

4 May 2020

Message on behalf of the St. Paul's Board, Greetings!

During this difficult time of isolation and uncertainty, I must say how impressive it is to see the St. Paul's family weathering this pandemic well.

The Board has met twice through ZOOM to deal with time sensitive issues related to the pandemic shutdown. The Stewardship committee continues to meet monthly to ensure the church finances are sound. I know other groups keep in touch with each other on a weekly basis, such as the Choir and Discovery Kids. The Visitors have had a ZOOM meeting and keep in touch with frequent emails. Everyone has adjusted well to a new way of doing their work. Considering there was no warning or time to prepare for this reality, we are managing the situation exceptionally well!!

We are thankful for Rev. Karen's leadership and hard work, and long hours to keep everyone feeling connected. The Sunday services keep us spiritually nourished although we miss being able to be in the church to worship together. We are happy to have Rev. Lois join our Sunday services; it's wonderful to be able to share our tech resources with our neighbours at Unity United Church.

Thank you to Colleen, Victoria, Rebecca, Glenn for all their work in reaching out, helping with the services, and keeping everyone connected - and singing along!

Thank you to Louise for looking after all the online meetings and keeping up to date with all the directives from the United Church of Canada, and various levels of government in addition to all her everyday work.

Thank you to the Tech Team volunteers who go in on Sunday to help out in the AV Booth - while still adhering to the distancing rules.

We miss Sonja, our Custodian, who is at home with her family; we look forward to seeing her back once the isolation is over.

Thank you to all the folks on committees who make calls, keep in touch with each other to make sure everyone is well, and able to weather the isolation.

Finally, a big Thank You to all members and friends of St. Paul's; your continued financial support during this time enables us to do our work as a Christian church, meet our obligations as we always have, and deliver services to those who need them in the community and around the world. I know, that's a lot of thank yous; we have so much to be thankful for!

As the sign outside the Midland Fire Department says:

"TOUGH TIMES DON'T LAST, TOUGH PEOPLE DO"

#INITTOGETHER

I send out a virtual hug to you all!

Zena Pendlebury