

MINISTER'S REPORT

December 13, 2017

Submitted by Rev Leila Currie

Happy New Year, Everyone. December was a very full month with the thrift store anniversary, turkey supper, advent services and extra services prior to Christmas. In the midst of the frigid temperatures over the Christmas season, I feel it was wise to have made the decision to not hold services on the first Sunday after Christmas, as we have done in former years. I, personally am thankful for the extra time to spend with my family, even though I was on call during the time I was away, and was able to respond to calls and emails from "afar".

Services have resumed their natural rhythm. We are now in the lectionary year B, as we follow the same rotation of scriptures and liturgical years with all mainline churches.

Extra Services included the Service of Light on December 19, and Christmas Eve Service. I was very happy to have had so many willing people to help with both of these services.

We never know how we will affect another with a word of welcome, a song, a reading, or simply a smile. Our hospitality is so important and reflective of our dedication to the teachings of the Way of Jesus.

Here are some of the highlights of the past 4 weeks for me.

Meetings

Thrift Store: January 3

Ministerial: January 9 – there were no new developments to discuss, other than my plans to change pastoral relations. Much of our time was spent holding in prayer some of the concerns and celebrations of our community and congregations.

Centre Street Thrift Store: I am there when possible. This is a place where I am able to meet with people to chat, as well as with gather with volunteers. I am ever-grateful for the work that is done in this place – for our church and community.

Pastoral Care: as needed. Made some calls to inform folks about our Service of Light. Also made some other calls and emails. There are some who are unable to attend church activities that I will be meeting with before I leave.

I am happy to report that Linda Quashnick will be joining the Pastoral Care team. I plan to supply some resources for prayers and presence for all who are willing to accompany the people in their time of need.

Other Church Events: Our caroling night turned out to be a bust as only three people showed up. This is a rather "organic" event in the midst of all the busyness of the season. We had a nice visit, then went home.

Wider Community: Food Bank Review Board (this position has terminated now with my upcoming departure)

Wider Church:

Presbytery Rep for Delia

Consort Joint Search Committee: I continue to serve as the Presbytery Rep for Consort JSC.

Funerals:

Rayford Johnstone – January 6

Met with Archie Williams to plan Laura's service on January 13

Upcoming:

January 15-16 days off. January 17-23 vacation (I will be away from Jan 15-23)

As I prepare to leave this pastoral charge, I am open to answer any questions (to the best of my ability) that folks may have regarding the life and work of the church, as well as provide resources as I am able.

