

**Pembina Parish Pastoral Charge
353 Thornhill Street, Morden R6M 1M8
Minutes of Leadership Team Meeting
June 14, 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 7:08 pm

2. OPENING WORSHIP

Rev Carrie Martens read Matthew 11:28-30 about finding refuge from our burdens. She spoke of this being a period of malaise as we emerge from Covid with people feeling tired and disinclined to participate. She expressed hope that summer will be a time of rest and re-energizing. She concluded in prayer reminding us that God works alongside us.

3. ATTENDANCE/REGRETS

Rev Carrie Martens Lynne Sanderson Sharon Deceuninck Nancy Penner
Esther Rothenburger Kathryn Luger Mary Ann McElroy Karen Dyck (online)

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted by consensus with some reorganization to facilitate Karen Dyck's participation.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING—April 27, 2022

Motion: to approve the minutes of the meeting held April 27, 2022 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved by: Esther Rothenburger Seconded by: Mary Ann McElroy.

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS ARISING/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

6.1 COVID-19 Protocols

Rev Carrie questioned whether changes in our protocols are needed. Some people question the continued requirement to wear masks in the church buildings; others applaud the added safety masks provide. Consensus was to maintain current protocols and ask the Covid Response Group to consider possible changes in the fall.

6.2 Proposition for a Part-time Pastoral Care Minister

Topic moved to the "Parking Lot" for later discussion.

6.3 House Group Information Board at St. Paul's

House Group information is currently being placed above the mail boxes in the Narthex. Conversation between the Worship and Design Groups concluded that a message board might be placed on a wall beside the washrooms. Mary Ann McElroy spoke with the House Group

Coordinators who are content to maintain current practices and monitor how things are working.

6.4 Exterior Sign at St. Paul's (Affirming Logo)

Karen Dyck presented two options for signage: \$180 to redo the current sign adding the Affirm logo; or \$50 to make a patch including both logos for the centre of the current sign. A photo illustrated that the patch works well. The lower-cost option was agreed to as, in the long term, St. Paul's may consider different signage altogether.

6.5 Rental Procedures

A revised Use of Space Flow Chart was presented incorporating suggestion from our last meeting. A further revision was recommended as follows: "Use discretion to determine if a member of the Leadership Team should be consulted prior to approval."

6.6 Furnace Damage at St. Paul's

Karen Dyck reported that recent heavy rains caused flooding damage to two furnaces. Repairs plus sump pump replacement are estimated at \$2,554. Trustee Chair, Brian Nedohin is talking with our insurance agent. **Action:** Develop procedures to check sump pump operations.

7. REPORTS:

7.1 Finance

Nancy Penner presented the Comparative Income Statement Actual and Budgeted for the period January 01 –May 31, 2022. She also referred to a table showing a decline each year in first quarter givings from \$84,096 in 2017 to \$55,000 in 2022. We need to create greater financial awareness in the congregation. St. Paul's has lost the CEU renter and there have been unexpected expenses related to snow removal and flooding damage. A Co-op gift card fundraiser has been held with results to be reported next month. Discussion concluded that a stewardship campaign should be held in the fall. Also PAR givings need to be encouraged and Nancy will make a presentation at St. Paul's Sunday June 19 on this topic.

7.2 Minister's Report

As mentioned in her opening, Carrie senses so much joy and excitement about the possibilities of the summer, and also fatigue. Her goal for this summer is to place as little weight on members as possible, while offering as many low stress opportunities to gather as possible. In this way she hopes all might find one another, receive the beauty of creation, find opportunity to rest in God and be renewed.

Carrie will formally be admitted into ordered ministry in the UCC on [June 26th](#) and is grateful for all the support she has received from PP. Laurie will let us know how we can view that service once that information is made available.

Carrie also expressed gratitude for Lynne Sanderson, Mel Kauppila, and Diane Guilford all of whom have done funerals or memorials for us in the past year.

As it is Pride month, we celebrate that we have 3 households, plus possibly 1 or 2 more who have begun worshiping with us in person and/or online over the past year because we are affirming. There is a need for an affirming space in our community. Carrie is grateful that we

have been able to provide that space for these folks and pray that our affirming commitment would be made known to whomever is searching.

Carrie will be doing two weddings this summer:

The first for Keota Bouachanthala and Kaycee Kulbaba on [August 6](#).

The second is for Kimberly McAree and Carl Hildebrand on [August 20](#).

Finally, a certificate needs to be signed by both minister and secretary to acknowledge the transfer of membership for Gary Gower from Pembina Parish Pastoral Charge to Rock Lake Pastoral Charge in Crystal City.

7.3 Ministry and Personnel Committee

Karen Dyck reported on the search/advertising for a St. Paul's choir director. There has been no response so far. A search will continue using alternatives to paid newspaper ads and will be featured on the Parish website.

Karen outlined suggestions raised by M&P members regarding a new approach to pastoral care in the Parish. Definitely some good input for further discussion. **Action:** Karen to put the ideas in a report.

7.4 Zion-Calvin

Kathryn Luger reported that Trustees met recently and decisions were formalized allowing that: St. Paul's old chairs be acquired; new tables be purchased; old chairs and tables be given to the Darlingford community for use. She noted that at recent services three grad blankets and one bible were awarded. Lastly, as a church fundraiser Zion-Calvin is providing lunch for the 100th Anniversary Darlingford Memorial Service on July 3rd.

7.5 Interest Groups:

7.5.1 Worship Interest Group—Rev Carrie reported that Myrna Mayor has joined the group. The focus of summer services will be on fellowship. St. Paul's will have half-hour services followed by outdoor activities as possible. Rev Jim Warburton will provide pulpit supply for two Sundays at the end of July.

7.5.2 Affirming Interest Group—Kathryn Luger reported that several people from the Parish participated in the very successful PRIDE MARCH in Altona on June 11th.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

8.1 CEU Rental Update

Nancy Penner reported that, regretfully, the Morden Magic Gymnastics Club backed away from plans under discussion for a 32 month lease. Earl Gardiner will continue to seek a renter for the space. **Action:** Nancy Penner to ask Earl whether it may be made known that the space is available for short-term rental.

8.2 Date for Blessing St. Paul's Sanctuary

Rev Carrie noted that a date should be set to bless the sanctuary. She recalled that past-chair Brian Saunderson had mused about an open house and wondered if the two purposes might be combined. **Action:** Sharon Deceuninck to contact Brian for ideas.

8.3 Stewardship for Fall

The stewardship group needs new members and a plan. More discussion is required in a context of finances, volunteers, energy levels, competing activities, etc.

8.4 Annual Review of Duty of Care Policy

Action: Kathryn Luger to ask Laurie to provide copies of policies so we can determine which ones need to be reviewed.

8.5 Church Directory

Sharon Deceuninck noted that the company doing church directories has contacted the office asking us to confirm our interest in a directory. Discussion focused on the fact that this project requires much effort and we're unsure whether we would have the volunteers to make it happen. Although recognized as desirable, there seemed little enthusiasm to pursue a formal directory. Is there an alternative way to gather photos?

9. CORRESPONDENCE and Thank you cards

Esther Rothenburger will send thank you cards to music instructors Nathalie and Wes for providing music at service on June 11th at St. Paul's and to several others who have contributed much to our Parish.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

Tuesday, August 9, 2022 7:00 pm at St. Paul's

11. CLOSING WORSHIP

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

12. ADJOURN

Agreement to close the meeting at 9:55 pm.

PARKING LOT ITEMS

1. Church service cancellation policy
2. Proposal for a Part-time Pastoral Care Minister
3. Church directory