

PEMBINA PARISH PASTORAL CHARGE
353 THORNHILL STREET, MORDEN R6M1M8
Minutes of Leadership Team Meeting
Jun 20, 2023 7:00pm

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.

1. CALL to ORDER at 7:10 pm

2. OPENING WORSHIP

Rev. Carrie began our meeting with worship: Examen – Sleeping with Bread: Holding What Gives you Life. She invited us to share the moments of our day which we were most grateful and least grateful for. Carrie concluded in prayer, giving thanks for joyful moments and asking for renewal during moments devoid of joy. We are nourished and energized through God, the bread of life.

3. ATTENDANCE/REGRETS

Rev. Carrie Martens, Nancy Penner, Sharon Deceuninck, Mary Ann McElroy, Leslie Bezte, Susan Ching, Lesley Andrew (M & P rep)

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted by consensus with the addition under New Business of item 8c. Outdoor camera.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion: To approve the minutes of the meeting held May 17, 2023 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. Moved by Nancy Penner. Seconded by Lesley Andrew.

CARRIED.

6. BUSINESS ARISING/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 BEQUEST POLICY

Laurie has made updates to the Pembina Parish Pastoral Charge Policy for Bequests. Susan Ching is currently editing the letter of Thanksgiving and Invitation Pembina Parish Pastoral Charge. Both of these documents will be forwarded to Stewardship and Finance for review.

6.2 CHURCH PICNIC

A date for a Parish Picnic was discussed as Sep 10, 2023. Lesley Andrew volunteered to be part of an organizing committee. Food, games/activities and worship would be part of this event. Carrie will provide the outdoor worship with the use of a new portable sound system.

Action: Leslie Bezte will speak to Susan Ching about the possibility of Zion Calvin as a location for this picnic.

7. REPORTS

7.1 FINANCE

Nancy Penner presented a detailed Comparative Income Statement, Actual and Budgeted from January 1, 2023 to May 31, 2023.

Givings are under budgeted amount to date as are expenses.

Nancy noticed a discrepancy of the Soup and Pie entry. She will follow this up with Laurie.

Our current renter wishes to rent additional space at a rate of \$50.00 per month. She has purchased her own air conditioning window unit.

Volunteers are mowing the lawn for a savings of \$40.00 per week.

Nancy reported on behalf of the Stewardship and Finance Interest Group. Lori Willcocks is conducting a Co-op gift card fund raiser. Communication will continue to promote the use of PAR as an offering option.

The purchase of a Square has been designated a parking lot item due to financial shortage.

7.2 MINISTER REPORT

Inside

Within our parish we have rejoiced together over the past several weeks as we have blessed children and youth with Bibles and blankets, enjoyed ice cream sundaes, taken photos for our upcoming directory, welcomed two new members, and hung a beautifully crafted Affirm banner at St. Paul's. Sharon Deceuninck and Carrie also had the opportunity to connect beyond our parish with the broader church as they attended the Prairie to Pine Regional Gatherings. It was a rich and full month.

Inside, Outside, Upside down

It was also a month where our commitment to Inside, Outside, and Upside down took on new meaning. In preparation for Pride month, the Peace and Justice Action Group created a plan for decorating St. Paul's, for a sign-making party, and for a presence at the Pride March in Morden Park. All of these brought us together, took us out into the community, and turned us upside down in ways we could not have anticipated.

2 days after the Pride decorations at St. Paul's went up, they came down due to anti 2SLGBTQIA+ vandalism which has been happening throughout the region and across Canada. To date the decorations have been vandalized 4 times. Vandalism is an act meant to cause destruction, but it has in fact built connection and hope. When our decorations were torn down, we were immediately contacted by affirming neighbours with offers to help put them back up. And when we did, we immediately received notes of support from others in the community stating that putting the decorations back gave them hope in the midst of a trying time.

The sign-making party was a great opportunity for our members to spend time with each other, but it was far more than that. Members from the neighbouring faith communities of Morden Mennonite and Pembina Fellowship also joined us, as well as neighbours from the Morden community. All together we were about 40 people, ranging in age from 2-70+. Many expressed gratitude for the opportunity to gather to do something meaningful together and a wish that we would do so more often.

Our Freezie refreshment station at the Pride March and Rev. Carrie's message were both well received on June 10th. Again, messages of gratitude have been communicated for our support in the community and for Carrie's message of hope, coming from a Christian community when most others in the area are either silent or actively homophobic and transphobic.

Rev. Carrie will share some of those messages (those that are not too personal to share) with the congregation so that folks are aware of the positive impact that Pembina Parish is having in our

community.

7.3 MINISTRY AND PERSONNEL REPORT

Report given by Leslie Andrew. Volunteers have been recruited and are currently mowing the lawn weekly.

Annual staff evaluations are being done.

7.4 ZION-CALVIN

Report given by Susan Ching. Bob Luger will act as Zion-Calvin rep on the Stewardship and Finance Interest Group.

Susan located finance records from the Zion-Calvin UCW group. They currently have 3 active members and \$1039.24 in an account. They last met Mar 4, 2020 and continue to pay assessment fees even though they are not meeting. Time line for disbanding a UCW is 3 months after an official declaration application.

Action: Susan Ching will meet with Betty Hamilton, treasurer of Zion-Calvin UCW to find out who has signing authority.

Closure of Zion-Calvin was discussed at the meeting held at the church on Jun 15, 2023. Due to decreased attendance with 12 adults and 10 children active in the church community, this is an item frequently discussed by members. There remains a strong desire to nurture the children attending Sunday School. The closure of a church is a process requiring a minimum timeline of 1 year.

7.5 WORSHIP INTEREST GROUP

Report given by Rev. Carrie.

The Summer worship schedule is posted in News and Notes. This week we received two donations with specific notes of thanks for our online services. We also received two verbal affirmations for our online services from queer folks during Pride month. They take in the services regularly as well.

7.6 INTEREST GROUPS

7.6.1 Sunday School - Leslie Bezte will communicate with St.Paul's and Zion Calvin Sunday schools.

7.6.2 Banner Group - to be removed from list as is not an interest group

7.6.3 Book Club- to removed from list as is not an interest group

7.6.4 Fall Supper- to be removed from list as is a Stewardship and Finance fundraiser.

7.6.5 Outreach (Soup and Pie) - Mary Ann will communicate with this group

7.6.6 Poinsettia - to be removed from list as is part of Pastoral Care.

7.6.7 Prayer Shawl - to be removed from list as is part of Pastoral Care.

7.6.8 Ivy League - currently not active, to be removed from list.

7.6.9 Stewardship and Finance - Nancy Penner will communicate with this group.

7.6.10 Choir - Sharon Deceuninck will communicate with this group.

7.6.11 Pastoral Care- ?????

7.6.12 Worship - Leslie Bezte will communicate with this group.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 RENTAL REQUEST

DKSM Orchestra mid-Sep to end Nov and Jan to mid-March. Last year we allowed the orchestra to meet free of charge in exchange for performances. They are wondering if it is possible to do so again this coming year OR for a reduced rental fee. They are flexible with dates and times, last year it was Thursdays 5:30pm to 7:15pm. We agreed that we would continue to have the Orchestra to use our space free of charge and

to make better use of the skills they have offered for the purposes of fundraising.
Action: Nancy Penner will present this request to Stewardship and Finance as a fundraising opportunity.

8.2 UCC REMIT

Motion: For a yes vote to the category 3 remit: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization. Moved by Susan Ching. Seconded by Lesley Bezte. **CARRIED.**

8.3 OUTDOOR SECURITY CAMERA

Morden Police suggested a small trail camera to provide surveillance to St. Paul's church building entrance area.

Action: Leslie Andrew will follow up with an estimate.

9. CORRESPONDENCE AND THANK YOU CARDS

10. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, August 22, 2023 @ 7:00 pm.

11. CLOSING WORSHIP

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

12. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Agreement to close the meeting at 10:06 pm.