rev. Carrie Martens		
Ministry and Personnel (M&P)			
	Debbie Nelson		2 Years (+1 year)
	Judy Elliott		2 Years (+1 year)
	Carol Burton	2023	2 Years (+1 year)
	Kathy Menzies (final year)	2022	2 Years (+1 year)
House Group Coordinator St. Paul's Zion-Calvin			2 years (+1 year)
			2 years (+ 1 year)
Elders			3 Years (+1 year)
	Rick Britton		3 Years (+1 year)
	Bob Luger		3 Years (+1 year)
Regional Council Reps			
	Paul Lemire		

Position	Name	Year Appointed	Service
Youth Rep—St Paul's	Vacancy		
Youth Rep - Zion-Calvin	Vacancy		
Rock Lake Camp Reps			Annual Appointment
			Annual Appointment
Zion-Calvin Trustees	Martin Worrall	2019	5 Years (+ 1 - 2 extra years)
	Bob Luger	2020	5 Years (+ 1 - 2 extra years)
			5 Years (+ 1 - 2 extra years)
			5 Years (+ 1 - 2 extra years)
St. Paul's Trustees	Craig Kestirke	2021	5 Years (+ 1 - 2 extra years)
	Brian Andrew	2022	5 Years (+1 - 2 extra years)
			5 Years (+1 - 2 extra years)
	Brian Nedohin - final year	2018	5 Years (+1 - 2 extra years)
	Rick Britton - final year	2018	5 Years (+ 1 - 2 extra years)

Yellow Highlight = Vacancy or Nominated Person

Thank You to Outgoing Appointees for Pembina Parish

The Pembina Parish Appointments for 2024-2025 highlights many vacancies. As we anticipate the fresh perspective of incoming appointees the Leadership Team would like to thank the outgoing members who have held positions over the last 1-7 years. Your dedication and commitment to the weekly functioning of Pembina Parish is greatly appreciated.

Sharon Deceuninck (Leadership Team)
Lesley Andrew (M&P and House Group Coordinator)
Cathy Sandercock (M&P)
Brian McElroy (Zion-Calvin Trustees)
Fred Mayor (Church Elder)
Myrna Mayor (Church Elder)
Deb Hamilton (Church Elder)
Margot Craig (House Group Coordinator)

