October 21, 2026

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

PRESENT:

Kay Kristjanson	Maxine Chacun	Helen McCormick
Denise Biccum	Tanis Podobni	Diane Janzen
LeAnne Langlois	Fran Bayliss	Laura Maxwell
Carol Polk	Jan Waller	Teresa Makarchuk
Donna George		

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Diane Janzen called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

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 Outreach Committee.

4. AGENDA:

MOTION: Teresa Makarchuk/Laura Maxwell that the agenda for tonight's meeting be accepted as submitted

CARRIED.

5. MINUTES:

MOTION: Fran Bayliss/Helen McCormick that the minutes of September 23, 2026 be accepted as submitted.

CARRIED.

6. CORRESPONDENCE: None at this time.

7. Old BUSINESS:

a). Liquor Licensing Update: No Update

b). Zoom Sundays: Diane Janzen removed her chairperson hat to address council on zoom Sundays. This is a topic that has been brought up at several meetings now and we really to make a clear decision on what we would like to see happen at St. Paul's on the 2nd and 4th Sundays when Tanis is worshipping as Griswold and Oak Lake. It is tough to find people who want to be responsible for setting up the zoom on these Sundays and we can't just be cancelling worship at the last minute as not everyone gets the message in time that there is no worship, which leads to confusion and people coming to church and the doors are locked. A motion was made and then discussion held:

MOTION: Helen McCormick/Jan Waller that we are only open on the first and third Sundays of the month and closed on the second and fourth.

Council had lots of discussion on this and good points were brought up for both sides. There are those who wish to have pulpit supply on the Sundays that Tanis is not here. Once again, it was noted that we are a ½ time ministry and finding pulpit supply frequently is just not feasible. Zoom was a service that Tanis was offering as a way for St. Paul's to have a service on those Sundays and at the beginning it was working out fine, but as time has gone on the volunteers are not there and attendance has dwindled slightly too. Zoom is not everybody's thing but there are also those who like to gather together for the sense of community.

After the discussion the chairperson asked for the vote on the motion to be by secret ballet.
After the voting was complete and the ballots counted the results were as follows:
Close on the 2nd and 4th Sundays 6 votes
Open on the 2nd and 4th Sundays 3 votes
1 blank ballot
So, therefore with the results as shown we will be closed on those Sundays and the motion was CARRIED.

We will begin this in December to give time to get the word out so people can have time to adjust.

We will revisit this motion at the annual meeting in March.

A worship schedule will be made up for distribution to the congregation.

c). Boxes of hanger: Carol and Helen went through the boxes and tubs of hangers in the nursery from the rummage sales and they have been dealt with and cleaned up. There is also a white container of things like office supplies in the cupboard under the microwave in the kitchen from the rummage sale if anyone is in need of office supply type things for anything.

8. NEW BUSNESS:

a). Admin Conference Summary: LeAnne gave a brief summary of her time in Saskatoon. Once again commented on how lucky she is to have such a supportive work environment. Not everyone has that and she is very appreciative. Thank you again to the M&P Committee and the council for allowing her the time and funding to attend this conference.

b). Fall Newsletter: Under the new guideline handbook Finance is responsible for putting together the newsletter. Please submit any articles or pictures by November 10th.

c). Letter to Long Term Tenants: We have several groups who are long term tenants and for that we are grateful. But in saying that there are some areas of the building that are becoming somewhat unkept. A letter was drafted up to send to the renters just asking that they be mindful and clean up after themselves and that stored materials need to be kept in a safe and contained manner. We are not looking to inconvenience anyone, but to ensure that the church remains safe, and welcoming for everyone who uses the building.

MOTION: Denise Biccum/Kay Kristjanson that a letter from Church Council be sent out to our Long-Term Tenants about keeping their spaces tidy.
CARRIED.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a). Property Committee: Fran Bayliss

- The boiler has been serviced and is good.
- So far have not received a bill for replacing the shingles.
- Three Sons Eaves Troughing have cleaned the eaves troughs…found them to be clogged.
- Since there was a need for the water hose & water to clean the eaves troughing, I called Dave to reconnect the hose and turn the water back on. I called him when the job was done to shut the water off again and remove the hose.
- Are preparing an estimate to replace the 2 eaves troughs on the section of the funeral door entrance and extensions on the existing downspouts.
- Nursery room carpet torn up.
- LRB Electrical brought the fans down in the sanctuary, cleaned them and put them back up.
- While LRB were cleaning the fans, I cleaned the pews and ledges.
- LRB have replaced the exit signs with the new green signs.

- New LED lights were put in Tanis' office.
- Talked to Brian Blackshaw about fixing the air conditioner cover. Perhaps next week.
- Tanis and I moved the funeral parking signs away from the door.
- Removed the boards that were previously used for the air conditioner in Tanis' office.
- Something to note: until Brian can get the crash doors adjusted, we need to make sure that the back sanctuary door is unclipped and the banquet hall back exit needs to be slightly ajar when being used.

b). Finance Committee: Helen McCormick

- Our application to the CO-OP for the 10% discount was denied.
- Fire inspection quotes from Home Hardware/Brian Blackshaw and LRB were accepted by Council at the September meeting.
- ACC Rental – would like to view the space, Nolan Trembath (ACC Facilities Director) to confirm dates.
- October bills were reviewed and approved for payment.
- CRA EI Adjustment: approved $211.14 owing from 2025. ADP automatic code error.
- Term deposit #39 (renews Oct 21): approved to move $5,000.00 + $50,000.00 from the Rainy-day fund into a 5year step saver (not locked in) at 3.11%/3.20%/3.45%/3.70%/5.25%.
- Legacy Unprotected: approved to move $10,000.00 into 26-month TD at 3.90%
- SAIL: Discussion on rental of banquet hall Thursdays at 9am for exercise program.

c). Ministry & Personnel Committee: Carol Polk

- Our committee met yesterday, October 20th to discuss the new salary schedule that was sent out by the National Office for 2027.
- Carol talked to Barry Stuart about snow removal and he is good to do that job again this winter. We may have to hire someone to clean out the back of the church if necessary.
- Two weeks ago, Lea Ross met with the M&P Committee from the Oak Lake – Griswold Pastoral Charge. Our two committees are to meet once a year as per the shared ministry agreement. Lea said it was a good meeting. One thing to note is that Tanis' contract expires June 30, 2027. We will need to visit this early in the new year so we can stay on top of it.

d). Membership and Pastoral Care: Maxine Chacun

Our committee did not meet and there is no report.

e). Outreach Committee: Laura Maxwell

Our committee did not meet.

- The M&S for September was $995.50 for a YTD total of $7,267.90.
- Change for Change – as of today $971.25 has been collected, that is $271.00 more than last year.
- It was a very good presentation from Lois Rushton from the YMCA, Women's Shelter this past Sunday.

f). Worship Committee: Kay Kristjanson

Our committee did not meet.

Our committee is dwindling in numbers – so if you know anyone who might be interested?

g). Minister's Report:

I had four funerals in September – three before the last meeting and an internment for Jeff McAuley at the McAuley cemetery. I have had two in October one in Elkhorn and the other for June Blair held here at St. Paul's on Oct 17th. The Blair family was very appreciative of the kindness and support given to their family.

We held worship at the Sherwood and Westman homes on October 4th. I have written a letter of support

for the Westman home to address their not so wonderful internet. It is not the best and not very reliable.

I will be away from Oct 23-25 attending the ALF Youth Retreat in Minnedosa. Then I will be hopping on a plane to Ontario where I will be attending a "Women in Ministry" Conference from Oct 26 – 30 in Elm Hirst. Rev. Carman Landsdown, former Moderator will be one of the guest speakers. Looking forward to hearing her speak.

Something to speak about going forward into the future is on being welcoming and inclusive and what that actually means.

MOTION: Laura Maxwell/Teresa Makarchuk to accept all reports as submitted.

CARRIED.

8. OTHER BUSINESS:

a). UCW 65th Anniversary – The United Church Women are celebrating their 65th Anniversary this summer in Ottawa, Ontario from July19-23, 2027. You do not need to belong to a UCW as it is more about celebrating the women in the church. If you would like more information the website is ucw65anniversary@united-church.ca or check out their Facebook page National United Church Women NUCW to keep up to date.

b). Planned Gift Applications are due into the office by October 31, 2026.

c). Chatter in the Church Fundraiser Friday, November 6th at 7pm. Cost is $50 with a $25 receipt. We will be learning about some of the people from the past that have helped to shape St. Paul's into what it is today.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm by Carol Polk.

Next council meeting is Wednesday, November 25, 2026.

Chairperson

Secretary