

Highlights of Paulin Session Meeting – March 28, 2022

Pandemic Safety: As of March 21, 2022, masks are optional to enter Paulin. While not mandated, the WECHU acting Medical Officer of Health still recommends that people wear a mask when at indoor public settings. Other recommended mitigation efforts include opening windows and use of portable Hepa filters. The minister and choir members may make the choice to not wear a mask during worship. Anyone in close contact with a confirmed or suspected case, 2 days before symptom onset, must wear a mask in public settings for 10 days.

Elders on Session: Audrey Landon was welcomed back from her Leave of Absence. Due to a scheduling conflict, Anne McLachlan will be finished her term as Clerk of Session at the end of April rather than the end of June 2022. Elders are encouraged to prayerfully consider whether or not God is calling them to take on this role for 1 to 3 years. The session will discuss Term Eldership as well as recruitment of new Elders during future meetings.

Minister's Report: Rev. Aide led in-person worship services, recorded Service for YouTube on Thursdays, wrote 4 devotionals a week for the Facebook page, and led 2 Bible Studies on Wednesdays with a combined attendance of 16 people. She led worship services at 2 retirement homes: Royal Marquis & Seasons in LaSalle. Rev. Aide made 11 pastoral calls in March. On Sunday, March 27, we welcomed Darryl Hicks, Melissa Hicks, Justin Golab, Janis Dominato, and Mary Ellen Sands-King as new members through profession of faith.

Worship Committee: The organist/music director search continues. Music on Sundays is being provided by a mix of unpaid volunteers and paid musicians. Upcoming Services: Communion on April 3, Palm Sunday service on April 10, Maundy Thursday service on April 15 at 7:00 p.m., Good Friday – hot cross buns at 10:00, walk with the cross at 10:30, & service at 11:00, and Easter service on April 16. Thanks to the worship committee for all their work in ensuring there is music as part of our worship service.

Treasurer's Report: Finances for February 2022 - Operating income - \$13,471.43; Expenses -\$13,317.90 - Inc vs Expenses: \$153.33. Thanks be to God, for delaying our natural gas bill to March and for the family who donated all of their yearly commitment in February. Members and adherents are encouraged to regularly donate whether or not they are attending in-person worship services.

Newsletter: A single page newsletter with information about upcoming Holy Week services was distributed via email by Rev. Aide by March 27, 2022.

Christian Education Committee: This committee has not been functional and needs volunteers. Thanks to Audrey Landon for teaching Sunday School. To be compliant with *Leading with Care*, Sunday School will not occur if there is not a monitor or second teacher available. Children are to remain with their families on those Sundays.

Fundraising Activities: The Mother's Day Tea will be held May 7, 2022 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm at a cost of \$15. There will be BBQ Dinners in July and August and a Murder Mystery Dinner (\$25) in September. All proceeds from these activities will go towards the General Operating Fund of our congregation.

Personnel Committee: At this time, in order to get a better understanding of the duties and number of hours required for an office administrator in our church, the church office is currently being run by volunteers. M. Douthart and D. Naklie are dealing with the phone messages, emails, and the Power Church program. M. Douthart will do the calendar. E. Tulp will manage the rentals.

PCC Parallel Definitions of Marriage: At the 2021 General Assembly, the Presbyterian Church in Canada changed its theology to no longer bar those who identify as LGBTQ+ from ordination as ruling and teaching elders (i.e., ministers). The church also changed its theology to hold 2 parallel definitions of marriage – between a man and a woman (traditional) and between 2 adults (inclusive). Sessions, after consultation with their congregations are to vote on which definition of marriage will apply for our church building. On May 15, after worship service, members and adherents will have another opportunity to ask questions and provide their perspective on this matter.

Respectfully submitted by Anne McLachlan, Clerk of Session