

## Warm Wishes from St. Paul's Presbyterian this Easter

Sending this message with so much love and big "virtual" hugs wishing your family goodness during this time. We miss you ALL dearly and can not wait until we can get together again soon!

We know these times can have their lonely moments and we are all craving some normalcy!!

Sometimes in life, we have these tough moments as opportunities for God to show us his grace.

He is calling us to rely on him to answer our prayers – to ask him:

"GOD, please show me your strength. I really need to know you are here with me right now and have a plan for my life. Please show me the way. Please provide me reassurance of hope that everything is going to be ok."

Wishing many blessings to you and your family this Easter. Hopefully, this will be one of the last holidays with restrictions!





## EASTER MESSAGE FROM REV. SAMER KANDALAFT

Once again, we approach a very special time of the year in which we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We know that Easter can be challenging to go through without being able to gather with family and friends and worship at St. Paul's on Easter Sunday. However, an Easter in a pandemic time does not mean a hopeless Easter.

In the Gospel of John chapter 16: 33, Jesus warned his disciples and us that "in this

world you will have trouble," which He then followed with words of hope and encouragement: "But take heart; I have overcome the world".

We live in a broken world where everything calls us toward hopelessness and depression. As Christians, we are promised suffering, trials, and troubles of various kinds. But we are never left alone or without hope.

As you celebrate Easter this year, remember the sacrifice made by our Lord Jesus Christ and his unconditional love for us. Remember Christ's empty tomb which is the sign of his victory and our hope for eternal life. Easter reminds us that hope must never be lost for as dark as the road may seem, there always lies light at the end of it, there is always hope for a new day.

As your Interim Moderator and on behalf of St. Paul's Session, I would like to express our deepest appreciation for your love and support to St. Paul's mission and ministry at this unusual challenging time of a global pandemic, and I wish you and yours a very blessed Easter. The Lord is Risen! Alleluia!

Rev. Samer Kandalaft, Interim Moderator

#### CHURCH REOPENING NEWS

With recent COVID reports potentially putting us back in the red zone, we have made the difficult decision to remain closed for the safety of our members. The plan is to reopen on Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, if it is safe to do so.

We are incredibly grateful to Samer who continues to share his weekly online sermons to bring the good message to our homes. These are posted weekly on the website at <a href="mailto:presbyterian-winchester.ca">presbyterian-winchester.ca</a>. If you are not currently on the weekly email list and would like to be added, please send an email to Heather at heatherpemberton@icloud.com.

We know some of our congregation members do not have email or a computer. If you would like to learn which bible topics we are covering each week, please call Jen Feeny at 613-220-3126 to be added to this weekly call list. She will share this information with you to complete your private bible study at home.

### ANNUAL CONGREGRATIONAL MEETING - MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>

We are planning the annual congregational meeting on Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>. If this meeting will be postponed due to COVID closures, you will be notified. The annual report will be available for download on the website. If you require a printed copy, please contact Jen Feeny at 613-220-3126. Communion will also be held during this service.

# SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNIVERSARY SERVICE - JUNE $6^{TH}$

We are looking forward to an anniversary service on June 6<sup>th</sup> with Rev Bruce Kemp as our guest speaker. We are also planning something special to honour his retirement. This will be reserved for the Winchester congregation only to limit crowds. Save the date!!

#### UPCOMING CHURCH REPAIRS

During a recent inspection we have discovered that our West side turret needs replacing. We replaced the East side turret in 2015 which cost \$35,000, with insurance covering 50%. We are currently gathering quotes for the cost to replace the current damage.

Included is an offering envelope if you wish to enclose a donation in support of the turret project. This can then be mailed to Box 897, Winchester, ON, KOC 2KO.



treasurer@presbyterian-winchester.ca or on the website on the "donate" tab.

We greatly appreciate any contributions!

Donations can also be sent by e-transfer to

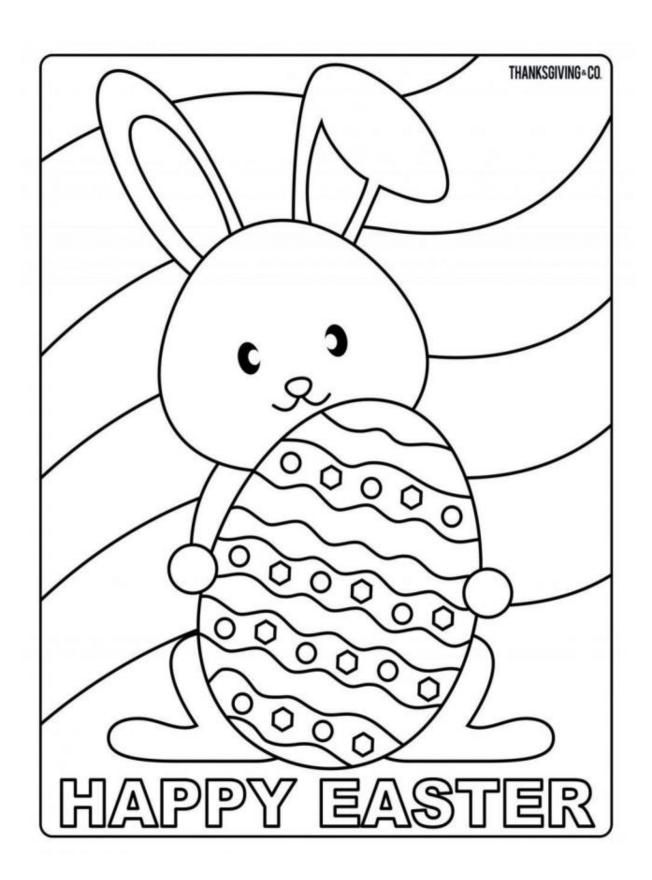
### THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE CHURCH



We want to say **THANK YOU** to everyone who has sent donations to the church during this closure by e-transfer, online donation, PAR or mailed cheque/cash donation!! This has helped cover the expenses we incur monthly for ministry and church operations.

If you would like to be part of monthly giving to the church by pre-authorized remittance, please contact Phyllis at macmaster@persona.ca or 613-774-5748.

> May today there be peace within. May you trust you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you use the gifts that you have received. Let this message settle into your heart and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. **AMFN**



# 2021 ST PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR

April St Paul's Presbyterian Church will be closed for month of April April 1 Maundy Thursday Virtual Service and Communion – Join St Paul's Presbyterian Church in Kemptville for this Online Service  April 2 Good Friday – Join St Paul's Presbyterian Church in Kemptville for Online Service  May 2 Return to Worship at St Paul's 10 am with Communion and 11 am Annual Meeting  May 9 Mother's Day  May 20 St Paul's Session Meeting 6:30 pm at Church  May 24 Victoria Day  June 6 Anniversary Sunday for St Paul's 10 am Guest Speaker Rev Bruce Kemp followed by Appreciation Event for Rev Bruce  June 6 to 9 Virtual General Assembly  June 20 Father's Day  June 27 Morewood Presbyterian Church Anniversary 11 am  July 1 Canada Day  July 4 Mission Awareness Sunday at St Paul's 10 am Worship Leaders Kathy Spruit and Phyllis MacMaster  August 2 Civic Holiday  September 6 Labour Day  September 6 Labour Day  September 28 St Andrews, Chesterville Anniversary Service 11 am  October 3 World Communion Day and Communion at St Paul's 10 am  October 11 Thanksgiving Day  November 7 Daylight Savings Ends  November 12 Remembrance Day  November 28 1st Sunday of Advent – Hope  December 5 2nd Sunday of Advent – Peace and Communion at St Paul's  December 12 3rd Sunday of Advent – Joy  December 13 New Year's Eve  January 1, 2022 Happy New Year						
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