

**Pembina Parish Pastoral Charge
353 Thornhill Street, Morden R6M 1M8
Minutes of Leadership Team Meeting
January 26, 2023, 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 introduced us to the practice of Holy Listening, reading Isaiah 55:1-3 four times slowly directing our focus for each listening. She concluded in prayer seek God's guidance, love and support in our meeting.

3. ATTENDANCE/REGRETS

Rev Carrie Martens	Sharon Deceuninck	Esther Rothenburger
Karen Dyck	Kathryn Luger	Sue Nelson for item 8.4
Regrets: Nancy Penner	Mary Ann McElroy	

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted by consensus with the addition under New Business of Review of Leadership Report for Annual Report

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Motion: to approve the minutes of the meeting held November 10, 2022 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved by: Esther Rothenburger Seconded by: Karen Dyck

CARRIED

Motion: to approve the minutes of the meeting held January 19, 2023 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved by: Karen Dyck Seconded by: Esther Rothenburger

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS ARISING/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 CEU Rental Update

No report

6.2 Self-Assessment Report

The Report was submitted to Prairie to Pine Regional Council by the extended deadline.

6.3 Approval of New Bequest |Policy

Karen Dyck led a review of two documents. Each was discussed and revisions made.

Document #1: a form letter to the family of a person from whom a bequest has been received; suggested revision to send with signatures of Treasurer as well as Minister.

Document #2: PPC Policy for Bequests; a) suggested revisions second statement under Administration to read “bequest donations are received: directly to the office by person or by mail and reviewed by Leadership Team”; b) first statement under Allocation of Bequest Gifts to read “You can direct your bequest to any area of the church’s work, such as your congregational programs, or divide your gift among several programs and ministries of the United Church. The Leadership Team would be happy to identify areas of need.” Work will continue on the Bequest Policy and related documents.

6.4 Approval of Use of Space Policy (revised)

Discussion led to further revisions.

Consensus Decision: The Use of Space Policy (Revised) was approved with these further revisions:

“No items for a church are to be donated or purchased unless directed to or approved by the relevant interest group (e.g., worship or Sunday School), the minister or the office. This includes candles and liturgical decorations.

Under Insurance add: All church contents must comply with current fire codes.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Finance

Financials reported at budget meeting January 19, 2023

7.2 Minister’s Report

Rev Carrie reported using the Parish’s action framework.

Inside – Caring

Since her last report, Christmas has passed and we are in the season of Epiphany. There have been no funerals but several people have passed. She has been heartened by the increasing participation of younger members in worship-- assisting with candle lighting and land acknowledgments and currently searching for flat Jesus. She spoke of plans for an intergenerational Pancakes and Ashes event for Shrove Tuesday on Feb. 22.

There are many opening to be filled at the Annual Meeting. Getting people involved in ways that connect with their gifts will go a long way toward continuing to be a vibrant church. Rev Carrie met with Lesley Andrew and Margot Craig to evaluate house groups at St. Paul’s. They will be making shifts to create fewer and stronger house groups. Scripture reading will be removed from House Groups as Rev Carrie creates a Scripture reading group of all ages.

Outside – Sharing

Soup and Pies are up and running which is great to see, both in terms of community building and fundraising for outreach.

Upside down – Exploring

The next book study for Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday; 26 people are on the book order list most of whom will attend the book study.

Rev Carrie will be on study leave for one week followed by a week's holiday. Worship Interest Group will look after services, one of them being a hymn sing. Rev Carrie expressed gratitude for the work done by the group but expressed concern at the load they are carrying. She is pursuing contacts at the Canadian Mennonite University and Mennonite Church Manitoba for possible pulpit supply. Because she knows leaders in both those settings, she has been able to communicate the nature of our church so that they know what type of minister would be a good fit theologically. Mel Kauppila will be providing funeral coverage and Rick Britton and Kathryn Luger will provide pastoral care if crisis should arise.

7.3 Minisry and Personnel Committee

Karen Dyck reported that she has received a request from an individual for mileage allowance to be paid by for travel related to church activities

Consensus Decision: Requests for mileage travel reimbursement should be submitted to the appropriate Interest Group for consideration under their budget.

7.4 Zion-Calvin

Kathryn Luger reported church highlights including the November Darlingford Craft Market fund raiser; the December 2nd Gratitude, Carols and Refreshments community event where contributors to the restoration project were recognized, carols sung and refreshments enjoyed; the Sunday School-led Advent worship service; the Christmas Eve service led by Rev Carrie; and the New Year's Day worship led by Susan Ching, followed by a potluck brunch.

7.5 Worship Interest Group

Rev Carrie reported this Group desperately needs new members. Susan Ching, Kaye Lyng and Rick Britton have already extended their terms. Myrna Mayor remains but about five members are needed to function properly.

In response to an inquiry from a congregation member on possible shifts in summer worship, WIG has created and will soon distribute a questionnaire inviting comments on what is important about summer worship, if they attend, and if a different time/day would be preferable. Feedback will be reviewed.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Annual Meeting Nominations and Arrangements

*Karen Dyck suggested that the pot luck lunch be focused on finger food: open faced sandwiches, vegetables, fruit, cookies, etc. **Action:** Karen Dyck will organize food.

*Zoom will not be used.

*The sanctuary will be set with tables and chairs for worship, lunch and the meeting.

*Zion-Calvin will hold Sunday School at 9:30am but joint worship will be held at St. Paul's.

*Suggestion for nominees were considered. Rev Carrie and Karen Dyck will speak with several people. **Action:** Kathryn Luger to ask Laurie Wiebe to list open positions in New and Notes.

It was suggested that in future a group of three people be charged with the task of identifying nominees for positions starting in September. These people would need to know the congregations, people's interests/abilities, as well as the nature of the open positions.

8.2 Review Leadership Report to the Annual Report

Sharon Deceuninck asked for feedback on her report which was accepted by all.

8.3 Transfer of Membership—Lorne Fife

Consensus Decision: to approve the transfer the membership of Lorne Fife from Pembina Parish to Roland United Church.

8.4 Outreach Donations

Sue Nelson, chair of the Outreach Interest Group, asked approval of the Group's donations:
Consensus Decision: To approve the Outreach Interest Group's planned donations of \$600 each to BTHC Spiritual Care, Many Hands, Genesis House, and Morden Christmas Cheer; \$300 each to the Sandy Saulteaux Centre and Pembina Valley Pride; and \$500 to Mission and Service.

8.5 Purchase of Memorial Board \$1000

Karen Dyck introduced discussion about a memorial board but discussion indicated the need for clarification on the criteria for listings and the most appropriate format--whether a board or a book that could be kept in a place of honour. Further discussion is required.

8.6 Rock Lake Camp Board Use of Pembina Parish Zoom Account

Rev Carrie suggested that it would be helpful to the Rock Lake Church Board if we allowed them to use the Parish Zoom account for their annual meeting.

Consensus Decision: To approve the use of the parish's Zoom account by the Rock Lake United Church Camp Board for their annual meeting.

9. CORRESPONDENCE AND Thank you cards

Rev Carrie asked whether letters of thanks had been sent to participants in the St. Paul's Christmas Concert. **Action:** Sharon Deceuninck to follow-up.

10. NEXT MEETING DATE

Thursday, February 16, 2023 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 10:05 pm.

PARKING LOT ITEMS

1. Church directory
2. Part-time minister for Pastoral Care
3. Duty of Care Policy-being looked at by Rev Carrie, Kathryn Luger and Sunday School