

**Pembina Parish Pastoral Charge
353 Thornhill Street, Morden R6M 1M8
Minutes of Leadership Team Meeting
March 22, 2022, 7:00 pm**

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 7:00 pm

2. OPENING WORSHIP

Rev Carrie opened with a reading on wisdom taken from Day 21 of the Lenten study book Lesser Evils--the topic being particularly appropriate as we begin a new cycle of Leadership Team meetings with changes in membership. Wisdom, so necessary for good discernment, is creative... Rev Carrie continued on the topic with a reading from Scripture.

3. REORANIZATION/ELECTIONS

For this initial meeting following the 2021 Annual Meeting, Rev Carrie assumed the role of chair and identified positions to be filled. After some deliberation, positions were assumed as follows: Chair--Sharon Deceuninck for a six month trial; Vice-Chair—open; Treasurer--Nancy Penner; Secretary-- Kathryn Luger. To lighten the work of the Chair, Rev Carrie identified responsibilities that could be shared by other team members: 1. all written communication-- Kathryn volunteered; 2. rental liaison—open, however Earl Gardiner of the St. Paul's congregation has volunteered to pursue rental of the CEU; 3. fund-raising—open; 4. nomination process for the Annual Meeting—open.

4. ATTENDANCE/REGRETS

Rev Carrie Martens Lynne Sanderson Sharon Deceuninck Nancy Penner
Esther Rothenburger Kathryn Luger Mary Ann McElroy Cathy Sandercock (M&P Rep for Karen Dyck))

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted by consensus with the additions of 9.New Business: 9.2 Annual Meeting Follow-up; 9.3 Ministerial Call Process; and 9.4 Approval of Marriage.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING--February 22, 2022

Motion: to approve the minutes of the meeting held February 22, 2022 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. Moved by: Esther Rothenburger Seconded by: Nancy Penner
CARRIED

7. BUSINESS ARISING/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

7.1 COVID-19 Protocols

The Covid Response Group met February 24, 2022 and subsequently distributed their minutes, including updated guidelines, to Leadership Team members. **Action:** Kathryn to send a copy to new member, Mary Ann McElroy.

8. REPORTS:

8.1 Finance

Nancy Penner reported on the distributed *Balance Sheet As at 28/02/2022* noting that there is additional revenue as in-person worship opens up; expenditure are higher for heating costs and for snow removal at St. Paul's. Correspondence regarding pledges for the St. Paul's building project need to be developed. Nancy will contact Earl Gardiner who has volunteered to do this.

8.2 Minister's Report

Rev Carrie made the following presentation: The last month has been fairly eventful for the Parish with frozen water and sewer lines and the delayed annual meeting as well as changes to Covid regulations. In the congregation I sense a both hesitant and exuberant feeling of "finally!" Finally Spring is coming, finally the roads are clear-er, finally we are in-person, finally the AGM could happen, finally we had a soup and pie even if it was a drive-thru, finally Covid is...whatever it is. Folks seem eager, to move forward, but also a little wary and for good reason, we've been back and forth a lot.

I have some concerns about Worship Interest Group. We need members, but we do not need warm bodies. If we are to have a vibrant and dynamic worship life, we need folks to be invested in that happening. If you hear of people who express interest in worship, please let us know so we can shoulder tap. There is quite a bit of interest in choir re-starting so that is in the works.

In terms of my admissions process to UCCan, I completed and passed my final interview and so I am conditionally affirmed for entry to the United Church of Canada pending completion of my final paper at the end of April. This means that we as a parish have some work to do in order to make that happen. That will be addressed under new business.

8.3 Ministry and Personnel Committee

Cathy Sandercock reported that the committee will next meet April 5, 2022 at which time, new member Kathy Menzies will join them. She further confirmed that the Sound-Board Training Workshop, having been postponed again, will now be held April 5, 2022 at 8:00 pm at St. Paul's.

8.4 Zion-Calvin

Kathryn Luger noted that plans are afoot for Rev Carrie to meet with the congregation in early May. Date and time will be worked out.

8.5 Interest Groups:

8.5.1 Worship Interest Group--Rev Carrie Martens reported that Holy Week plans include two Good Friday services to be held at St. Paul's: at 10:00 am an interactive service for families and at 7:30 pm a more traditional service. Easter service at both churches will include

communion. Following Easter, Rev Carrie will take a week of holiday leave and a week of study leave. The Worship group will be seeking worship leaders for those two Sundays.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

9.1 CEU Rental Update

Rev Carrie Martens reported that Earl Gardiner has volunteered to continue the search for a renter for the CEU. Earl will pick up the conversations begun by Brian Saunderson with the Board of current renter, Morden Gymnastics and will pursue previous inquiries by three churches. **Action:** Prior to any rental, especially to a church, Leadership Team must consider the standard to which we will hold renters regarding compliance with our Affirming Vision, Mission and Values.

Laurie Wiebe, Office Administrator, had asked for a review of a rental flow chart, used for several years at St. Paul's but in need of revision. This will be held over to another meeting.

9.2 Annual Meeting Follow-up

Kathryn Luger mentioned that in preparing minutes of the Annual Meeting, she noted several people were missed when appreciation was voiced for service given. **Action:** Laurie Wiebe will be asked to identify all people who came off service and identify them with thanks in News and Notes.

Further, Esther Rothenburger referred to a question raised at the meeting about the term of the Treasurer and the need to include the phrase "A one year break shall be taken before accepting further election or appointments." Rev Carrie explained that the requirement is frequently included to allow a broad range of people access to positions and to avoid the consolidation of power among a small group. Our Constitution includes the phrase for several positions.

Kathryn questioned the process of up-dating our Constitution document to include the amended Term of Treasurer and our affirming vision statement (approved June 2021). It was concluded that these changes should be made to the on-line digital copy with a hard copy to be sent to Prairie to Pine Regional Council. Besides the two aforementioned amendments, the entire Constitution (including the title) requires a full review. Kathryn volunteered to identify a process and people to undertake the review, bringing recommended amendments to the Leadership Team for approval and subsequent presentation at the next Annual Meeting.

9.3 Ministerial Call Process

Rev Carrie explained that she is currently appointed to Pembina Parish until June 2023 or until she is authorized as ready for admission to the United Church of Canada. That time is now. Correspondence has been received from Rev Judy Hare, Pastoral Relations Minister, Prairie to Pine Regional Council outlining the process that is now required. It is essentially a new search process which, in part, requires the update and resubmission of documents used in the initial search. All preparatory aspects of the process must be completed by June 9th with paperwork required in advance.

Rev Carrie has spoken with Louise Gardiner who led the previous search team. Louise has agreed to shepherd the current process. She will ask the previous members of the team to assist. It was noted that this is a timely opportunity to review the minister's position description

and that, at some point, a congregational meeting should be called to approve the call-although the Leadership Team can do it if circumstances warrant.

Motion

That Louise Gardiner be named chair of the Search Committee guiding the fulfilment of process and paperwork requirements leading to a call and covenantal relationship.

Moved by: Sharon Deceuninck Seconded by: Esther Rothenburger

CARRIED

9.4 Approval of Marriage

Rev Carrie reported a request to perform a marriage at Zion-Calvin on April 16, 2022.

Motion: to approve the marriage of Dean Phillip Duncan and Jason Lloyd Campbell.

Moved by: Nancy Penner Seconded by: Mary Ann McElroy

CARRIED

10. CORRESPONDENCE and Thank you cards

Esther Rothenburger volunteered to send thank you cards to: Bob Luger, Sam Arnt and Asten McGill for their work on behalf of the Parish.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE(S)

Wednesday April 27, 2022 at 7:00 pm at St. Paul's

Tuesday May 17, 2022 at 7:00 pm at St. Paul's

13. CLOSING WORSHIP

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

14. ADJOURN

Agreement to close the meeting at 8:50 pm