



Pembina Parish Newsletter

BOOK CLUB

📖 2017-2018 📖

The book club is open to everyone. We meet in individuals' homes the last Thursday of the month. Our first book "The Gift of Rain" will be discussed on October 29 7pm at Sue Nelson's house. For more information please contact Sue Nelson sue.nelson@mymts.net or Lynne Cawley lynnejoec@yahoo.ca

Oct 29 **The Gift of Rain**, - Tan Twan Eng

Nov 30 **There is a Season**, -Patrick Lane

Jan 25 **To kill a Mockingbird**, - Harper Lee

Feb 22 **Lost boys of Sudan: An American Story of the Refugee Experience** - Mark Bixler

Mar 29 **The Dinner** -Herman Koch

Apr 26 **Did you ever have a family** - Bill Clegg

May 31 **I am Malala**, The story of the girl who stood up for education and was shot by the Taliban - Malala Yousafzai



Cathie's Message

Dear friends,

What a beautiful summer it has been! Over the past few months we have experienced wonderful sunshine, warm days, long evenings, and best of all – no mosquitoes! It has truly been a remarkable season, with many opportunities to savour nature's gifts and all they have to offer.

Summer is also a time for reconnecting with family and friends, and celebrating special occasions together. Many members of our church family have had significant birthday and anniversary celebrations over the past few weeks, and we extend our congratulations and blessings to all of you. We also remember those for whom this has been a difficult summer, with experiences of illness, loss and death. Please know that our prayers and support as a community of faith continue to surround you in love.

And now we enter the season of fall. Harvest is well underway, the bounty of crops and produce from our gardens is being enjoyed, and the weather is changing. Fall is also a season of beginnings as holidays end, school and activities begin again, and life gets back into a routine.

Our church life as Pembina Parish is also renewed in this fall season. September is always a special month as we re-connect with one another after summer, and Sunday School and our fall programs begin. There are many special events planned over the coming weeks, which you will find outlined in this newsletter. We hope that you will join us for these as together we continue to explore our life and ministry as a community of faith.

May the gift of these autumn days fill you with gratitude and joy!

Blessings and peace,
Rev. Cathie

Eden Health Care Services invites you to the 2017 Dr. Clarence H. Labun Lecture Series titled "Sustaining and Nurturing Safe Communities" on Tuesday Oct 3, 2017. Presenters include: Devon Clunis, retired Winnipeg Police Chief, Dr. Marc Teillet, Psychiatrist at Eden, Jordan Friesen from the Canadian Mental Health Association and Paul Issacs, retired Winnipeg Police Chaplain. see-edenhealthcare.ca for more information.

Pembina Parish Outreach

As the summer is drawing to a close and we start to think of the activities of fall the Outreach group is planning for the first Soup and Pie lunch to be held October 20th. Soup and Pie lunches are held the third Friday of the month from October to April.

Over the 2016-2017 year we averaged 80-100 folks coming for lunch.

In the past year the group has given some of the funds raised to such places as: Boundary Trails Hospital Spiritual Care program, Genesis House, Western School Division Breakfast Program, Donate Love Food Bank, United Church of Canada Mission and Service Fund, A Rocha, Morden Caring and Sharing, Morden Parent and Child Resource Centre, and Rock Lake Church Camp.

If anyone is interested in participating in the Outreach group in whatever way you can please speak to either Sue Nelson or Edith Lovatt. We would like a few more people to help make soup, set up and serve. You can find more information on the Interest Group Board.



Mark on Your Calendar

Sept. 10 Coffee & Muffins, after church, St. Pauls

Sept 15 Pizza night (Young Families) 6-7:30, St. Pauls

Sept. 22 Movie night 7:00pm, St. Pauls

Sept 24 Coffee & Muffins , Before Church, St. Pauls

Sept 24 Back to Church Sunday, Both Churches

Sept 24 Sunday school, Both Churches

Sept 26 Choir Practice, 7:00pm, St. Pauls

October 20 Soup and Pie 11:30 am, St. Pauls

October 29 Celebration Lunch, after Church, St. Paul's

Nov . 24-26 Centering Prayer, Carman



A Word About PAR

HELLO FOLKS.

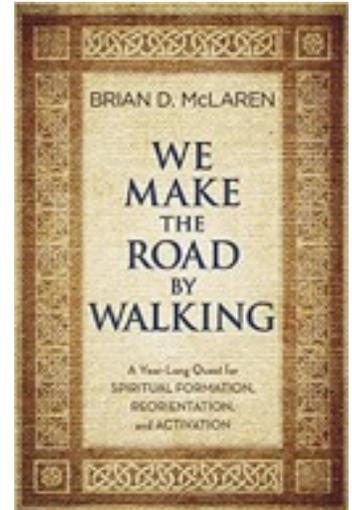
JUST A REMINDER ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF SIGNING UP WITH "PAR" FOR YOUR REGULAR CHURCH DONATIONS. CONVENIENCE IS PROBABLY THE BIGGEST FACTOR...YOU DON'T HAVE TO WRITE CHEQUES. AND WHEN YOU ARE AWAY YOUR DONATIONS CONTINUE. NO HAVING TO MAKE UP THE MISSED WEEKS.

IT IS EASIER FOR ADMINISTRATION AS THERE IS LESS CASH AND CHEQUES TO DEPOSIT. AND INCOME FOR THE CHURCH IS MORE CONSISTENT...NO "LEAN MONTHS" FOLLOWED BY SPECIAL MONTHS LIKE AT CHRISTMAS. HENCE IT MAKES BUDGETING EASIER.

YOU ARE ABLE TO CHANGE YOUR COMMITMENT AT ANY TIME...YOU ARE NOT HELD TO YOUR INITIAL DECISION FOREVER.

THERE IS NO COST TO THE CHURCH OR THE DONOR. ACTUALLY IT WILL SAVE DONORS A FEW DOLLARS IN BANK SERVICE CHARGES AND THE COST OF THE CHEQUES.

IF ANYONE HAS ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CONTACT LOUISE GARDINER OR ALEX FEDORCHUK.



This November we will begin a weekly study group that will explore some of the key themes in the biblical story using Brian McLaren's book "We Make the Road by Walking" as our guide. Dates and times TBA. Please speak to Cathie if you are interested in being part of this study.

Pastoral Notes

Please be in touch with Cathie if you would like a pastoral visit or call. If you would like to receive communion at home, we will gladly come and share with you.

If you find yourself being admitted to Boundary Trails Health Centre (BTHC), please be sure to let us know. You are also invited to sign the Spiritual Care referral form at the hospital, which gives your consent to a pastoral visit. The BTHC chaplain will be sure to call us to let us know that you are there.

Property Discernment Committee

Greetings from the Committee.

Our members are: Earl Gardiner, Bruce Shewfelt, Sue Nelson, Lesley Andrew, Marlene Holewka, Fred Mayor, Ted Nelson, Rick Britton, and Shannon Holenski.

So far, we have focused on the St. Pauls' building, BUT we have involved the whole of the Pembina Parish in *our discernment*. To date we have:

- ✓ Completed the IMNA (Identity, Mission, Needs Analysis) survey, with close to 100 participants filling out the forms. The survey will help us ensure our facilities are meeting the needs of our congregants for now and the future. A complete paper copy of the survey results is available in the church Narthex.
- ✓ Held a successful Community Round Table with local community and business leaders. The Round Table has identified opportunities for our congregation to explore for gaining additional rental/lease revenue WHILE supporting community initiatives.
- ✓ Compiled 90% of the information required for the Viability Study; which will identify our financial capacity to maintain the current facility; using an outside objective review.

Our plans for the fall are:

- Provide the following opportunities to review the IMNA survey results:
 - Sunday Sept 10 coffee and muffins after church; 12:00-1:00.
 - Sunday Sep 24 coffee and muffins before church; 9:45- 10:45.
 - Pizza Night Friday Sep 15; 6pm - 7:30 pizza and discussion *for young people and young families*. Join us for homemade pizza and discussion about what the IMNA survey means for the future. Child care will be available so bring the whole family.
- Follow up on the Round Table opportunities, whittle them down and allow the congregation to consider and critique them.
- Complete the Viability Report, and what it means for our future.
- Inventory the building use on a room by room basis.
- Further discussions with Zion Calvin congregants on their future building plans.
- Match up building needs, revenue opportunities and financial viability to provide a series of options for the congregation to consider at the 2018 annual meeting.

As always, we appreciate the help of others, and have had several people provide input to the surveys, viability information and the round table. Thank you all. We are always looking for your input and ideas, and will seek your input in a variety of ways as the fall progresses. We encourage you to approach ANY of the Discernment Committee members with your ideas !

CENTERING PRAYER



Friday evening, November 24 to

Sunday, November 26, 2017

“Be still and know that I am God.” Psalm 46:10

Do you feel pulled in all directions?

Do you want more from your prayer life?

Do you hunger for a deeper intimacy with God?

Centering Prayer may be for you.

Join us as we learn a simple method

of Christ-centered silent prayer.

This practice can lead to a deeper prayer life,

personal & spiritual transformation,

and a closer union with God.

Carman United Church

Carman, MB

Cost \$50

For more information or to register,

contact Karen Tjaden (204) 745 6835 karentjaden@gmail.com

or Rev. Cathie Waldie (204) 822 4508 cathiewaldie@mts.net



Celebrating the Season of Creation

Once again our Parish will be celebrating this special season in worship in September. The Season of Creation began around the year 2000 as an exciting new season of the church year that is now being celebrated in a number of countries around the world. It grew out of a growing concern in Christian communities about the ecological crisis and the way we have been treating the earth. One of the most effective ways to focus this concern is through worship. By concentrating our worship on God's creation and worshipping with creation, we are more likely to find ways to heal rather than exploit our planet.

The symbol of the Season of Creation is a Tree, recalling the Tree of Knowledge (Genesis) and the Tree of Life (Revelation) in Scripture. Flowing within and outside of the tree is a blue circle, a symbol of wholeness and God's everlastingness. A gold (symbolizing worth, splendour, and royalty) cross fills the circle. The square at the intersection of the cross recalls God as Mystery. The colour orange also appears (on the symbol), representing the colour of autumn fruitfulness and the vigour of fall before winter's dormancy. The four colours also stand for the four elements of creation: earth (brown), air (white), fire (orange), and water (blue).

The aspects of Creation we will celebrate in September will be:

- Sunday, Sept. 10th: Land Sunday
- Sunday, Sept. 17th: Wilderness Sunday
- Sunday, Sept. 24th: River Sunday

We welcome you to these services as we celebrate this special season!



Back to Church Sunday

Once again our Parish will be celebrating this special Sunday, that will be held on Sunday, Sept. 24th. Back to Church Sunday is an initiative designed to equip and encourage lay people to invite people to church for a specific Sunday service each year. It began in 2009 in response to survey research that indicated 82% of people said they would church if someone they knew invited them, but only 2% of church members were doing so. The movement has now seen over 31,000 churches participate by inspiring church members to invite people to a Sunday service designed just for welcoming those who may not regularly attend, or have never attended church.

This year's theme, A Place to Belong, encourages people to seek out their local church as a place for community, sanctuary, friendship, and respite. It also encourages churches to re-envision themselves as a place where friends and neighbours can come together in times of joy, challenge, and struggle – a place for everyone to belong.

We hope that you will join us for this special Sunday on Sept. 24th, and consider inviting someone you know to come with you!

We Sing Thanksgiving

This October our parish will once again share in a Stewardship Giving program. The theme for this year's program is "We Sing Thanksgiving", a line taken from our United Church's Song of Faith.

The program will begin on Thanksgiving Sunday, October 8th and continue for four weeks. Each Sunday will have a different theme that will be reflected upon in worship. Our Sunday Schools will also have resources to support their program. A package of information will be sent to everyone in October, including response forms. We also invite you to share in a special **Thank You Luncheon on Sunday, October 29th**, following worship at St. Paul's. That Sunday will be an opportunity to share in food, enjoy some entertainment and show our appreciation to everyone for your participation in the life of Pembina Parish. We hope you will save the date!

Stewardship Giving Team members,
Alex Fedorchuk, Karen Ching, Louise Gardiner,
Grace Young, Rev. Cathie W

Ministers and Ministry

With the departure of Rev. Suzanna Bates in May our parish has begun the process of looking for a second minister. The Leadership Team approved a position description for a Gap Ministry appointment to serve from June 1st, 2017 - June 30th, 2018. Unfortunately there were no applicants for this position, so the recommendation is being made to move into the Ministry Profile (formerly JNAC) process. This recommendation will be brought to the Leadership Team for approval at its next meeting on September 14th.

Cathie will be away on holidays from October 9th - 24th in the United Kingdom. The Sunday worship services for Oct. 15th and Oct. 22nd will be led by laypeople from our parish. Rev. Ken Thomas of Roland pastoral charge will be on call during this time in case of pastoral need.



Affirming Congregation Process

In May 2016 our Leadership Team approved a motion in principle to move forward with the process of becoming an Affirming ministry within The United Church of Canada. Since then several events have been held in our parish to explore what this means and how we can share the journey together. Last September an Affirming Conversation Interest Group was established which named some things it wished to focus on. A newsletter outlining the story of this process so far came out last October.

On Friday, Sept. 22nd at 7:00 p.m. we will take another step in this journey when the movie: **“For The Bible Tells Me So”** will be shown in the CEU at St. Paul’s. This documentary examines real life stories of some individuals whose families are struggling with members coming out as gay or lesbian, and how their faith played a part in their responses. Everyone is welcome to come out for this evening – popcorn will be served!



We are happy to announce that we have a new Choir Director at St. Pauls!

Please join us in welcoming Laura Anne Bateman to the position of Choir Director at St. Paul's United Church. Anne has been a professional musician and music teacher for over 30 years. She has a master's degree from the University of Victoria in voice performance and voice science.

Her last position was as music director for St. George's United Church on Vancouver Island. She also has a B. Music. in piano and composition and has played piano, flute and guitar for worship services. Her daughter, Emma is a Grade 11 student at Morden Collegiate and their dog named Beatrice, the beagle, rounds out their family. The first choir practice will be Tuesday, Sept 26 at 7pm. The first anthem will be Thanksgiving Sunday, Oct. 8th. New choir members are always welcome.



Greetings from the Leadership Team...

We hope that you have been enjoying our summer sunshine and that you are looking forward once again to our changing seasons. Here are some highlights from your Leadership Team:

Required Reviews of Remits from United Church of Canada 42nd General Council completed:

- Remit #1 – Three Council Model - Review facilitated by Rev. Suzanna Bates
 - o Approved 100% March 16, 2017
- Remit #3 – Office of Vocation - Review facilitated by Rev. Suzanna Bates
 - o Approved 100 % April 5, 2017
- Remit #6 – One Order of Ministry - Review facilitated by Rev. Suzanna Bates
 - o Opposed 100% April 5, 2017
- Remit #4 – Funding a New Model – Review facilitated by Rev. Ken Thomas
 - o Approved 100% June 7, 2017

The United Church of Canada has passed Remits #1, #2, #3, and #4, according to correspondence received July 2017.

Thanks to the following individuals for accepting the following new appointments:

Brian McElroy:

- Zion Calvin Board of Trustees – April, 2017

Rev. Cathie Waldie;

- Pembina Parish Finance Rep to Pembina-Morden Churches Refugee Support Committee – April 2017

Shannon Holenski

- Editor of the Pembina Parish Quarterly Newsletter

June Steiner

- Pembina Parish Website Manager

Are you a 'Mover and Shaker?'

Over the past few months, the Leadership Team has been made aware of a need to earnestly look at ways to continue sharing the responsibility of maintaining our property and grounds at St. Paul's. Our approach to addressing this need has been to enlist the help of some of our members in developing an **Inventory of Tasks** that have been managed by various members of our church community both at St. Paul's and at Zion Calvin, and the time of year that these tasks need to be done. We would like to acknowledge the fact that many of you step up to help with maintenance, project cleaning, and decorating tasks, sharing your skills and talents in areas where they are needed. We commend all of you, and would like to rename you our **'Movers and Shakers'**. You are the people who make good things happen in our Parish, often quietly, behind the scenes. Thank you for your service!

We would like to grow this **helping initiative**, and ask all of our members, even if you are not able to attend worship services regularly, but are willing to be involved in some way and help out at times, to sign up as a **'Mover and Shaker'**. **What does this mean? It means** your name and contact information, and examples of how you might be able to help would be recorded on the **Movers and Shakers Contact List**. When it is time to attend to some building and property tasks at St. Paul's, like maintenance repair jobs, painting or project cleaning work bees, providing and/or serving refreshments at work bees, or seasonal decorating, we will give you a call and find out if you have time in your schedule to participate. We encourage folks of all ages and abilities to sign up as a **'Mover and Shaker.'** If you are interested, please contact Arlene at the office or any Leadership Team Member.

A Call for Sound System Volunteers

There is a need for one or two volunteers to learn to operate the Sound System for Sunday Worship. If you could help with this important task, please contact Arlene in the office as soon as possible, so that your orientation to the system can be arranged.



Ice Cream and a Chat with our Youth

This past week, Leadership Team representatives met with four of our Youth Representatives from St. Paul's. These individuals have expressed interest in a mid week Youth Group. If you would consider providing leadership to a group of young people in our church, on an evening every two weeks, or once monthly, which could include activities like discussions on topics of interest, cooking, eating, and visiting together, a multigenerational games night, glow bowling, or crafts, please contact Arlene in the office or a Leadership Team Member. These young people also asked us to remember to include them when we are looking for volunteers for some of our events. They want to be involved when their schedules permit. (Hmm...maybe they will sign up to be Movers and Shakers.)

We plan to meet with Youth Representatives from Zion Calvin in the near future.



House Groups will add a task to their list this fall:

The House Groups will be adding a new task to their list of responsibilities for Worship Support this fall, which is removing the cover from the piano prior to worship, and covering it again after the service. Edith Lovatt, the House Group Coordinator will provide Instructions on this new task

Rev. Suzanna Bates gift of Art will be on display alternately for 6 months at Zion Calvin and St. Paul's

Respectfully Submitted by:
Marlene Holewka
marlene.holewka@gmail.com
Chair, Pembina Parish Leadership Team

For:
Leadership Team Members:
Edith Lovatt, Louise Gardiner, Bev Wilson, Karen Dyck, Deb Hamilton, Rev. Cathie Waldie, and Karen Ching and Cathy Lone (Alternating M&P Reps).

Note from the Editor

I would like to thank everyone for the contributions to the Newsletter.....hope you find it informative and hope to have another one for Advent.

Thanks ,

Shannon Holenski



As we go to bed tonight in our safe, dry homes take a moment to remember those in Houston and the Gulf Coast who don't have a dry home and the people in B.C. and Northern Manitoba who are in harms way with the wild fires.