

Hello Mayfair United Church congregants and friends.

Your Council met on May 21 2020 and one of the topics discussed was the ongoing closure of the church building during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. At that time there was no option from the province in regards to in person worship. Since then the province has given us guidelines to help accommodate in person worship and the list of rules that need to be followed. We held another meeting June 3rd 2020 with Rev. Shelly Manley-Tannis, Molly Jordan (trustee), Sandra Simpson (worship) and myself Glen Booker (chair of council) in order to review and discuss the implications of the new provincial recommendations along with the current recommendations from the General Council of the United Church of Canada, a letter from our Executive Minister, and a letter from the Living Skies Regional Council. Members of your council have also been attending zoom meetings with the region discussing how to ease back into in person worship.

At this time we will be following the strong recommendations of the Living Skies Regional Council "that communities of faith remain closed while maintaining worship and gathering on-line as possible." This is due to our desire to protect the vulnerable amongst us and not put anyone at risk. The complexity of Health Authority regulations will not allow anyone to enjoy the experience of worship as several aspects of what we love about being together are not allowed and many volunteers would be needed to adequately follow all the regulations.

We will be keeping Mayfair United Church building closed to all but our staff. All business needs with the church staff need to occur virtually through mail, telephone, email or other electronic means. Please remember that we have a duty to keep them safe as well. We will continue offering online worship services and, as in the past few months, other virtual activities may also occur.

Council has been meeting virtually regularly and will continue to do so, especially as we monitor what is happening in regards to the Covid-19 pandemic, regulations that affect us, and the recommendations from the General and Regional Councils. We will reassess building use and worship plans at the beginning of September 2020 and will communicate more information as it is available.

Stay safe, yours in Christ,
Glen Booker Chair of Council Mayfair United Church

