

## Council Report of August 19, 2025

The following report will indicate items discussed and/or decisions made at the Council meeting held on August 19, 2025.

1. Council ratified the following decisions made-- May 20-August 19 by email votes (all decisions were effective immediately at the time of the vote):
  - a) Cindie McCormack was appointed to the MFC (Membership Fellowship and Care) Committee;
  - b) Karen Helsdon, Michelle Marshall, and Ashley Perry were appointed to the Christian Development (CD) Committee;
  - c) Roger Betty was approved for new full membership at St. Paul's UC;
  - d) Barbara Heldson was approved for membership (by transfer) to St. Paul's UC.
2. Rev Karlene reported that August 31 will be Membership Sunday where some people who were "not available" for other membership Sundays will be acknowledged. It will also be a **Sundae Sunday**.
3. Council approved the work of two ad hoc committees. A) The ***Protocols for Flying the Flag*** were adopted "in principle" since this will be a working document and will be updated as necessary. This document will also be filed with the Government of Canada Resource documents for **1-Flying the National Flag and 2- Half-masting the National Flag**. All of these documents will be kept in our policy binder. B) The document "**Agreement for the Use of Church Facilities**" was reviewed and updated with a few new/revised additions. This document will be finalized and implemented effective in September. It will be filed with the Administrative Assistant – the person that the potential renter works with to complete the rental.
4. The financial reports to the end of July were reviewed by the Treasurer. **There is NO GOOD NEWS**. Due to technical difficulties the financial pages will be distributed at a later date. We apologize for this difficulty. Our financial status is sad and very disturbing. It is urgent and needs everyone's attention immediately.

In May, Council named an Ad Hoc Finance committee to review the finances with the goal of preparing a financial update for our church family. This committee consisting of Brian Clark -- Chair of the Trustees, Jed Drew – Secretary Board of Trustees, Dave Morris- Chair of Property and Trustee,

Dianne McPherson -Treasurer, and Ron Wycherley -Chair of Finance Committee all worked for several months and presented their report to Council on Tuesday.

***ACTION and FOLLOW-UP* --Council approved of their report which included a LETTER with resource documents to be sent to ALL members of our Church family by email within a few days. Those without email will have the items delivered to them.**

This is a very important letter that requires URGENT ACTION. Read it carefully and ask your self --- what can I do to help? Any amount no matter the size will be a big help. Carefully read the STEP- UP CHART? Can you and /or your family step up???

Do you know that to date in 2025 we have had to cash in over \$ 35,000.00 to meet our cash flow needs. There are still 4 months before we get to year-end. **Thank you for your help ---WE KNOW that TOGETHER we can turn this sad story to a positive story quickly.**

5. Thanks to the MFC Committee members who joined with Yvonne Maertens at Woodingford Lodge to celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday a few days ago. What a milestone!!!
6. Karlene reported on the Community Kitchen and the Community Closet. They continue to be very busy and now are assisting many families with wardrobes as the families prepare for “Back to School “. We at St. Paul’s are very excited to be able to assist those who need a little extra support.
7. Antler River Watershed update – The Spring regional meeting was held in Sarnia on May30/31 with your two reps attending in person – Marianne Ferris and Mary Anne Silverthorn. Rev Karlene attended by Zoom. At that meeting Karen Hodges was “licensed” by the region to be a Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL). It was my personal pleasure as Chair of the LLWL Resource Team to place Karen’s Tippet (preaching stole for LLWL’s) around her shoulders and extend congratulations to her on behalf of St. Paul’s and the Region. Karen’s daughter accompanied her to Sarnia. St Paul’s congratulated her on completing all the educational requirements to reach this status and achieve a personal goal. Well done, Karen.

The region has a new President –Richard Auckland. He is a lay person – a retired educator from the St. Thomas area. Marianne and I had breakfast with him one morning – got to know more about Richard personally. At the

General Council meeting (GC45) that took place in Calgary -August 7-11 a new Moderator was elected. The Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath born in Zambia raised in Canada, was ordained in 1999. She is presently the lead clergy at Wall St UC in Brockville. This is an elected full- time position for 3 years.

8. Upcoming Events

a)-Membership Sunday –Sundae Sunday Aug 31

b Luncheon September 7 to celebrate my 80<sup>th</sup> --about 5 spaces remain – contact me

c)Oct 18 –October Fest – Music Concert /Dinner --Tickets must be purchased in advance-- contact Dianne Parnell or

[Stpaulsaots84@gmail.com](mailto:Stpaulsaots84@gmail.com)

d) Sunday September 14-UCW Sunday

There are several items in this report that need your attention. Please read and if you have comments, and /or question please ask.

As we approach September and fall –I ask --Where has the year gone? Time flies.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Silverthorn

Council Chair

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Both numbers take messages

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