



Saturday, May 2, 2020

To all members and friends of the congregation of St. George's Place du Canada,

Greetings to everyone who call St. Georges their church home, and to others who are staying connected from further away. It is a beautiful day here today and I see so many people out on a celebratory walk, I am keen to join them. The sky seems bluer, the air warmer and the leaves are coming out. I think we are finally experiencing spring; no more do we feel the foolishness of the "springs of deception"!

And as this time of isolation becomes more routine, there is starting to be less and less real timely news happening at the church. The nave continues to be available for the city to use as a respite centre for the homeless, so there is not much new there. We are beginning to make plans to get a door fixed that the daycare uses, simply waiting for the timing, when the contractor is allowed to work, which we believe will be in the next week or two, hoping to get it done before the Daycare opens. And planning from week to week for our Sunday Services is becoming a bit more routine, though I am delighted by the enthusiasm of our many new participants. So, we will have new voices and new faces for the next few weeks. I want to thank everyone for stepping up to participate, and if there is anyone else who would like to join in, or if there is anyone with a new idea or some constructive feedback, we meet regularly, and I am glad to offer that input into our worship planning group. Just drop me a line at karen@st-georges.org, for any feedback or comments. We would love to hear from you. Really.

I was in contact with Natalie Voland and Vanessa Mueggler from Quo Vadis this week past, and they are in the final stages of preparing a document for the city, which we will also see, that will support the zoning requests, and describe how the building will meet building codes of the city. We asked them to meet with corporation first so we could ask questions, and be prepared to answer some too, but we are also planning for a church meeting on Zoom to hear and see the proposals as well. It will not be an official vestry meeting, because voting will not be required, but it is a catch up/ information meeting where there will be a presentation, and time for questions. Our goal is to have that meeting with the congregation some time in the third or fourth week of May, so stay tuned, you will be invited soon, so that you can zoom in.

This past Friday Carole sent out a list of Zoom meetings for the coming week, which really doesn't change from week to week, so I am not going to include them in my letter, just to say that we are delighted by the number of people who are attending services during the week, and the enthusiasm for bible study. We have begun discussing some possibilities for Christian education for the post Easter period, and we will finalize something soon.

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It remains true that the best way to find the two services during the week is from the website buttons, no one who goes there will need a code, or a password to get on. You go right to the services and you can easily share this information with friends and family in any place in the world so that they can join in too. We would love to see family and friends.

The one last piece of news to share is that the Laurentian Deanery and McGill University School of Religious Studies is preparing a series of lectures and videos on a famous Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann which will run weekly from Tuesday May 26 through Tuesday June 23 from 10-11:30am. It will be based on the book *Materiality as Resistance: Five Elements for Moral Action in the Real World*. (\$19.91 on amazon) If you are interested, I will supply more information in the coming weeks, but there will be a need to register eventually, and it is advised that you buy the book and start to read it before the classes begin. It promises to be very thought-provoking, The Rev. Dr. Patricia Kirkpatrick is the lead presenter, and she is always very interesting.

That's all, take care and we will see each other tomorrow, and in the week to come. Stay well, and be kind.

In Christ

Karen+

Trust in the Lord for ever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock!
Isaiah 26:4