

**PEMBINA PARISH PASTORAL CHARGE**  
**353 THORNHILL STREET, MORDEN MB, R6M 1M8**  
**Minutes of Leadership Team Meeting**  
**Tuesday, June 25, 2024 @7:00 p.m.**

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

**1. CALL to ORDER** at 7:05 p.m.

**2. OPENING WORSHIP**

Rev. Carrie opened our meeting with worship.

**3. ATTENDANCE/REGRETS**

Rev. Carrie Martens, Mary Ann McElroy, Leslie Bezte, Susan Ching, Bruce Shewfelt, Debbie Nelson (M & P Rep)

Regrets: Earl Gardiner, Cindy Dyck

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved by consensus, with the additions of item 6.2. United Church of Canada 100 years of celebration in 2025.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (May 21, 2024)**

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the meeting held May 21, 2024 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings with the corrections under item 6b. Peace and Action Justice Group to read: Peace and Justice Action Group; and under item 7.6. Worship Interest Group to read: The Sunday of the Corn and Apple Festival (August 25, 2024), Karen Ching will be leading worship at Zion-Calvin. Carrie is looking to help lead an ecumenical Forest Church Service in Morden. Moved by Leslie Bezte. Seconded by Bruce Shewfelt. **CARRIED.**

**6. BUSINESS ARISING/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**6.1 Planning Workshop follow-up**

The items in the photo on the white board used at the workshop held on May 25, 2024, will be organized into a document by Rev. Carrie. This document will provide a foundation and starting point as we we plan on how to proceed at our next meeting in August. Following a consensus type agenda model will allow for more discussion time at our meeting.

**6.2. United Church of Canada 100 years celebration in 2025**

A celebration service will be held in June 2025 to commemorate this milestone.

Susan Ching has been working on a project to digitally enter points of interest and history of United Churches since the late 1800s onto Google Maps that everyone can access. She is using The Darlingford Saga and Thornhill History as reference.

A suggestion was made to plan a meal together after a Worship Service involving both St. Paul's United and Zion-Calvin.

**7. REPORTS**

### **7.1. Finance**

Earl submitted the financial statements for the period ending May 31, 2024 by e-mail. Currently, we are right on budget for the month of May and ahead of budget for the Year to Date. The end of June is near and should come in close to the budget. June will be the month showing the profit from the Co-op fund raiser (the amount budgeted for was \$7,500 whereas the final tally shows a \$7,100 profit). A trust fund donation was received in June. Although attendance to Sunday worship is down in June, this will ensure that our donations for June meet the set projections. The hot water tank needed to be replaced in June at a cost of \$1200.00, and the cost of cleaning the carpet will likely get expensed in June as well. Fortunately we were running a surplus in building repair and maintenance at St. Paul's. There is still a good surplus in the building repair account for St. Paul's. Discussion was held regarding the carpet cleaning expense of \$3500.00. To decrease the cost of the carpet cleaning expense, it would only be necessary to clean the carpets in the areas of highest traffic and the rooms currently being used as needed.

### **7.2 Budget Action Group (BAG)**

Bruce Shewfelt reported.

There have been no issues with renters/leasees. BAG has proposed a new method to track and compensate custodian services that has been submitted to M&P for consideration. Earl will implement with Laurie when approved as it will involve additional payroll work and accounting.

Having the Trustees as first point of contact may need to be rethought. A sub-committee may be formed to focus on maintenance. Earl has proposed the concept of a "job jar" to engage volunteer labour.

Thanks to Lori Willcocks and Laurie in the office, our Co-op fundraiser was a success.

BAG is currently seeking volunteer(s) for the organization of the Fall Supper.

Other Fall activities include meeting with the Douglas Kuhl School of Music to seek a commitment to future concerts, and a talent auction.

M & P requested input to custodial salary, duties and extra time for rentals and leases. They have been sent a response for consideration.

Future Focus:

- Analysis of drop in number of givers.

- Growing congregation.

- Endowment planning.

- Increase in space rentals: Follow up on brochures (fall); Implement new web site addition;

- Other(e.g. Chamber of Commerce - fee involved).

- Annual Stewardship Plan.

### **7.3. Minister Report**

Inside – Caring

Rev. Carrie is noticing a trend, both within our church and region, as well as outside of the church in terms of the start of Summer. There are probably a number of reasons, but folks seem to be entering Summer mode near the start of June rather than the end. She is not sure what this means for us as a church, but we may need to keep that in mind when booking meetings, events, and for worship.

Unfortunately, we mark some significant days in June (Pride, Union, Indigenous Day of Prayer) which might move us to mark them more significantly in other parts of the year if we want full participation.

Summer Worship Schedule begins on June 30th at St. Paul's. Diane Guilford will be leading on June 30th and July 7th, while Rev. Carrie is taking some time in lieu as well as holidays. July 14th we invite folks to participate in the Darlingford Memorial Service. Rev. Carrie will be back in the office on July 15th. Her next week of holidays will be at the end of August.

Rev. Carrie is hoping to complete work on outstanding policies once she and Laurie are back in the office after holidays.

#### Outside – Sharing

Betty Dong continues to work at getting Dr. Shayne Reitmeier out to do a talk on gender affirming care. She is seeking out funding opportunities given that speaker fees outside of church circles are fairly high.

So far, we have only had our Pride decorations vandalized once during Pride month. This feels significant after six times last year. We also received a letter of affirmation from a United Church minister who was visiting Morden (passed on to M+P/Leadership). It's good to know that we are making an impact.

Our PJ Action group is partnering with our local Truth and Action Working Group to host Sandra Hayes-Gardiner for a discussion on her book Crossing the River on Sept. 24 here at St. Paul's. Myrna Mayor is the contact person connecting with Diane Guilford to arrange the event.

#### Upside Down – Exploring

Rev. Carrie has put out feelers for what options would interest folks for faith formation in fall and responses have begun to come in. She has tentatively booked space in the church, hoping to confirm all our options before the end of Summer.

A written request for Pastoral Charge Supervisors and outline of commitments and duties involved was shared and discussed.

### **7.4. Ministry and Personnel Committee**

#### **7.4.1. Complaint received**

Debbie Nelson reported.

A letter was received by M&P from a Pembina Parish parishioner with concerns about "flaunting" pride colors by displaying these rainbow colors on our pillars outside the front entrance at St. Paul's United Church.

**ACTION:** Debbie Nelson will draft a response to this letter. Bruce will edit this letter.

A letter was received from a United Church minister visiting Morden in appreciation of the affirming decor, making her feel welcome to our community.

#### **7.5. Zion-Calvin**

No report given.

#### **7.6. Worship Interest Group**

No report given. They will be meeting in August.

### **7. Interest Groups**

### **7.7.1. Sunday School**

No report given.

### **7.7.2. Choir**

No report given.

### **7.7.3. Outreach**

Susan Ching spoke about a website called One Small Seed sponsored by the United Church of Canada. "Embracing the Spirit" is a video series designed to support those who care for individuals with dementia and will be offered at St. Paul's this fall.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. Caretaker compensation for rentals (M&P)**

Bruce and Debbie have been in communication regarding a method to track and compensate custodial services for extra time spent due to rentals and leases.

## **9. CORRESPONDENCE and Thank-you cards**

Two letters received as per 7.4.1. under M&P.

**10. NEXT MEETING DATE** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 @7:00 p.m..

## **11. CLOSING WORSHIP**

Rev. Carrie closed in prayer. Lord it is night...

## **12. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Agreement to close the meeting at 9:26 p.m.