

Highlights from Paulin Session Meeting of April 27, 2020

Zoom Session Meetings: 14 out of 20 elders were able to meet via videoconference in March & April. We will continue with this format until we are able to meet again in our church building. If your committee wishes to meet by Zoom, please contact Rev. Lisa Aide.

Spiritual Devotion: Moderator, Reverend Lisa Aide, opened the meeting with a spiritual devotion based on Psalm 31:1-4. What does this idea of God as a Refuge mean to you in this time of pandemic?

Pastoral Care: As we are unable to make visits, we are keeping in contact with the people on pastoral care through phone-calls and cards. Rev. Lisa also stays in touch by phone. They are grateful that we are thinking of them. We are not aware of any affected by the virus at this time, and the words most frequently used are: “We feel safe and well looked after, thank you.”

Christian Education: Vacation Bible Day Camp is cancelled for the summer of 2020. Audrey Landon has been reaching out to the children of Paulin by email. Rev. Lisa Aide has developed a Facebook page just for the children & youth of Paulin. “Agents of the Lord” <https://www.facebook.com/Agents-of-the-Lord-100615044960556/> with content similar to Vacation Bible Day Camp.

Mission and Outreach Committee: The Mission and Outreach Committee have had two drop offs for Street Help in April (8th and 22nd). Each afternoon between 13 to 16 people have kindly dropped off food items, socks, masks and cheques. Some other items were suggested by Street Help which include adult back packs, new underwear and bras and personal hygiene products (NOT tooth brushes or tooth paste). The next two dates for drop off in May are the 6th and 20th at the church between 2 to 4pm. Thank you to all for their kind donations.

Congregational Life: Our *Card Angel* continues to volunteer her time to send out sympathy, get-well and celebratory cards. In the last month, she has sent out 31 cards to connect with members & adherents. In addition, she has sent cards to the 5 women who work in healthcare in Michigan to wish them well.

Treasurer’s Report: Thanks to Deb Naklie, treasurer, and the Board of Managers’ Finance Committee, who have been researching and applying to Government programs as well as working with the Presbyterian Church in Canada to ensure our financial viability. Session approved the use of e-transfers and Tithe.ly for website donations.

Communication Report: We have been communicating with the members and adherents of our congregation in 4 ways: social media (Facebook), phone calls, website & church bulletin. We are mindful that not all our members are “on-line.” Rev. Aide has been calling everyone on the membership & adherent list. Between March 30th & April 27th, she has called 61 households. Elders have called or emailed people on their district lists. Members are asked to update their contact information with the minister or their elder. A Church Bulletin is being compiled by C. Johnson-Hicks, N. Diffey & Rev. Aide every 2-3 weeks. Our first bulletin was emailed, posted on the website and mailed or delivered by elders during Holy Week (March 5th) with the second during the week of April 27th. Please contact Carla Johnson-Hicks to submit any information or to give feedback. YouTube Channel is maintained by C. Stoffle & we have 25 subscribers. During the 6 weeks from March 15 to April 19th, we had an average of 60 viewers of the sermon (range = 30 to 78). In the preceding 6 weeks, from February 2 to March 8th, there was an average of 13 viewers (range = 9 to 23).

Annual General Meeting: Postponed until we are able to meet again in our building.

Submitted by Anne McLachlan, Clerk of Session