

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

2. OPENING WORSHIP

Rev Carrie Martens read from Paul's letter to the Phillipians wherein he speaks of joy and resilience and the need to hold fast in spite of obstacles. We need this message as the pandemic continues to wear us down. Referencing work by Howard Thurman, Rev Carrie reflected that we need to find moments of joy from which stems resilience. She prayed that we would find joy in the connections that derive from our church community.

3. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

To be resumed at future meetings.

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 with the addition of 9.2 New Business: Fire Safety Plan for St Paul's.

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

Motion: To approve the minutes of the meeting held November 16, 2021 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 COVID-19 Protocols

Brian Saunderson reported that on Christmas Eve, several singers, carefully distanced, will be on stage at St Paul's and chairs will be arranged for maximum, safe seating—perhaps including the Narthex. People will be asked to keep their coats with them and to avoid mingling after service. At recent worship services, the final hymn has been sung by the congregations.

7.2 Rental Agreement Rates and Kitchen Use

Nancy Penner presented a draft document *St Paul's United Church Fee Schedule* outlining room rental rates differentiated by *for profit* and *not-for-profit* groups. Lynne Sanderson questioned whether the differentiation was allowed by **Canada Revenue Agency**. **Action:**

Nancy will contact CRA. Brian Saunderson reported approval of a rental request from the Western School Division. They need audio/visual equipment and will be charged an additional \$50 for an A/V technician.

7.3 Rental Request: City of Morden for Winterfest

Brian Saunderson reminded us that since our last meeting, additional information was provided by email to LT members and there was consensus to rent St Paul's sanctuary to the City of Morden for Winterfest February 5, 2022. **Action:** Arrangements to clean the carpets of construction debris will be postponed until after the Winterfest rental.

8. REPORTS:

8.1 Finance

Nancy Penner presented a *Comparative Income Statement for Actual and Budgeted Amounts to November 30, 2021*. She noted a loss of \$6000, M&S givings at \$23000 (substantially down) and a very good cash flow situation. Regarding the St Paul's building project, 2021 donations to date total \$125,755. A comment was made that on-line donations to M&S can be attributed to the Parish and counted in our total. There was discussion about the desirability of tying the St Paul's fire alarm directly into the fire department. **Action:** Costing information, installation and monthly fees to be provided at our next meeting. As well, comments are to be sought from St. Paul's trustees including the ramifications for insurance premiums.

8.2 Minister's Report

Rev Carrie Martens reported that the Carers Circle core group met weekly in November and decided to meet monthly on the first Tuesday. Work is occurring to get a clearer picture of the care needs in the parish and to identify more care buddies. A member of Zion-Calvin has left the church due, in-part, to our vaccination requirements. **Worship Interest Group** is preparing a note and prayer shawl for her to acknowledge her years of service, including being the primary accompanist at Zion-Calvin. Solutions are being sought to fill that role. The remaining three member of the WIG are ending their terms. Although two are willing to remain, several volunteers, passionate about worship, are needed. The delivery of poinsettias on Sunday the 12th caused a buzz; we look forward to special services: The Longest Night/Blue Christmas Service, the 4th Advent Service with our Sunday schools, and Christmas Eve. Finally, we need to review our email communications as office mailing frequently go to recipients' spam folders.

8.3 Ministry and Personnel Committee

Karen Dyck reported on matters of employee leave for vacation time, study, etc.; application for a grant from Retrain Manitoba; activities for employee appreciation. She noted a great need for pastoral care in the parish for which attempts are being made to establish a care-buddy system. Myron of Golden West Radio will offer a sound-equipment training session January 18, 2022 at 7:00 pm. Two people have volunteered for training but several more people should be sought for participation as a list of AV people are required.

8.4 Zion-Calvin

Kathryn Luger commented on low numbers at worship services. This, while concerning, is not unusual in the current environment. We carry on as we are able.

8.5 Interest Groups:

8.5.1 St Paul's Building Group – Open house Event -- Brian Saunderson reported that the millwork is completed and final painting will be done the second week in January

8.5.2 CEU Lease --. The lease on the CEU ends in April, 2022. New renters must be identified. In the regard, Brian has talked with City Churches about their needs.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

9.1 AGM Planning

Brian Saunderson confirmed the date as March 6, 2022 following service at St Paul's. He expects to combine in-person and Zoom attendance. Bag lunches will be provided.

9.2 Fire Safety Plan for St Paul's

Karen Dyck outlined the contents of the document *Fire Safety Evacuation Plan for St Paul's*. She will be developing exit route maps and posting them in rental room. Copies of the plan will be left in the pulpit and given to employees, user groups and committees.

10. CORRESPONDENCE and Thank you cards

On the topic of thanks yous and gratitude, Brian Saunderson commented on our appreciation for a new baptismal font donated to St Paul's by a Winnipeg church and picked up and delivered to St Paul's by Leslie Bezte and for a beautiful new pulpit build by Earl and Louise Gardiner. Following that discussion, Brian offered to send a thank you to these people for their numerous gifts of time and talent to St Paul's. As well, Brain offered to send a thank you to Bruce Shewfelt for his leadership with the renovation project and to Fine Blade for contributing their labour for work in the Family Room at St Paul's.

A note will be put in News and Notes thanking Shannon Holenski and Cathy Lone for their work on the Poinsettia Ministry. Nancy Penner has sent thank you notes to two large contributors

12. NEXT MEETING(s) DATE

Budget Meeting: Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 7:00 pm online/in-person at call of chair

General Meeting: Thursday, January 20, 2022 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 9:10 pm

Chair: Brian Saunderson

Secretary: Kathryn Luger