

## **Highlights of Paulin Session Meeting – January 2022**

**Pandemic Safety:** The elders had to deal with a number of pandemic issues in December and January outside of the regular session meeting via email and Zoom meetings. In-person services on Christmas eve and December 26<sup>th</sup> were cancelled because two members of the worship team had to follow pandemic protocols and quarantine while waiting PCR test results because of close contacts/symptoms. Thankfully, neither person tested positive. With the Omicron surge, and restrictions in effect from January 5-26, session erred on the side of caution and in-person services were cancelled. When Rev. Aide returned from vacation, live Zoom worship service was started and has proven to be quite successful. In-person Bible Study returns for February 1<sup>st</sup> and in-person Worship resumes February 6<sup>th</sup>. Capacity is limited to 50% with physical distancing between households, masks, and 2-dose vaccination required. The Zoom worship service continues on Sundays at 1:00 for those unable to attend in-person services. A recorded on-line service is also available. After February 21<sup>st</sup> we can resume coffee hour with a max. of 25 people if there are enough volunteers to host it.

**New Beginnings Program:** Thanks to everyone who participated in the New Beginning Process. Because of the restrictions & uncertainty related to the pandemic, the PCC Canadian Ministries committee has put this process on hold and we will re-visit it in June.

**Minister's Report:** Rev. Aide provided advent services in 3 retirement homes as part of her Community Outreach. She celebrated the marriage of Mark Havens & Kristen Parent on December 17, 2021. She pivoted and adapted worship services due to the sudden changes in pandemic restrictions in December and January and has embraced the Zoom service. She returned to her church office after a well-deserved vacation on January 10, 2022.

**Worship Committee:** The worship committee will strike a search committee for the part-time Music Director position. The Congregational Support Team from the Presbytery of Essex Kent recommended that Paulin receive a grant of \$4,000 to fund equipment so that we can live stream our Sunday worship. We will find out if we will receive this grant after the February Presbytery meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Finances as of Dec 31, 2021. 2021 Year to Date -Operating Income - \$178,612; Operating Expenses - \$180,216; Operating Income vs Expenses: (**deficit of -\$1,604**). On behalf of the Board of Managers, the treasurer presented the proposed 2022 budget. The Presbyterian Church in Canada has asked for an allocation of \$19,575 for Presbyterians Sharing. The last 2 years, Paulin has given \$4,000 & session recommends this amount for 2022. Members will be encouraged to donate extra money each month to go towards and hopefully surpassing this \$4,000 amount.

**Board of Managers Report:** The replacement of windows in the lower hall is scheduled for the week of February 21-25, weather permitting. Due to the reduction in our weekly envelopes over the past several years, employment agreements with revised hours were offered to the custodian and office administrator at the beginning of November. The custodian agreed to the changed agreement but the office administrator tendered her resignation as of December 31, 2021. Bob MacVicar & Margaret Douthart met with Lynn Beneteau and thanked her on behalf of the session, board, and congregation for her years of service. The personnel committee will begin a search for the part-time office administrator position.

**Mission & Outreach:** Thanks to everyone who supported the Mitten Tree as a bin of donations was dropped off at Prince Edward school and Westview Freedom Academy. Don, Louise & Sheila welcome other volunteers to help out with the monthly Mission Projects.

**Angels with Aprons:** The group, with the assistance of Rev. Aide, distributed 58 plates of cookies to seniors in the congregation during the week of December 17, 2021.

**Newsletter:** Material is due to Carla Johnson-Hicks by February 7, 2022 with distribution around February 14<sup>th</sup>. Anniversary theme for the newsletter with celebration of Paulin's 68<sup>th</sup> year on February 20, 2022.

**AGM:** Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Reports due to A. McLachlan by February 10<sup>th</sup> with distribution by February 20, 2022.

*Respectfully submitted by Anne McLachlan, Clerk of Session*