

LAM Regional Report

Sharing Good News in the Parishes of Kitley, Lansdowne Rear, Leeds Rear & The Rideau (The Anglican Regional Ministry of North Leeds)

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Leeds Anglican Ministries

Stronger Together in Christ

Dear friends,

We greet you again in this unprecedented time of pandemic, at least in most of our lifetimes. Previous generations have dealt with pandemics, but without the benefit of an abundance of communication options which we enjoy in our lifetime. We continue to use phone, mail, email, Facebook, and Zoom to say connected with one another – to offer support and to share hope.

Since our last Regional Report, we have recommenced in-person worship in some of our parishes. For those whose health and circumstances allow them to participate, the services of Holy Eucharist look and feel quite different from what we are used to. It is an unexpected opportunity for reflection on what it means to share in the body of Christ, especially with those who cannot gather with us physically.

We continue to offer online worship with Evening Prayer or Compline Wednesday nights at 7 pm and Morning Prayer Sunday mornings at 11 am. While we considered live streaming of the Holy Eucharist services from one of the in-person services, we felt it was better to continue to offer a Service of the Word from our home to yours, a service tailored for those who worship at home. The Diocese of Ontario entered into the Amber Stage of Pandemic Protocols on September 7th, 2020, which permits the

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resumption of in-person worship as well as in-person pastoral visits including home communion. In an abundance of caution, Rev. Nancy and Rev. Trish are limiting visits to one household per day to minimize the risk of potentially spreading the coronavirus between households. Visits are kept short (10-15 minutes) and safety protocols are adhered to including self-screening, masking and hand sanitizing. If you would like a visit, with or without home communion, please contact Rev. Trish (613-640-0728, rev.trish.miller@gmail.com) or Rev. Nancy (613-284-3210, nmacdio@gmail.com) to arrange a time.

We continue to meet weekly on Tuesday mornings for bible study and meditation, both online (Zoom) and by phone. We welcome all to join in the discussion or just drop in to have a listen. In the season of Advent, we will also be meeting online for mini evening retreats.

We have seen how challenging this time is for everyone; we are all impacted in small and big ways. It is a time of lament – for lives lost and disrupted – but this can also be a time of revelation. During this time of pandemic, we can witness the prophetic voices in our midst calling us back to God and can witness the blessings in our midst. With this in mind, we offer you Beatitudes for Pandemic on the following page:

Beatitudes for the Pandemic

Blessed are the lonely and isolated, for they can share God's compassion to ease other's loneliness.

Blessed are those who have recovered from illness, for they can walk encouragingly alongside others on the journey of healing.

Blessed are those who are ill, for they can inspire our compassion.

Blessed are those who are fearful, for they can evoke our gentleness.

Blessed are those who struggle to sustain meaningful employment, for they can reveal the importance of a Universal Basic Income to value the worth and dignity of all.

Blessed are the children, teachers, parents, grandparents and educators, for they can teach us about patience, understanding, and creativity.

Blessed are the hungry who use food banks and meal programs, for they can reveal the abundance from God for all to share.

Blessed are those without adequate housing, for they can remind us of the prophets' calls for justice.

Blessed are the essential workers, for they can model sacrificial love in service.