

**Pembina Parish Pastoral Charge
353 Thornhill Street, Morden R6M 1M8
Minutes of Leadership Team Meeting
October 20, 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 7:04 pm

2. OPENING WORSHIP

Rev Carrie Martens led us in a spiritual reflection and continued in prayer.

3. ATTENDANCE/REGRETS

Rev Carrie Martens	Sharon Deceuninck	Nancy Penner	Esther Rothenburger
Karen Dyck	Mary Ann McElroy	Kathryn Luger	

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted by consensus.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING—August 9, 2022

Motion: to approve the minutes of the meeting held August 9, 2022 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved by: Esther Rothenburger Seconded by: Karen Dyck

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS ARISING/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

6.1 COVID-19 Protocols

Karen Dyck reported that the parish's Covid Response Group met recently and, given current circumstances, decided that masks should no longer be required in the churches but may be worn if desired. The situation could change. Provincial guidelines will be monitored.

6.2 CEU Rental Update

Nancy Penner reported that Earl Gardiner has been away but will be resuming work on this matter. Meanwhile, the CEU has been rented by the library for its book sale December 3--5. It was suggested that when a long-term renter is found, two-month's notice be provided before occupancy. This would allow short-term bookings to be taken in the meantime. **Action:** Nancy to speak with Earl about including this condition in any agreement.

6.3 St. Paul's Sanctuary Blessing October 15th

Nancy Penner commented on the huge success of the Sanctuary Blessing. The event was well attended, the program was excellent and the beverages/ desserts were much enjoyed. The spirit in St. Paul's that Saturday and the following Sunday was palpable. Gratitude to all who made it happen.

7. REPORTS:

7.1 Finance

Nancy Penner presented a detailed Comparative Income Statement, Actual and Budgeted from January 1 to September 30, 2022. She noted some encouraging signs including an increase in givings in the past month and the fact that a Fall supper is scheduled for November.

7.2 Minister's Report

Rev Carrie Martens spoke of her activities past, current and planned. She is currently working with families to arrange five baptisms. Some of the work involves church membership and transfer of membership prior to the baptisms. The number of funerals over the past few months and the proportion of Rev Carrie's time spent on those undertakings raised concern. Discussion led to a decision to identify United Church personnel who could be called upon to conduct some funerals.

7.3 Ministry and Personnel Committee

Karen Dyck reported that St. Paul's caretaker, Thong Bouachanthala, is ill and off work until at least November 15th but possibly up to three months. As a contractor, he has no sick benefits. In light of his long service, Karen proposed that the Parish pay a portion of his wage.

Motion: To approve that Thong Bouachanthala be kept on the Pembina Parish payroll for the last two weeks of October 2022 and first two weeks of November 2022 at 60% of his regular rate of pay.

Moved by: Nancy Penner

Seconded by: Mary Ann McElroy

CARRIED

7.4 Zion-Calvin

Kathryn Luger reported that Rev Carrie Martens met recently with congregation members Susan Ching, Worship Interest Group; Karen Ching, Sunday school; Deb Hamilton, caretaker; Myra Amy McElroy, music; Kathryn Luger Leadership Team. Susan Ching arranged, chaired and kept minutes of the discussion:

Music: when our sole pianist is absent, recorded music will be used; a community member was identified as a possible pianist.

Voice in the Parish: we have few members, most of whom are already involved in church work, but we have no Regional Council nor a rep on M&P, M&S.

Storm call cancellation: identified practices that will be refined into a policy that meshes with St. Paul's practices

Sanctuary decoration: the desirable look is one of simplicity and serenity. Christmas decorating will focus on poinsettias, crèche, boughs. A tree, if used, will be placed in the fellowship area.

Organization: With a small congregation, we do not require greeters, but we will develop a list of people to provide refreshments after service. We prefer that Rev Carrie reads Scripture in worship. Regarding funeral catering, Karen Ching will develop a list of congregants and community members who will participate.

Community service and outreach: The Darlingford Craft Market (church fund raiser) will be held November 19th at the Darlingford Community Hall. A further event is planned for Friday

evening December 3rd at the church. It will include elements of an open house to celebrate our restoration journey, a recognition of contributors, Christmas carol singing and refreshments.

7.5 Worship Interest Group

Rev Carrie reported that the group met recently and she shared decisions made about the Christmas season. There will be no Longest Night service this year. Christmas Eve Services will be held at 7:00pm at both churches. Rev Carrie will prepare a service which she will present at one church with a volunteer presenting at the other. This arrangement will alternate yearly. Rev Carrie will attend Zion-Calvin this year. There will be no service Sunday, December 25th but a video of recorded music will be made available for viewing. There will be no service Sunday, January 1st. Instead, both churches will plan fellowship activities for that morning.

There had been some discussion that music teachers renting space at St. Paul's might provide music for the Longest Night Service in lieu of rent for their use of the sanctuary. With no service being planned, a question was raised about the feasibility of organizing another music event before Christmas. Possibilities will be explored.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

8.1 Self-assessment—deadline December 15th

Rev Carrie Martens presented a letter from Prairie to Pine Regional Council requesting that the Parish complete an attached *Self Assessment Resource for Communities of Faith*. Following discussion it was concluded that Laurie Wiebe will be asked to seek an extension to the December 15th submission deadline and to provide electronic copies of the resource to the Leadership Team. Individuals were named to prepare responses to specific sections and submit them to Laurie by December 7th. Responsibilities: Karen #1; Rev Carrie #2-3; All #4; Nancy #5; Laurie #5, 6,9,10; Kathryn #7

8.2 Want List

Rev Carrie Martens reported a request to consider asking congregants to develop a "want list" for the church then inviting people to make financial contributions to specific expenditures. Discussion about this suggestion was negative concluding that it would serve to split givings and that the Leadership Team should maintain responsibilities for setting priorities.

8.3 Church Service (Weather) Cancellation Policy

The current policy needs to be made more precise and practical. A separate action plan is needed for the each church, but both must mesh with respect to communication with the minister or pulpit supply. Karen Ching is working on details for Zion-Calvin; Karen Dyck will draft details for St. Paul's.

8.4 Nominations for Vacancies

Rev Carrie Martens referred to a list of Pembina Parish Positions for 2023-2024. The list identified vacancies as well as highlighted people whose base terms are completed up but who are allowed to stay in their positions for another year. Rev Carrie asked everyone to consider possible nominees to fill vacancies.

9. CORRESPONDENCE and Thank you cards

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

Thursday, November 10, 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 9:40 pm.

PARKING LOT ITEMS

1. Church directory
2. Part-time minister for Pastoral Care