

On September 2, a scheduled emergent meeting of the Presbytery was held regarding Reverend Lisa Aide's acceptance of a call from St. Mark's Presbyterian Church in Orillia.

The congregation was cited during the services on both Sunday, August 23 and Sunday, August 30th. News of the citation was also posted on our Facebook page. The meeting was open to the public, with two commissioners (Rev. John Miller and ruling elder, Nancy Blair) appointed to speak to the Presbytery on Paulin's behalf.

The outcome of the meeting was that the call to St. Mark's was placed in Reverend Aide's hands. Consequently, Reverend Aide's last service at Paulin will be on Sunday, September 13th. Reverend Aide will, however, lead the Women's Retreat at Camp Kintail the weekend of September 18-20th. Paulin's pulpit will be preached vacant on Sunday, September 27th by Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal..

Rev. Shalini Rajack-Sankarlal was appointed to be our Interim Moderator. It will be her responsibility to arrange for Pulpit supply, to conduct (or arrange) the administration of sacraments, marriages and funerals, and to Moderate Paulin's Session meetings.

In the coming months, Paulin's Session will work with our Interim Moderator, Rev. Rajack-Sankarlal, to create a search committee. This committee will collaborate with Session and the congregation to seek our next minister. There are several steps which must take place before we can actively begin to seek to fill the pulpit again, however. We must, among other things, first conduct a congregational self-analysis, then create an updated congregational profile. We ask for your patience through these proceedings, understanding that this foundational work will ensure we find the best possible fit for Paulin.

Session is committed to working with our Interim Moderator to keep our pulpit well supplied, and to working together to keep our programs running smoothly and to serve both our congregation and our community with as little disruption as possible.

We ask for your prayers and your participation in meeting those goals in the months ahead. We will eventually have a lot to offer a new minister, but in the meantime, we can join in wishing Reverend Lisa Aide all the best in her new calling, and commit to work hard together to ensure that Paulin remains a strong and committed community of believers, serving a vital role in our community.

In Christ,
Kristina Garswood and Jim Marchand
Co-Clerks of Session