

**Pembina Parish Pastoral Charge
353 Thornhill Street, Morden R6M 1M8
Minutes of Leadership Team Meeting
October 14, 2021, 7:00 pm Online**

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 7:05 pm

2. OPENING WORSHIP

Rev Carrie spoke of this time of COVID and the issue of vaccination as one of conflict. She read from Phillipians 4:1-3 which portrays a scene often interpreted as one of conflict. However, new interpretations acknowledge that every judgement must take into consideration the biases of the viewer.

3. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Discussion focused on the effects of requiring full vaccination for in-person attendance at worship services.

4. ATTENDANCE/REGRETS

Brian Saunderson
Esther Rothenburger
Nancy Penner

Kathryn Luger
Sharon Deceuninck
Rev Carrie Martens

Karen Dyck
Lynne Sanderson

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – September 16, 2021

Motion: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 16 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. Moved by: Karen Dyck Seconded by: Nancy Penner

CARRIED

7. BUSINESS ARISING/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

7.1 Donor Recognition Policy

Nancy reported that she and Sharon reviewed policy and procedures regarding donations. Essentially, all donations made by individuals with envelope number are tallied and one tax receipt is issued at year's end.

All donations made by individuals without envelope numbers are acknowledged by the provision of an immediate tax receipt.

A bequest from an estate goes into the Endowment Fund and the gift is acknowledged with the family invited to a fall stewardship event. **Action:** Nancy will distribute a copy of the Checklist for Memorial Donations.

7.2 COVID-19 Protocols

Karen complimented Brian on his letter in News and Notes explaining the Parish's recent protocols for attendance at worship services. Brian indicated that the measures will be reviewed on an on-going basis.

7.3 Rental Agreement Rates

More work is required to determine appropriate rates for the various rooms, which must also be named to aid identification.

7.4 Fountain of Life

Following discussion about their previous needs and how the newly configured space at St. Paul's no longer provides for some of those, it was concluded we should let them know we are no longer a good fit for them.

8. REPORTS:

8.1 Finance

Nancy presented a Comparative Income Statement for Actual and Budget amounts to September 30, 2021. Givings remain lower than budget expectations. As givings are traditionally higher through late fall, a stewardship letter should be sent to the congregation soon. The St. Paul's building project will need financing for the funding shortfall and that loan/mortgage with Access Credit Union will soon be available. The rental of the Hall will help with mortgage payments. Nancy will check a reporting anomaly related to the Co-op coupon fund-raising

8.2 Minister's Report

The recent Affirming Celebration was a wonderful event for our faith community. The celebrations at both Z-C and St. Paul's went well and there was a wonderful energy and sense of hope. Phillip Duncan's sharing was profound and moving, and it highlighted the importance of this step for our parish in the midst of our community.

At the same time as we have been celebrating inclusion and affirmation we have also been challenged by new COVID guidelines. Difficult decisions needed to be made. I'm grateful for the honest, intentional, and prayerful decision-making that has been happening in the COVID Response Team. We will continue to work at living Christ's love, compassion, and Shalom justice in the midst of this pandemic, for which we have no instruction manual.

Worship in the new sanctuary at St. Paul's was also energizing and in the office we're hearing some good interest and enthusiasm from the community about our space.

In my role, I am working with Laurie and a few members of the Pastoral Care Team to figure out how we are moving forward with care. During the pandemic many avenues of care were closed, some are now open. But much has changed in how visits can happen and in the lives of our caregivers. Since our last meeting our parish also lost another member, Lindsay Currie died on Oct. 2. A small gathering for remember was held for family and friends, though not a formal service. And in response to a need for support for those caring for loved ones who are

sick or aging, I am hoping to begin a gathering on **Tuesday** mornings in November for carers who just need a place to connect.

In worship: Sunday school will start at St. Paul's and wear your pj's to church Sunday on **Oct 17th**. Baptism and All Saints on Oct. 31st. The first week of November I will be on study leave and I will be taking that time to plan Advent worship among other things. Listening and Learning: Indigenous Book Study will begin on Oct. 20 and the group continues to grow.

8.3 Ministry and Personnel Committee

Karen is working on a rate of remuneration for the sound technician(s), similar to what the choir director and pianist receive. She will include that amount in advertising for the position.

Motion: That remuneration for a sound technician for each session will be \$30.00 plus yearly KOLA. Moved by: Karen Dyck Seconded by: Esther Rothenburger

CARRIED

Additionally, there was discussion about planned changes to United Church insurance plans. Rev Carrie and Nancy are aware of the implications.

8.4 Zion-Calvin

Kathryn contacted the United Church Archivist in Winnipeg who confirmed that the name Zion-Calvin was hyphenated in the constitution that joined the two churches. Henceforth we'll be consistent and also edit past errors where we find them. Valley Fibre has dug in the cable to the building so landscaping can be started. Consultation is beginning regarding an exterior sign.

8.5 Interest Groups:

8.5.1 St. Paul's Building Group -- Brian reported that fire alarms are installed and being tested; some millwork remains to be done; final painting in late October; new chairs in November; possibility of a tea/cake in November. **New door locks** are being installed with keys that cannot be duplicated. Careful deliberation is needed regarding distribution of keys. A deposit will be required. A **new door to the kitchen** will be cut in the wall where the microwave has been located.

8.5.2 Affirming Conversation Group -- Now that we are affirming, we need a conversation about how best to move forward. Ideally, the concept of affirming should be integrated into all activities and groups within the Parish.

8.5.3 Fall Supper -- The Fall Supper interest Group provided a plan for a drive-through supper fund raiser to be held November 7, 2021.

Motion: To approve a request from the Fall Supper Interest Group to hold a fund-raising event on November 7, 2021 to raise funds for the St. Paul's renovation project.

Moved by: Karen Dyck Seconded by Sharon Deceuninck

CARRIED

9. NEW BUSINESS:

9.1 Request for Baptism at Zion-Calvin

Motion: To approve a request for baptism at Zion-Calvin for Benjamin McElroy son of Karen and Kelly McElroy on October 31, 2021. Moved by: Kathryn Luger Seconded by: Karen Dyck
CARRIED

9.2 Tree Planting—Brian reminded us that when Rev Carrie joined us, the Selection Committee asked that a tree be planted at each church to honour our covenant with her. There was consensus to purchase the trees.

9.3 Request for Rental Space

9.3.1 City of Morden--use of sanctuary space for Winter Fest February 5, 2022: there were comments that the activity is probably inappropriate for the space but Laurie will seek more information about the event.

9.3.2 Yoga--use of sanctuary space: Discussion approved the rental; more discussion is needed regarding cost and terms.

10. CORRESPONDENCE and Thank-you cards— Brian reported receipt of a message from Charlene Morrow expressing disappointment with the Parish's decision to require full vaccination for those attending in-person church services. She resigned her position on the Leadership Team effective immediately.

11. PARKING LOT ITEMS

Church photo directory

12. NEXT MEETING(s) DATE

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 7:00 pm online by Zoom

13. CLOSING WORSHIP

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

14. ADJOURN

Agreement to close the meeting at 9:25 pm.

Chair: Brian Saunderson

Secretary: Kathryn Luger