

## A MESSAGE FROM PAULIN MEMORIAL CHURCH

Christ is risen, the tomb is empty, and all of God's chosen followers are hearing this good news, or at least that is usually how our Easter season goes, but this year is far from usual. As a community we shelter in place to prevent the spread of a dangerous virus. For many within our church family, it feels as if this was the year that forgot Easter, as we carefully abstained from many of our Easter traditions, for the sake of our loved ones, our community and our front-line workers. And for many of us this was hard, myself included as it did not feel like Easter, without being able to celebrate with all of you. But this morning when sitting down to write this message, I was reminded by the Holy Spirit that not everyone of Jesus' original followers received the promise of the empty tomb at the same time. In fact our gospel stories proclaim that Jesus appeared to many different people at different times to help them see God's Good News, and if Jesus was willing to do that so long ago we know that he is still willing to do the same thing for all of us today. So if you are struggling, don't give up. Easter is more than a day, more than a sense of time, it's a way of living, of living with the Spirit of the Risen Lord in your heart.



I want to invite everyone to read Luke 24:13-35. It is one of our Easter stories about Jesus appearing before two of his followers after his resurrection, as they were walking on the road to Emmaus. I love this story because I think that it best represents how Jesus comes to us today when we are struggling with our faith, or with what is going on in the world, because Jesus at first is not recognizable, his followers only think of him as another man on the road, and it is only at the end of the story that they see Jesus for who he truly is, and realize the good news of our Easter season. We're never told how Jesus looked different, or why his followers never knew that they were walking with the son of God, all we know is that when they needed it the most Jesus was walking with them, listening to their pain and their sorrow, and when they were able to listen, he showed them all the times that God had been with his people. All the times when God answered the prayers of his beloved

children, pointing out time and time again when God not only saved his people, but the times when he gave them a glimpse of things yet to come, from the mouths of his chosen prophets, to the actions of great leaders. Finally Jesus invited them to look at their own life, and asked them what they had seen with their time spent with their great teacher.

When looking back at the story of God's interaction with his people, the two could not help but allow hope to build up in their hearts, and I feel as if the same thing is able to happen in our own hearts this day. Yes, we're not going to be walking on the road to Emmaus and we might not physically have Jesus walking beside us, but we're still able to look back at our collective past, and see where God stood with his people. We are able to look at our own lives, and see where God has held us in his arms, and promise us that no matter what, he loves us with a love that will never let us go. And just like those weary travelers we too might find hope starting to come to life in our hearts, as we remember that we are not alone in the world, for God is with us. Jesus has also promised to walk with us, from this world to the one that we are still waiting to see. So don't lose hope if you feel as if you missed Easter this year, for our Lord has not overlooked you, he has sent his Holy Spirit to rest upon you, and when you are ready, you too shall hear anew the good news that Christ is risen.

Blessings, Rev. Lisa Aide



### Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Team, although unable to make visits, are keeping in contact with those in retirement homes and shut-ins through phone-calls and cards. Lisa also stays in touch by phone, and we know that these people have not been forgotten by others in the congregation who call or send cards. They are grateful that we are thinking of them. We are not aware of any affected by the virus at this time, and words most frequently used are: "We feel safe and well looked after, thank you."

We were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Marie Bye who was called home on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Please keep her family in your prayers.



## COMMUNICATION

During this time of “Shelter at Home”, we are trying to stay in touch with our members and continue to offer spiritual support and opportunities. Presently, we are using Facebook and the Paulin Memorial Webpage to offer access to online prayers, sermons, Christian music and hymns on YouTube, and announcements of any upcoming events or activities, such as our weekly Bible Study done via Zoom.

Website: <http://paulinmemorial.ca/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PaulinMemorial/>

We would like to be able to add recommendations of hymns or Christian music to our Facebook page daily. If you have a favourite hymn or song that you would like to recommend to our congregation, you can send a You Tube link or just the name of the song and artist if applicable, to [raycarlahicks@gmail.com](mailto:raycarlahicks@gmail.com) and each day, I will post a new link.

### A Message from your Finance Committee

We wish to send a big THANK YOU to all who have continued to support the financial well-being of Paulin. Like your residential home, your spiritual home still has monthly bills to pay, even though our doors are closed at this time. As an estimate, our standard monthly expenses, at this time, run at about \$11000 to \$12000 per month. If you are looking for a way to donate there are three options now, with a fourth to follow.

1. **e-transfer:** You can send an e-transfer to [treasurer@paulinmemorial.ca](mailto:treasurer@paulinmemorial.ca)

2. **Set up PAR:** If you are interested in setting up PAR (pre-authorized remittance) go to Paulin’s Webpage (<http://paulinmemorial.ca/home/give/>) and download the form. You can then print, sign and mail it to Margaret Douthart at 1650 Armanda St. Windsor, Ontario, N9C 3W9. Note that you can contribute this way by credit or debit to your bank account.

3. You can send a **cheque** by mail directly to Margaret Douthart at the address above. Also please call her so she can watch for your cheque. (519-972-0650) We are asking that you don’t mail donations to the church as the building is closed.

4. Soon to be on our Web page: **Tithe.ly**. You can contribute by credit at your convenience. This will be set up in the next week.

If you have any questions or need assistance with making a donation, please call Deb Naklie at 519-972-5593.

### A Message from the Mission and Outreach Committee

Thanks to those who have been able to donate items for Street Help. Our next two collections will be Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at the church between 2 and 4. The items we previously listed, Fresh Vegetables and Fruit, Homemade Stews, Hearty Soups, Baked Beans, Pre-made Sandwiches, Peanut Butter, Jam, Packaged Cold Meat, Juice and Water, Granola Bars, Protein Bars, Easy-open tins of canned Tuna, Meats, or Fruit are still needed, but we have also been informed of additional items. If you are able, they are in need of undergarments (bras and underwear) as well as personal hygiene items. Again, thank-you to all who have been able to contribute to past drop-offs and to those who will be able to donate in the future.



Session members are still meeting monthly via Zoom.