

St. Paul's United Church of Canada  
 Leadership Team Meeting  
 September 11, 2013

- Call to Order** Melissa Fiest called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in Room 202 at St. Paul's United Church, Estevan, SK.
- Attendance** Melissa Fiest, Astrid Friesen, Rob Andrist, Marilyn McCutcheon, Kaye Hemus, Pastor Brenna Nickel, Linda Holden, Cheryl Deren.  
  
 Regrets: Charlie Stade, Don Kindopp
- Devotion** Pastor Brenna lead devotions where members shared their moments of God during the summer.
- Agenda** **Motion: Robert Andrist/Linda Holden**  
 The agenda be approved as circulated. CARRIED  
 See Appendix A, page 21.
- Essential Ministries – Check-in** **Children's Ministry** – Linda Holden: Children's Vacation Bible School – kids enjoyed  
 New Curriculum is in.  
**Worship** – Pastor Brenna Nickel: Narrative lectionary – will help us to know the Bible better.  
 See Appendix B, page 22.  
**Property** – Rob Andrist: regular maintenance over the summer.  
**Fellowship & House Groups** - Marilyn McCutcheon: a meeting of the House Groups will be called in the near future.  
**Pastoral Care** – Kaye Hemus:  
 See Appendix C, page 23.  
**Mission** – open at this time.
- Treasurer's Report** **Motion: Cheryl Deren/Astrid Friessen**  
 The Treasurer's report be accepted as circulated.  
 CARRIED.  
 See Appendix D, page 24.

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### Old Business

Music Ministry - Sharon Elliott	Working behind the scenes. Choosing the music. Works with the other musicians. Has just started working with the senior choir - before church on Sunday and 1 Thursday a month. Children's Choir? Discussion of possibility in the near future.
Vacation Bible School Debrief	Easy to set up. Day 1 and 2 went well plus comments from kids on the speakers. More structured activities on the Friday. Age groups were better. Living Library – acting out the story was beneficial. Keep the food simple. Maybe VBS in the morning. More music.

### New Business

Stewardship Plans	Suggested letters for different people of different income levels. Brenna, Cheryl and Melissa are reading the books, <u>Enough</u> and <u>Discovering Joy Through Simplicity &amp; Generosity</u> . Working on this through October.
Comedy Night Fundraiser	Friday, November 1, 2013. Marguerite Gallaway is writing scripts. \$20.00 per dessert ticket. Would like to have another fundraiser to go with it with proceeds going toward Warm Welcome. Maybe a second show. Tickets at Henders.
Warm Welcome	To be hosted at St. Paul's and the Salvation Army. Brenna will suggest St. Paul's will host Friday to Monday. Program will start December 1, 2013.

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Rally Sunday	Encourage everyone to wear green. Leadership Team and children to process from the back of the sanctuary. Leadership Team members to make a brief statement on theme "We Can Make a Difference" to congregation.
Fall Retreat	Held Friday night in Estevan beginning at 6:00 pm. Trinity Lutheran Church a possibility of being the meeting place. Pizza served for meal. <u>Guest:</u> Brian Mitchell Walker on "Developing a Culture of Saying 'Yes'". Continue Saturday, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm at North Portal. <u>AM Guest:</u> Russell Mitchell Walker - Affirming ministry. <u>PM Program:</u> Goal setting for different Essential Ministries.
<b>Correspondence</b>	None
<b>Other</b>	
Literacy Group	Will be meeting monthly at St. Paul's.
Becoming a Green Church	Tabled until next meeting.
<b>Next Meeting</b>	7:00 pm Wednesday, October 23, 2013 at St. Paul's.
<b>Adjournment</b>	<b>Motion: Marilyn McCutcheon/Cheryl Deren</b> The meeting be adjourned. CARRIED

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Melissa Fiest, Chair

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Marilyn McCutcheon, Secretary

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Appendix A – Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Devotion
3. Approval of the Agenda, Reports, and Previous Minutes
4. Essential Ministry Categories – check in
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Old Business:
  - a. Update on Sharon and Music in Worship
  - b. VBS debrief
7. New Business:
  - a. Stewardship Plans, Comedy Night Fundraiser
8. Correspondence
9. Other
10. Next Meeting Date, Who Wants to Report in Church
11. Adjournment

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Appendix B – Minister's Report

This has been a busy, but rich summer. The highlight certainly was attending the Greenbelt Festival in England with 100 United Church colleagues. It was great to hear speakers from around the world talk about a range of topics and dream about the future of the church. My overall feeling was to be glad to be serving a denomination that is forward facing and excited about the future God is leading us toward. We know the church will look dramatically different in 50 years, maybe even 20 years, but that should not make us fearful. Rather, our calling in this time of transition is to be people of hope and excitement who usher in this change with grace and enthusiasm. I'm thrilled that God has called me to ministry at this time, and thrilled to be serving at St. Paul's during this time.

Aside from Greenbelt, this summer has been busy in other ways. Sharon and I have been experimenting with music in worship in big ways (the Iona and Taize services) and in smaller ways (singing during the sermon, etc.). Our over-arching goal is to help the entire congregation feel that they have ownership over the music, which our more experienced musicians can help with. Music in worship is not a performance, but is meant to glorify God and draw attention to God, and so we're seeking ways that everyone can more fully use their voices.

It's been a busy wedding season. I married 3 couples this summer – Janelle (Butler) and Trevor Luddington, Chelsey (Duncan) and Kyle Townsend, and new adherents to St. Paul's, Robynne (Quantrill) and Jay Jones. We had sort of a bizarre issue with people cancelling their weddings and not telling us this summer. This happened in 3 cases! Mostly, this is not a problem, except that Shirley and I keep those weekends open far in advance and as summer weekends are at a premium I find it very disrespectful to not phone the church when you've decided you're no longer having your wedding there. I'm wondering about deposits for weddings now, but Vicki assures me this summer was an anomaly and we shouldn't really need that.

I helped prepare for VBS this summer, although, unfortunately wasn't able to attend in person. While I missed the kids, especially, I am glad that we are able to do more and more things without the pastor having to be present. This falls into line with some of my leadership goals for St. Paul's.

Marguerite Galloway and I have been meeting to plan a Comedy Night for November that will benefit Warm Welcome. I'm excited for this event for a number of reasons. I think it will be a good coming together of our church community, and I think it's great for us to experiment with other fundraising opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenna Nickel

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Appendix C – Pastoral Care Report

Aug 1/13 and Sept 5/13 – assisted Brenna with Communion at Creighton Lodge.

Aug 6/13 – Health Care Directive wallet cards for NO CPR and Medical Alert are now on the table in the Narthex.

Aug 6/13 - attended Huntington's Disease Society presentation at St. Joseph's auditorium. There are two neurologists and a Social Worker on staff in Saskatoon; they see and assess/follow patients and offer tele-conferencing visits with patients to ease the number of trips to Saskatoon, especially in the winter.

Aug 14/13 – five women did a 'time-of-caring' for the Sanctuary; pews and altar, other tables, and doors were Murphy oiled.

Aug 21, 22, 23/13 – VBS was offered with Ryan Monkman, TV Presbytery Children and Youth Co-ordinator, leading. Assessment forms will be sent out by Ryan in Sept. for workers to fill in. Average 19 – 20 kids per day.

Aug 24/13 – attended funeral for Clara Collins, Vicki Winter's mother.

Aug 27/13 – attended funeral for Faye English who used to come to services here; had visited her in hospital.

Aug 29/13 – provided a Service for LTC residents at the hospital with Shirley Andrist.

Sept 1/13 – worked with Pastor Brenna on background and presentation of an Iona style Sunday Service. Sharon Elliott assisted with music.

Sept 7/13 – attended the wedding of Jay and Robyn Jones, a couple relatively new to St. Paul's; felt that I was representing the congregation and ... I like weddings!

This past month we seem to have entered a period of falls (never insignificant) and hospitalizations (some very short and a couple involving more prolonged stays). In working with our Seniors, there often comes the time when decisions need to be made by individuals and hopefully, the help of their families, regarding increased care at home or moving to a facility which can provide both safety and support. Each person I have walked with through this process responds uniquely but can loosely be separated into two categories:

- responds with acceptance and optimism (a choice) or
- responds with reluctance, resistance, confusion, depression.

Regardless of the choices made, I endeavour to bring spiritual support and a listening ear to these folks and their families.

Continue to deliver full-print bulletins to between 9 and 12 people weekly – these seem to be very well appreciated by most. And visits to our Seniors continue to bring pastoral care and bridging between 'wherever home is' and St. Paul's.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kaye Hemus

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Appendix D – Treasurer's Report

a) **Financial Report** (August 31, 2013)

General Fund

Income:

    Received Givings   103,682.23

    Other Income       21,876.18

    Benevolent Fund       76.08

125,634.49

Expenses:

    Administration       3,894.44

    Children & Youth       241.31

    Congregation Life    2,008.93

    M&P                 85,365.25

    Outreach             18,534.28

    Property             17,713.04

    Pastoral Charge      13,299.93

    Benevolent Expenditure 76.08

141,030.75

Surplus (Deficit)

(15,396.26)

Balance Sheet

    Capital Investment:   34,724.69

    Trust Funds           164,653.09

    General Fund         17,853.12

    Total Assets           217,230.90

**b) Notes:**

Sources of other income are as follows:

    Auditorium Sale       2884.80

    Fair Booth            9574.27

    FIA Fundraisers       1987.00

    GST Rebate            1240.83

    Misc                  278.99

    Open Offerings        1,088.86

    Rental Income         4,438.59

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**c) Property Insurance**

We have received our invoice for property and liability insurance. It has increased slightly over last year. Our insurance policy covers us from September 1 to August 31 of each year. In previous years, when we paid our policy, 4/10 of the cost was for the current year and 8/10 for the upcoming year. This year we were given the option of paying for our insurance on a monthly basis by automatic monthly withdrawal from our bank account. I have selected this option as it will provide us more accurate accounting of our insurance costs in each accounting year. It will also eliminate the "large" insurance bill that arrives just before the year's end.