

DEC meeting of November 27, 2025.

Members: the Rev. Canon Deacon Peter Clarke, Gail Shewchuk, Stan Berry, the Rev. Don Thompson, the Rev. Rose Howell, Brian Vance, Cheryl Anderson, Bishop David Greenwood, Tammy McKeachnie, the Rev. Fr. Leon Cadsap, Jamie McIlvenna, Candace Mahaffey, Pam Berry, the Hon. Judge Bill Paul (Chancellor)

Present: the Rev. Canon Deacon Peter Clarke, Gail Shewchuk, Stan Berry, the Rev. Don Thompson, Brian Vance, Cheryl Anderson, Bishop David Greenwood, Tammy McKeachnie, the Rev. Fr. Leon Cadsap, Jamie McIlvenna, Candace Mahaffey, Pam Berry

Regrets: Rose

Absent: the Chancellor

Meeting opened with prayer at 7:02 pm by Bishop David

Minutes from previous meeting

MOTION: Tammy / Cheryl: approve DEC minutes from October 23, 2025, as distributed

- Carried unanimously

MOTION: Candace / Pam: approve DEC minutes from October 28, 2025, as distributed

- Carried with one abstention as Stan was not present at the Oct. 28 meeting.

Committees entered their breakout rooms for 40 minutes.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

1. Proposed 2026 Budget. The Deanery meetings gave broad support for the proposed budget. St. James' Peace River, St. Helen's Fairview, St. Mark's High Prairie all indicated they would commit to paying more than requested in the proposed budget. Brian suggested an incremental increase for St. Peter's Slave Lake as well. Don will recalculate the FSBA amounts for these parishes based in this input (thank you to each of these parishes! Their going above the original request is gratefully accepted).

St. James' wardens have indicated the parish is on the same page as the diocese. The Bishop has a follow-up meeting with the wardens on Dec. 10.

Renovations will be needed at the Deanery before hiring the new Dean.

MOTION: Don / Stan That the expenditures for the 2026 diocesan operating budget be approved as presented.

- Carried unanimously (11 in favour).

MOTION: Don / Cheryl That the 2026 Fair Share Request not follow the formula but be the figures presented at this meeting, with the following changes: High Prairie at \$14,400, Slave Lake at \$7,200, and Peace River at \$30,000.

- Carried unanimously (11 in favour).

MOTION Don / Cheryl. That the proposed incumbent for the Cathedral Parish of St. James and the Dean of the Diocese be approved as presented.

- Carried unanimously (11 in favour).

Thanks given to Don for his stewardship of the budget!

MINISTRY COMMITTEE

2. Legacy Giving Brochure: The Bishop has received good feedback and plans to have the video published before the end of 2025.
 - a. Latest version of brochure to be distributed to DEC members for final feedback.
3. Diocesan Catechism: Fairview planning a trivia night Jan 19, where the trivia is using the modernized version of the 39 articles as created by the bishop.
4. Music Ministry: Diocesan-wide CCLI license now implemented. Tammy and Benita are working the reporting details (waiting for a call from Allison of CCLI before finalizing). Suggesting people save their pew leaflets to record what songs they are using. Some initial technical issues with access are being worked.
5. Sunday School / All-age-group education. We are receiving positive feedback, with people picking and choosing parts to use. Tammy is planning an experiment where during advent she shares with families who aren't attending church, and sees what the feedback is. Possibly will share needed craft supplies as part of this.
6. Lay Reader Education. Sermon workshops continuing with the next one scheduled for Jan 7th. Instructional videos being posted at <https://athdio.ca/resources/layreaders>. Getting positive feedback, though some concerned it may be above their understanding level.
7. Suggested in reaching out to young people, it is important to involve them in the church services with the various activities such as the offertory, greeting, reading, altar guild, etc.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

8. Fort Chipewyan Rectory: Contractor hopes to have permits in place by year-end and then proceed.

9. Rich Lake Church (St. Mary's): Interest in purchasing the property has been expressed. Also have query from local parishioner: what is the plan for the building? Some windows are now broken. Bishop working with local parishioner on getting the windows boarded up. Property Committee will return to DEC with a proposal.
10. Lac La Biche (LLB) rebuild: Final payment with Service Master has been finalized at \$145,077.71 + GST, in the process of being paid. Still to determine travel & per diem costs (with broker and Service Master), though we should have sufficient funds within the monies given to us by Ecclesiastical Insurance for this.

Building Permit stating we passed all inspections has been received.

Shirley Butler (LLB warden) has been asked to create the one-year warranty item list.

11. LLB basement leak:
 - a. Outside contractor has donated their invoice for this to the church (Van-Ross Contracting, \$3150.00).
 - b. Monitoring for further water leakage
12. Mould in house in High Level: Ecclesiastical has indicated damage is covered, Brian is looking into contractors and sharing information with Ecclesiastical. The insurance adjuster has been very good to work with.

The Renter (EBMC Mennonite Fellowship) are having a meeting Dec. 2nd at which they'll nominate a contact person for us.

13. LLB pew refinishing: Completed. Contractor donated their time and effort.
14. Diocesan Properties: Property Committee is reviewing and will report back to DEC with questions and comments.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

15. Gift motion(s) from the Parish Financial Assistance Fund.

MOTION: Cheryl / Gail : DEC offer \$2000 to the parish of Northern Lights from the Parish Financial Assistance Fund.

- Carried unanimously

(note: bishop will contact each parish ahead to verify they are willing to accept)

16. Updating of Regulations: Management Committee proposing updates to Regulation 9

MOTION: Cheryl / Gail: DEC approve updates to Regulation 9 as distributed with the addition of: "If a parish is unable to pay the mileage according to Regulation 9, the parish may consult

with the Regional Dean who in turn will bring a request to the Management Committee for consideration.” The revised regulation will be effective as of January 1st 2026.

- Carried unanimously

To be looked at in 2026: Regulation 19, Parish Administration (Diocesan/Parish Best Practices (Governance and Roles)), and Discipline.

17. CRA. Letter sent to CRA requesting that the Bishop can access all Parish CRA information to grant further accesses and do appropriate followup as needed. Still in progress.
18. Staffing. Possibility of three new clergy in the near future.
19. Extra: Feedback given: “liked the information provided in the agenda, and the simplified emails with one type of attachment (pdf’s).”

Next meeting: December 18 at 7 pm, via zoom

In-person meeting in March or April to debrief and plan for upcoming Diocesan Synod.

9:08 pm – Closed with prayer