

St. Paul's United Church of Canada
Leadership Team Meeting
Estevan, SK — April 8, 2015

Call to Order Chairman Melissa Fiest opened the meeting at 7:30 pm in room 102 the Christian Education Centre St. Paul's United Church, Estevan, SK.

Attendance Astrid Friesen, Pastor Brenna Nickel, Don Kindopp, Lynn Kindopp, Robert Andrist, Melissa Fiest, Wendy Suchan.
Regrets: Troy Duncan, Angel Boxell

Agenda/Reports **Motion: Astrid Friesen/Wendy Suchan**
The agenda and submitted Pastor's and Pastoral Care Worker's reports be approved. CARRIED
See Appendix A, page 133.

Minutes **Motion: Wendy Suchan/Robert Andrist**
The minutes of the March 11, 2015 meeting of the Leadership Team be approved as circulated.
CARRIED.

Old Business:
Sewer Issue

Rob reported that the sewer repair is virtually complete except for the addition of a slop sink at the bottom of the stairs outside the kitchen door and dealing with the flooring that was removed for the repair. Roger Johnson was in charge of the project. The line was replaced out to the valve beneath the coat rack. The remaining pipes were in good order.

Rob will check with Roger Johnson next week to determine the costs involved. Their original estimate was around \$5,500.

UCW Ladies are meeting Friday morning to clean the kitchen.

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**Essential Ministries –
 Check-in**

Christian Education: No Report

House Groups/Hospitality: Astrid Friesen
 Nothing new to report

Mission/Outreach: Wendy Suchan

Community Garden

Wendy has taken the completed application to Vicki Winter at the church office for rental of one plot in the Community Garden. If there is another plot available, we will take it.

Meals on Wheels

St. Paul's has the month of May. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Warm Welcome Update

Number of Guests exceeded last year. The hope is to hold it again next year. More people are needed for the Board especially those with experience/skills in grants, communication and fund-raising.

Refugee Ministries

Pastor Brenna Nickel will pass along information she has to Wendy Suchan.

Pastoral Care – Kaye Hemus:
 Report as submitted
 See Appendix C, page 135

Pastor Brenna Nickel spoke of needs in our congregation due to the downturn in the economy. The Benevolent Fund will be used more as people are affected by lay-offs. The Food Bank is also in need as more and more people are using this service.

Property: Rob Andrist
 Nothing More

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Stewardship: Melissa Fiest

Melissa has been working with Pastor Brenna Nickel on the evening church service set for April 26, 2015. Advertising via posters, internet, and newspapers is being addressed. The April House Group will look after cookies and coffee following the service.

Worship: Pastor Brenna Nickel

See Appendix B, page 134

Treasurer's Report

Don Kindopp indicated corrections to his report on the Pull The Rug Campaign totals. It should read: Contributions as of March 31, 2015 are \$3,554.00. A down payment on the flooring of \$1500.00 was made on March 16, 2015.

We have had a Bequest from the estate of Ethel Selk in the amount \$792.16. Chairperson Melissa Fiest will send a thank you acknowledgement on behalf of St. Paul's congregation to Dini White, Ethel's daughter.

Knox United at North Portal is going to make a \$500.00 donation to offset printing costs incurred at St. Paul's over the last several years.

Motion: Don Kindopp/Rob Andrist

The corrected Treasurer's Report be accepted.

CARRIED

See Appendix D, page 136

Presbytery Report

Don Kindopp: See his report to the Joint Pastoral Charge meeting.

Correspondence

Minutes include copies of correspondence from Pastor Brenna to the Leadership Team via chair Melissa Fiest, and to the Pastoral Relations Committee of Presbytery re her request for a change in pastoral relations.

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**Report to
Congregation**

Melissa Fiest will report on Sunday, April 12, 2015

Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 13, 2015.

Adjournment

Motion: Rob Andrist/Astrid Friesen
Meeting be adjourned. CARRIED

Melissa Fiest, Chair

Lynn Kindopp, Recording Secretary

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Appendix A – Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Agenda, Approval of Pastor's Report, Approval of Pastoral Care Worker Report
3. Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes
4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes
 - 4.2 Sewer Update
 - 4.3
5. Essential Ministries
 - 5.2 Christian Education
 - 5.3 House Groups/Hospitality
 - 5.4 Mission/Outreach
 - 5.5 Pastoral Care
 - 5.6 Property
 - 5.7 Stewardship
 - 5.8 Worship
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Presbytery Representative Report
8. New Business
 - 8.2
9. Correspondence
10. Leadership Team Report to Congregation
11. Next Meeting
12. Adjournment

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Appendix B – Minister's Report

This past month has mostly focused on finishing the Lent season and preparing for Holy Week and Easter services. It's been a blessed time, but a busy time for sure. Maundy Thursday was very meaningful, again, as we worshiped together as a pastoral charge in North Portal. This intimate service is always very moving to me. On Good Friday, I appreciated the help of other worship leaders in reading and providing music. Easter was joyful in both locations and at St. Paul's, I was very grateful for the participation of our children.

Additionally this month, I've been working with two women on membership and confirmation. They are working on their professions of faith as well as meeting with a member of the congregation to talk about life in the church. Once they've completed these things, we'll confirm them in worship. I'm hoping this will happen on April 19th.

Melissa and I continue to work on communications strategies, especially this month around the evening worship service on the 26th.

Warm Welcome wrapped up on March 31st. The Board is making plans for next year, and we could very much use new board members as well as more representation from St. Paul's as I step down from the board.

On Monday, March 30th, I participated in Transgender Awareness Week at the Estevan Art Gallery, which was the first meeting of a new group they're trying to form called Qmunnity. I didn't go as a church representative per se, but was glad to be an openly affirming and supportive clergy Ally for those who may have identified as LGBTQ, especially since many there were youth and young adults. I was also very moved to see one of our church members in the small crowd who came just to learn more and be supportive.

In terms of pastoral care, I continue to ask prayers for those who have lost their jobs in this economic climate. In several ways our members have been affected by this, although their struggles may not always be made public. Additionally, I would mention it's been a difficult month for home visits, but I have checked in with folks via phone calls and emails when appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Brenna Nickel

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Appendix C – Pastoral Care Report

Last Report was March 11, 2015.

Will try a new (for me) format this time.

Visits to bring the presence of the congregation to shut-ins of the Estevan Regional Nursing Home, Creighton Lodge, Hillview Manor and those still living in their own homes, continue. These visits also help to determine pastoral care requirements including spiritual, physical and emotional needs of the folks visited.

This month these needs included but are not limited to, supporting a senior in housing transition (a trying and tiring experience for her), listening to and encouraging caregivers to remember to also take care of their own needs (for respite, for rest), supporting folks and their families dealing with acute health crises and chronic difficulties (in home and in hospital), sitting with and reading Scripture to United Church residents in Long Term Care and the Alzheimer's Unit. Have listened to and tried to comfort those grieving the loss of someone they loved. All visits include the offer of prayer and continued support.

The Prayer Shawl Group presented four shawls, hopefully to bring comfort, peace, warmth and a reminder of God's presence in our lives.

March 17, 2015, met with the International Pastoral Charge Ministry Committee for quarterly review.

March 19, 2015 provided worship service at Long Term Care, only, as Estevan Regional Nursing Home was locked down; a caring and considerate worker there was very helpful.

Many of the seniors and I during our visits this past month have researched and discussed the meaning and origins of Lent and their experiences of Lent in the past and the present.

Have just attended the Good Friday Service; the message and the music are haunting.

So, when Easter Sunday comes, let us embrace it's meaning of love and new beginnings.

Respectfully submitted,
Kaye Hemus

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Appendix D – Treasurer's Report

a) **Financial Report** (March 31, 2015)

General Fund

Income:		<u>2015 Yearly Budget</u>
Received Givings	40,253.28	180,000
Other Income	1,587.43	31,425
Transfers	1,107.30	
Special Appeals	474.00	
	43,422.01	211,425
Expenses:		
Administration	1,363.29	5,400
Children & Youth	157.11	1,700
Congregation Life	1,353.20	3,325
M&P	33,319.74	132,881
Outreach	4,174.00	19,250
Property	6,407.97	28,000
Pastoral Charge	7,047.75	25,179
Trustee (Insurance)	1,197.24	6,000
Benevolence	31.30	
Suspense	1,076.00	
	<u>56,042.28</u>	<u>221,735</u>
Surplus (Deficit)	(12,705.59)	(10,310)

General Fund Reconciliation:

January 1, 2014	(781.20)
Surplus (Deficit)	(12,705.59)
Overdraft Transfer	<u>17,000.00</u>
Balance Mar. 31, 2015	3,513.21

Balance Sheet

Assets:

Capital Investment:	35,573.51
Trust Funds	159,910.90
General Fund	<u>3,513.21</u>
Total Assets	198,997.62

Liabilities:

Bequest Fund	17,000.00
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b) Trust Fund Information:

Benevolent	7,197.24
Bequest	83,334.48
Capital	44,881.45
Memorial	20,037.47
Senior Choir	1,971.21
Interest	280.74
Suspense	2,208.31

c) Note re: General Fund Reconciliation and Balance Sheet

A transfer of \$14,000 was made January 1, 2015 from the Bequest Trust Fund to the General Fund. Another transfer of \$3,000 was made on March 30, 2015.

A motion of the Congregation allows us to transfer funds from the Bequest Trust Fund to cover our shortages in the General Fund.

d) Pull the Rug

Contributions as of March 31, 2015 are \$3,554.00. A down payment on the flooring of \$1,500.00 was made on March 16, 2015.

e) Bequest Annuity

We have been informed of a gift annuity of \$792.16 from the estate of Ethel Selk.