Jan's Journal

Welcome to the fifth Sunday of the Season of Easter as we continue to explore the "I Am" statements of Jesus.

This Sunday, you are invited to come to the Library following worship for "Going Deeper." This is an opportunity to discuss worship themes, scripture passages and sermons which you have heard during the month of April. Bring your questions or your "Aha" moments!

I hope that you have enjoyed Earth Day and Earth Week, and perhaps have spent some time pondering the overwhelming amount of harmful plastics which are accumulating in our landfills and the alarming presence of micro plastic fibres which are accumulating in our air, waterways, and indeed, in our own bodies. This week, global representatives have been meeting in Ottawa to discuss a United Nations agreement to address the world's plastic pollution crisis. The delegates are working to develop a legally binding treaty agreement that would curb the use of plastics and limit the use of toxic chemicals in plastic production. They have committed to reaching an agreement before the end of 2024. Let us pray that they will be successful!

The Fresh Start Session on Tuesday evening was interesting and thought provoking. Thank you to all those who attended. As we plan a vision of the future for East Plains, we were asked to prioritize these questions:

Who are we?

Who is our neighbour?

What is God calling us to do?

I invite you to spend some time considering those questions. I am interested in hearing your thoughts!

I will be away between April 30th and May 6th. I am going to Halifax to attend Convocation. I will receive a Master of Arts in Theology and Religious Studies on Saturday, May 4th at 11 am, Atlantic time, which is 10 am in Burlington. The Convocation service will be live -streamed. In case you are interested in watching, I will ask Kent to send the link to you, as soon as it is posted.

However, I do understand if you are busy assisting with garden clean-up on the church property at that time!

The Affirm Team will lead the worship service on May 5th. Please try to attend, as there will be several guests from Grace United, Burlington, who will reflect upon their congregation's experinces after becoming an Affirming community of faith earlier this year. The Affirm Team will also provide refreshments (recognising May birthdays and Anniversaries) following worship. This will give you an opportunity to speak to the representatives of the Grace United Affirm Team.

During my absence, Reverend Harold Wells has very kindly agreed to be available for any urgent pastoral care needs. Please see the announcement in the Bulletin for contact information.

You can reach me at: revjanmcc@gmail.com or on my cell phone: 905-630-8202.

Blessings,

Pastor Jan