

**Leadership Team Virtual Meeting  
Minutes  
September 21, 2021**

**Present:** Lynda Pyzer, Peter Fox, Thelma Bretel, Cathy Zroback, Don Cameron, Elora Cavner, Brenda Shodin, Marc Whitehead

**Regrets:** Rai Therrien

This was an emergency meeting called to discuss two issues - Vaccination Passports and Updated Pandemic Plan.

Lynda Pyzer offered thoughts based on Cheryl Kinney Matheson's blog - *one word* and reminded us of our Holy Manners.

**Discussion #1** Do we require people attending an in-person service to be double vaccinated?

Each member offered their thoughts and feelings regarding this question:

- I feel that we should require double vaccinations but would accept good reasons for not doing so.
- My group is expecting everyone to be double vaccinated and elderly people are more likely to be double vaccinated in the beginning.
- We need to respect people's decision to not vaccinate.
- I am feeling conflicted with this question and must admit I am sitting on the fence with this one.
- It is helpful to hear others' thoughts.
- WIG has been asked for their opinions on this issue and it seems there are three for and four against requiring double vaccinations.
- I think we should encourage people to be double vaccinated.
- The virus doesn't distinguish between those who go to church and those who do not.
- I feel that we have a sense of modelling and a sense of responsibility.
- Children will be present - will their parents assume people are double vaccinated?
- One more reason to continue offering virtual services.
- Initially I thought people should be double vaccinated but since we are approaching 80% of the population double vaccinated, I think that people are protected. And, our number of cases in Kenora is low.

- People will need to protect themselves.
- It would become an issue of enforcement.
- St. Alban's church is not requesting double vaccinations.
- I, too, am on the fence and struggling with this issue; although, I dislike the visual of a bouncer at the front door.
- It is not what Jesus would do.
- Children will be attending and they are at risk so will we be accepting them? If so, then why not adults?
- Cutting out people who are not double vaccinated is exclusionary.
- Perhaps a letter could be sent out reminding people to be double vaccinated.
- I was at an in-person service lately before double vaccination passports came into effect and I felt safe.
- I feel that we should require double vaccinations - I was sitting on the fence but I now feel it should be mandated so everyone would feel comfortable coming to church and it would provide protection for our children.
- It is the right thing to do to set the example.
- Medically I am 100% in favour of requiring double vaccinations but now I am feeling unsure. Not sure of and worried about the amount of conflict it might cause within our congregation.
- All evidence points to the fact that double vaccinations are important and it is important to maintain community relationships
- I would recommend that we send a survey to our congregation that we could use as a gauge to determine comfort levels.
- If we decide to mandate do we need to police it?
- I am troubled by the point - "yes we should do it".
- Proof might be best by honour system.
- It would be nice to mandate double vaccinations - maybe we could encourage it but to close doors to people who are not vaccinated - Jesus didn't exclude.
- I have reservations about making it mandatory.
- I too am sitting on the fence. I could easily recommend that everyone be double vaccinated and would like to do so; however, that is exclusionary. Actually either approach is exclusionary making this decision very difficult.
- I have been contacted by someone who is looking forward to coming back but will not if we do not mandate double vaccinations. I feel sad knowing they could be excluded by our decision.
- It is essential that we engage in these questions. They are tough conversations but it is important that we hear each other and discern what is appropriate for our community.
- We cannot predict what might happen and there will still be an element of risk.

- Government made it easy in some cases but it would have be easier if government had mandated it for church services.
- At CFRUC, it is continuing to be an open question. I am firmly on the fence.
- It is our responsibility to make the decision but how do you reconcile the two?
- There is a need for flexibility. I suspect it will be a moot point.
- You have to determine as a Leadership Team the level of risk you are willing to take on with your decision. What can you live with or not?

**Discussion #2**

Amendments were made to the updated Pandemic Policy.  
Moved by Brenda Shodin and Seconded by Cathy Zroback  
THAT the Pandemic Plan be approved as amended.

It was suggested that this updated plan be shared with the congregation in a newsletter when the plan is rolled out. A congregational meeting may be held at the end of October to give the congregation that opportunity to offer feedback as to the process and their comfort level with the protocols.

Marc offered a prayer written by our Moderator, Richard Bott.  
It will be included in our next newsletter and put on our Facebook page.



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Signature of Chair



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Signature of Secretary

**Motions**

Motion #1 Moved by Brenda Shodin and seconded by Cathy Zroback  
THAT the updated Pandemic Plan be approved as amended.  
Carried