

St Paul's Official Board Meeting,
April 14, 2019
Clergy Report

Overall: Transition and acclimation time are moving smoothly. I feel good acceptance with the church family and the community, and have enjoyed not only our church time together, but being involved with the Service club activities such as the Maple Sugar fest.

Worship: My goal is to lead and facilitate an engaging, lively, spiritually-and-intellectually-provocative time of worship, and this takes some hard work. And it is always a 'work in progress'. I appreciate the response of the congregation as we try some new ideas. This winter during our time in the Gathering place we had an opportunity for building relationship, as well as doing some dedicated church work. I hope to build on this, finding intentional time in our worship to bring our personal concerns and celebrations, and share the wisdom and support that we have to offer.

I am excited about our music team's leadership as we grow, explore, and celebrate God in new musical ways, while offering some of the more traditional music to balance out the new. During worship I am trying, also, to provide some educational moments around our church structure, and will be intentional about offering, periodically, different means of expressing our sense of the sacred and the divine, during our time of worship ('Spirit Sundays'). In all things, I am mindful of the challenge of offering 'something for everyone,' and knowing that you can't please everyone all the time.

Pastoral Care: Pastoral care continues as always. I am doing home visits, hospital and nursing home visits, and trying to keep track of those in need. I am grateful for those who give me a heads-up about people who might need a call or a visit.

Study Groups: Our Not Just Java group continues to thrive, with about ten people gathering each week to talk about the big questions of life. We are a lively, varied, and energetic group! I am sorry to say that our 'Loaves and Fishes' group seems to have fallen by the wayside. So many meetings are taking place on Sundays after church that it has been really difficult to maintain a regular group. The most recent conversation group, 'Wine, Women, and Talk' has met three times, with a small but varied group of women each time. This past meeting, our topic was, "What do you think is the most important issue facing Canadian women at this time?" and the conversation that followed was very interesting.

Regional work: With our church structure changing, there is a sense of uncertainty around the work of the region (We are now "ECO Region"- East Central Ontario). There is an active "Cluster" group- Hills and Shores Cluster- a local collection of churches meeting every few months to keep in touch and share information about the church's national and regional initiatives. The inaugural meeting of the the Region takes place in Lindsay from May 31 to June 2, and I am hoping to meet a lot more of our local church people at this time. At this time I am not on any Regional committees.

Projects: Don Real has been an invaluable aid in kick-starting the 'Five Minutes of Faith' message that I prerecord for Sunday mornings on CKOL 93.7 radio out of Campbellford. This is a way of putting St. Paul's out there and becoming more well known outside the boundaries of our own village. Next year: syndication and residuals!

During my study leave time I am working on a Sunday School curriculum for ten-to-13-year-olds, based on current events, linked to our United Church creed. It will highlight the work of young people around the world who are making a difference. This curriculum, 'Kids Can', will encourage this 'tween-age' group to be aware and involved with different issues, and how their faith gives them a framework for responding.

I am also going to spend some time on my upcoming study leave to further investigate the possibility of applying for a Doctoral program (part-time!) through the University of Toronto, in the next few years. I would like to pursue my interest in quantum theology.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Meggin King