

May 27, 2026

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

PRESENT:

Diane Janzen	Fran Bayliss	Teresa Makarchuk
Jan Waller	Helen McCormick	Barb Johnston Tanis Podobni\
LeAnne Langlois	Marilyn Warkentin	Laura Maxwell
Kay Kristjansom	Denise Biccum	Tanis Podobni

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Diane Janzen 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: Laura Maxwell gave the devotional and opening prayer on behalf of the former Stewardship Committee.

4. AGENDA:

MOTION: Fran Bayliss/Barb Johnston that the agenda for tonight's meeting be accepted as submitted.

CARRIED.

5. MINUTES:

MOTION: Jan Waller/Teresa Makarchuk that the minutes of April 22, 2026 be accepted as submitted.

CARRIED.

6. CORRESPONDENCE: None at this time.

7. Old BUSINESS:

a). Liquor Licensing Update:

We have not heard back from the Liquor Inspector as of yet.

We now have a permanent food permit, so there is no need to apply each time there is an event with food. It is good for one year. The Health Inspector will be making an annual inspection of our kitchen facilities upon renewal time. The one thing that we have to be very conscious of is frozen food in the freezer – this is a big no no. we are not to have left over frozen food stored at the church– this is part of the permit requirement.

b). Maple Bug Spraying: LeAnne contacted the spraying company from Brandon that sprays for bugs and the cost to spray Maple Bugs would be at least \$1,100.00 plus tax to spray here at the church. This would include 2 sprays in the fall. The gentleman said that we might be lucky and get two years out of this but would definitely have to spray again in year 3. Only gets the bugs on the outside not inside.

There is apparently a pretty good spray from Home Hardware that works well. Do we want to give that a try?

MOTION: Kay Kristjanson/Laura Maxwell that Fran Bayliss look into the spray from the Home Hardware.

CARRIED.

C). Fundraiser Updates: Fran Bayliss said that the BBQ went well even though the weather did not cooperate. However, we were all set up in the upper hall for people to eat. The town did bring tables and barricades but it was too windy to eat outside. Thank you to Corex Resources for the use of their big

BBQ. Thank you to Warren and Carol Polk for setting it up and getting it going for us. The profit was \$756.93. Thanks to Maxine for her frugal shopping and getting most of what we needed on sale. The cost of stuff has increased significantly. The Girl Guides lent us their big blue water jug for us to have as a hand-washing station for the barbequers, so thanks to them for that.

Mother's Day Supper went well as reported by Helen McCormick. 92 tickets were sold. We have had lots of compliments on the meal. Our profit was \$1,138.42 which is great. We had purchased the turkeys to come cooked and sliced along with the stuffing and gravy, which really helped with space and mess. Thank you to everyone who helped out in anyway – it was greatly appreciated.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

a). Regional Annual Meeting Expenses: Marilyn Warkentin and Tanis are attending the Regional Annual Meeting this weekend on St. Paul's behalf. It was asked about their expenses? There is money set aside in the budget for this event and all of Marilyn's expenses will be covered. Tanis is also attending as the Youth Chaplain and thinks that the region would cover her mileage. She doesn't require a hotel room as she is staying with the kids. If mileage doesn't get covered by the Region, then St. Paul's will cover it.

b). Metal Chairs in the Furnace Room: There are several metal chairs hanging up in the furnace room and the idea was given that perhaps we could sell some at the Online Auction. The discussion was that we have used those chairs in the past for extra funeral seating in the lower hall if required. They really are not in the way as they are nicely tucked away in that room, so we will keep them for the time being.

c). Rummage Sale: It was asked if anyone would be interested in organizing a rummage sale for this fall. There were several ideas and suggestions tossed around at how we could make this sale a little more manageable. After lots of discussion it was decided that maybe we let this event go for now and try for more smaller fundraisers throughout the year. It is always something that can be picked back up in the future.

d). United Church Office Admin Fall Conference: LeAnne attends this conference every two years and there was money budgeted however when the registration came out the cost was more than what was budgeted so she asked M&P Committee to bring it to the Council meeting for approval.

MOTION: Carol Polk/Lea McPherson Ross that St. Paul's cover the cost for LeAnne to attend the 2026 Office Administrators Conference in Saskatoon, October 5-9, 2026. The fee of \$750.00 covers the cost of accommodations, 7 meals, workshops, activities, and conference materials. We would cover her gas as well.

MOTION: Marilyn Warkentin/Jan Waller that we accept the motion from the Ministry & Personnel committee to cover the costs for LeAnne to attend the Administrators Conference in Saskatoon from October 5-9, 2026.

CARRIED.

e). Worship for June 28th and when to return in August: Council decided that the last worship for the summer at St. Paul's would be June 21st. June 28th is the last service for Rev. Noël Suministrado at the Hamiota United Church at 10:00am. Noël is leaving that Community of Faith and returning to the Philippines. Tanis and members of St. Paul's will be attending this service and others are encouraged to attend as well. So, therefore there will not be a worship service on June 28th at St. Paul's or Griswold and Oak Lake.

August 23, 2026 will be the return date for worship at St. Paul's.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a). Property Committee: Fran Bayliss

- Carpet Cleaning— which carpets would you like to be cleaned over the summer break?
Council suggested the narthex/front entrance and the sanctuary carpets be cleaned and if possible, perhaps spot clean the coffee stains in the upper hall and that carpet was cleaned last summer. Fran will be in contact with BNR Cleaning Services about having that done over the summer break.
- Lawn spraying for clover and dandelions: Barry our lawn caretaker was asking if we would consider having the church lawn sprayed by Randy Flannery and Jim Laursen for the clover and dandelions? Council was in favour of spraying the church lawn.
- Ballast in light fixture in Upper Hall needs replacing.
- Cover on air conditioner removed
- Basement cupboards are in need of painting inside the bottom ones as well as replace the linoleum with something else.
- A quote was received for replacing the lights in the banquet room with LED
- Pot lights that dim for the banquet hall – these two projects we would apply to planned Gift for.
- A plumber has been called to repair the cable on the sink tap.
- Flowers have been purchased for the flower planter.
- Ken Bouchie repaired the brickwork on the planter.
- Ken Bouchie will replace the bricks under the Sanctuary door.
- The crumbling brick at the back of the church will be replaced.

Diane Janzen talked to LRB about replacing the lighting in the banquet hall and kitchen with LED lights. Lance Barkley applied for an Efficiency Grant and we would receive a grant of up to 1/3 of the project. He also suggested putting in some pot lights that can be dimmed in the banquet hall. These would be on a separate switch and can be dimmed as needed if someone is wanting to show something on the TV and don't want the whole room in total darkness.

b). Finance Committee: Helen McCormick

The Finance Committee met on May 21st to review and accept the financial reports for the period ending April 30th, including the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement. April and May bills were discussed and approved for payment.

LeAnne presented the April bills for review, cheques for signing and raised question regarding where to enter the Website: miscellaneous expense? Decided it should be entered into office expense.

Elevator Maintenance Contract: requested LeAnne to contact Otis for a copy of our current contract. The 5-year contract we have on file is 2018, expired in 2023. This contract states 4 service calls a year. Auto renews every five years. Re requested LeAnne to contact OTIS to receive a copy of our current contract. (2023-2028).

Co-op membership gives 10% discount. Must be applied for. requested LeAnne to apply for 10% discount on purchases. Apply online.

c). Ministry & Personnel Committee: No Report at this time.

d). Membership and Pastoral Care: Teresa Makarchuk

Our committee met on May 7, with four members present.

Six soups were delivered since our last meeting.

Moved by Arlien Fridd and seconded by Christ Dunning that Diane Campbell be added to the Membership Roll by transfer.

Moved by Chris Dunning and seconded by Arlien Fridd that Keith Braybrook, member #597 be removed from the membership roll due to death.

e). Outreach Committee: Barb Johnston

Our committee and Pastor Tanis met on Monday, May 25, 2026. Our newest member from Stewardship, Laura Maxwell attended our meeting and gave a report explaining the role the Stewardship committee played in our church. Our amalgamated committee will try to fulfill the duties from both committees.

We discussed the educational presentations, social events and fundraisers we plan to host to the end of 2026. Once the dates are confirmed we will give them to LeAnne and Helen to post.

We have continued to work at the Healthy Breakfast program at Goulter School.

f). Worship Committee: Marilyn Warkentin

We will be having communion of June 21, 2026. We are going to try something different again and hand out the elements to the congregation. Once all is handed out, we will part take in them together. Still seems to be some confusion for people as for what to do when, so hopefully this will help.

Our committee is thinking about applying to the Planned Gift Fund for some new up to date banners for around the church.

St. Paul's Council needs to make a decision on zoom service Sundays and when to have pulpit supply. We are technically a ½ time ministry and there is confusion as to when to have pulpit supply and when not too and seems to be causing a bit of an issue. The Sundays that there is pulpit supply at either Virden or Griswold/Oak Lake we do not have the "techy" people to set up for zooming the services out, so one Community of Faith has a service and the other(s) do not and does not seem fair either way. Tanis leads worship at St. Paul's the 1st and 3rd Sundays and Griswold/Oak Lake on the 2nd and 4th Sundays and rotates the 5th Sundays.

Council agreed that we continue with zoom services as is and if Tanis is not available on the 2nd or 4th Sundays for zoom services at St. Paul's then there will not be church. In the event of a special service like Easter or Christmas then we will see about getting pulpit supply to cover.

Minister's Report:

The baptism on May 3rd for Adelynn Baker went well. We also welcomed Diane Campbell that day as well. Diane transferred her membership to St. Paul's from Pierson United Church.

The Faith & Feast seems to be going over. This is a continuation from our Lenton study. People seem to be enjoying it.

The service at Wallace United Church will be on July 5th at 2:00pm. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

The church maybe used for a back up plan for a wedding taking place on June 27, 2026. Our nephew and his fiancé are getting married at her family's farm and if the weather doesn't co-operate may need a back up plan. There is no need to worry about having people in place to look after this, I am officiating the wedding and will make sure everything is taken care of.

I will be the youth chaplain at the Regional annual meeting taking place this coming weekend and am quite looking forward to it.

I will be officiating for a memorial service for Joyce Cawston in August.

And I have been asked to be the youth chaplain at the ALF Conference this fall which is taking place at the Minnedosa United Church in October.

Reminder that I will be away on holidays from June 1-16, 2026. SALT Shakers wind up on June 17th.

MOTION: Denise Biccum/Teresa Makarchuk to accept all reports as submitted.

CARRIED.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

a). The SAIL letter has been mailed out them.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Next council meeting is Wednesday, August 26, 2026.

Chairperson

Secretary