February 25, 2026

MINUTES OF CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS, AT ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH, VIRDEN, MB, HELD IN THE UPPER HALL, ON WENESDAY, FEBRUARY TWENTY – FIFTH OF THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY- SIX AT SEVEN P.M.

PRESENT:			
	Diane Janzen	Fran Bayliss	Maxine Chacun
	Teresa Makarchuk	Carol Polk	Jan Waller
	Helen McCormick	Barb Johnston	Tanis Podobni\
	LeAnne Langlois	Gwenda Hayward	Lyn Fefchak
	Donna George	Chris Dunning	Laura Maxwell
	Marilyn Warkentin		

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Gwenda Hayward called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT: With gratitude we are gathered on the land of the Dakota, the Ojibway the Cree, the Ogi-Cree and the homeland of the Métis nation, that we graciously share, in part, thanks to treaty 2.

3. DEVOTIONAL: Tanis read us a hymn from the new hymn book as a prayer and Marilyn Warkentin gave the devotional and opening prayer on behalf of the Worship Committee.

4. AGENDA: Added to the agenda for tonight's meeting to Old Business Membership Roll and photobook.

MOTION: Teresa Makarchuk/Chris Dunning that the agenda for tonight's meeting be accepted as amended and submitted.

CARRIED.

5. MINUTES:

MOTION: Diane Janzen/Marilyn Warkentin that the minutes of January 27, 2026 be accepted as submitted.

CARRIED.

6. CORRESPONDENCE: None at this time.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

a). Notice of Motion: Finance Committee

Chairperson – for tonight's vote we are going to vote by ballot. On your ballot when time to vote put yes or no and remember that you are voting on behalf of your committee not yourself individually.

MOTION: Diane Janzen/Maxine Chacun that the counters of the ballots be Chris Dunning and Tanis Podobni as they are non-voting attendees for tonight's meeting.

CARRIED.

MOTION: Helen McCormick/Jan Waller that Committee Sunday duties include to serve as envelope stewards and be responsible for counting the Sunday offering in pairs, completing the required donation tally sheets, and preparing and completing the deposit of Sunday collections, in accordance with established financial controls and procedures.

Each committee was allowed time for discussion and questions.

Was asked, why can't two people on Sunday after worship put the money in the deposit bag and then take to the night deposit at the Credit Union and then picked up by the office admin on Monday morning and counted by her and one other person as the practice is now?

Another question was if we are not comfortable with the money leaving the building then perhaps a fire

proof safe could be purchased and the money be put in there and kept secure until it is counted and deposited?

A concern was, are committees having too much dumped on them with more duties added to what they all ready do on Sunday mornings with opening/closing, ushering if needed and we need people to set up for zoom Sundays. Plus, all of their committee commitments. We are having enough of a time finding people to sit on committees.

After all of the discussion was had the chairperson asked everyone to write their votes on their ballots and they will be picked up and counted.

After the ballot count the results were as follows:
5 yes
7 No
The motion was defeated.

MOTION: Diane Janzen/Lyn Fefchak that the ballots be destroyed.

CARRIED.

However, going forward we will use the procedure of two people putting the collection in the deposit bag, initial the bag and then put in the night deposit at the Credit Union. The money will then be counted by a volunteer and the office admin and deposited as the current procedure. A couple of council members volunteered to help with the counting.

b). St. Paul's Structure Booklet – Governance Policies & Practices
A group of folks have been getting together the last several months and going over and updating St. Paul's Structure Guide Book. Each committee was asked to go over their individual committee structures and update their mandates. The group then spent several meetings going over the procedures and policies of St. Paul's adding. changing, deleting where needed and bring forth the final draft to council tonight.

Tanis went through the booklet with council highlighting and explaining the changes. One major change is that Stewardship will no longer be a committee and that committee's duties will be distributed between the Outreach and Finance Committees. The Stewardship committee members will have an opportunity to sit on another committee if they so wish.

MOTION: Diane Janzen/Laura Maxwell that Council approve the updated Governance & Practices Booklet and that it be taken to the annual meeting for final approval.

CARRIED.

c). Fundraising Ideas: Diane Janzen and Helen McCormick are willing to host another supper and thought that Mother's Day, May 10th would be a good day to have it.

Helen wondered if it has ever been thought of to license the halls for liquor. We could then host things like dinner theatres and ladies' night. People might in turn want to rent the church for birthday parties, anniversaries etc. Just thinking on how to generate some rental income.

Council felt that more information is needed on process, liability insurance, security needs before they can discuss further and make a decision.

Spring BBQ: are we wanting to have a spring BBQ again? Council was in favour.

8. OLD BUSNESS:

a). Regional Reps: We are looking for one or two people who would be interested in attending the Prairie to Pine Regional Annual Meeting May 28th – 31st in Selkirk Manitoba.

b). Adding Titles to Signing at Credit Union.

MOTION: That the signer's titles at the Credit Union be updated as the following: Gwenda Hayward as Chairperson, Helen McCormick as Treasurer, LeAnne Langlois as Administrative Assistant and Marlene Heaman as Finance Member.

CARRIED.

c). 100th Anniversary Photo Book: Helen has made up a photo book of pictures from of the 100th anniversary celebrations held throughout the year. A soft copy would cost around $25.00. De we want to order a copy or two?

MOTION: Carol Polk/Jan Waller that we purchase two copies of the 100th anniversary celebrations photo book, with the funds to come from the celebrations budget.

CARRIED.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a). Property Committee: Diane Janzen
2 plug receptacles have been installed in the banquet hall by LRB Electrical as approved by the Planned Gift Committee.

A huge thank you to Barry and Warren for clearing snow at the church from the latest snow fall.
The green paint on the wall in the banquet hall needs some touching up which Fran and Diane will look after doing.

b). Finance Committee: Helen McCormick
The Finance Committee met on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, at 11:00am. The February bills were presented for review and cheques for signing. The February 2026 bills were approved for payment.

Discussion took place regarding the Planned Gift Account, including the timing of transfers from the General to reduce transfer fees. The committee reviewed the Annual Report prior to submission and discussed procedures related to planned Giving transfers.

A motion was approved to refund $217.89 (GST & PST from the LRB invoice) from General Account to the Planned Gift Account, as these taxes were not included in the original Planned Gift project approval. The committee also approved a process whereby Planned Giving projects will initially be paid from the General Account, with reimbursement made annually from the Planned Gift Account once projects are completed.

c). Ministry & Personnel Committee: Carol Polk
No report at this time.

d). Stewardship Committee: Laura Maxwell
M&S contributions for January were $785.50. We were also advised that our request for $1,000.00 was approved from Planned Gift for 2026. Thank you very much!

e). Membership and Pastoral Care: Maxine Chacun
Our committee met on February 10, 2026, with four members present.

3 casseroles/soup were delivered since our last meeting and three cards were delivered.

The Historic Membership Roll had been updated and the following members to be removed from the membership roll:
Motion made by Arlien Fridd and seconded by Chris Dunning that: Alex Aitken member #760, Sandra Bridget member #218, Joan Dickson member #117, Dorothy Doole member #713, Carla Fefchak member #920, Lois Fowler member #143, Betty Henuset member #217, Innes A. Hodson member

#238, Lea Leckie member #289, Vera Leckie member # 287, Irwin Radke member #853, Joyce Rushton member #449, and Jack Ruston member #448 be removed from membership roll due to death.

f). Outreach Committee: Barb Johnston
No report at this time.

g). Worship Committee: Marilyn Warkentin
Our committee got together on February 19, 2026 to discuss the Notice of Motion.

Minister's Report:
"Bless Break Share" is the name of the book I will be using for the Lenten Study starting tomorrow at noon. I have ordered an accompanists copy of the new hymn book "Then Let Us Sing!". Thought maybe the pianists could play the odd song on a Sunday morning so we can get familiar with the music.
Since the last meeting I have done some hospital visits, doing some annual meeting prep. Our Sunday School group has given themselves a new name "S.A.L.T" Shakers, Serving And Learning Together. They are a great group of young people who bring lots of enthusiasm.

MOTION: Chris Dunning/Maxine Chacun to accept all reports as submitted.

CARRIED.

8. OTHER BUSINESS:

a). March 29, 2026 is a fifth Sunday and it is Oak Lake's turn to have worship.

9. CLOSING PRAYER: The meeting was closed in prayer by Tanis Podobni.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:54pm

Annual Meeting is Sunday, March 15, 2026

Next council meeting is Wednesday, April 22, 2026.

Chairperson

Secretary