

### Minister's Ponderings:

Occasionally I come across a poem or a quote that speaks an inner truth to me and resonates with a spiritual connection. Today I want to share this with you.

#### **"Praying with Open Eyes"**

**By Ralph Waldo Emerson**

Never lose an opportunity  
of seeing anything that is beautiful  
For beauty is God's handwriting – a wayside sacrament.

Welcome it in every fair face,  
In every fair sky,  
In every fair flower,  
And thank God for it  
As a cup of blessing.

### Worship:

This Sunday we are welcoming back Shaun McIntosh, from our own congregation, as a Guest Preacher. He is currently studying at Emmanuel Theological College while discerning whether to become a minister. This term, he is taking a Homiletics course which is a course on preaching. This is a class assignment to preach and we are so happy to have him as our worship leader this coming Sunday. Be sure to join us.



To worship with us, visit our website at [www.stpaulsmidland.org](http://www.stpaulsmidland.org) and use the direct YouTube link at the top of the page, or simply go to YouTube and subscribe to our channel. Just type in "St. Paul's Midland" and you will find us. If you are on Facebook, you can get St. Paul's updates that way as well. Check us out on both our new website and FaceBook.

### St. Paul's Zoom Coffee Hour:

The next ZOOM Coffee Hour will be **Sunday February 13, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.** We invite you all to join. You can use the same link as before:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89969004401>



## Congregational News/Updates:

Our condolences go out to the Martin Family on the passing of Alan Martin, father of **Rob Martin**. Alan was an area Chartered Accountant involved in local politics and sang in the Serenata choir.

Condolences also go out to Helen's French's family, on the passing of her granddaughter Cheryl's husband, Scott MacCannell. Please keep both these families in your prayers.

## Annual Report:

A reminder to all committee chairs that Annual reports are due to the church office by January 31, 2022. Please e-mail your reports to [stpaulsunited@rogers.com](mailto:stpaulsunited@rogers.com) by that date. Thank you.

## The Official Board Meeting:

This is a reminder that the Official Board meets this coming Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

## Theological Studies Group invites you to join us on Wed. February 2nd at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom for our Winter Session:

The Theological Studies Group has decided to study Thomas King's, "The Inconvenient Indian: A Curious Account of Native People in North America." This award-winning book is "Fascinating, often hilarious, and always devastatingly truthful". For those who wish to better understand Native peoples, it is a "must-read".

The Winnipeg Free Press writes "King is a master of offbeat wit and sharp comment...He presents history with a candour and honesty rarely found... absolutely brilliant."

As we continue to walk the path of reconciliation anyone interested is invited to join us for great conversations and honest opinions in this group. You will need to purchase the book or get it from the library or a friend. Let Karen know you want to join us for the discussion the following week so she can send you a Zoom link.

## God's Mission Our Gifts - Amazing News! Thank You!!!



Since the pandemic struck, congregations have helped raise over \$500,000 in emergency gifts to support Mission & Service partners. Your generosity helps deliver personal protective equipment, distribute food, install sanitation stations, and support education programs.

What's more, through our **Gifts with Vision**, we have

provided over 8,360 full vaccinations to those who need them most across the globe.  
**Altogether, that's over \$750,000 in COVID relief. Amazing!**

Once again this year, your local region (Shining Waters) will receive \$240,000 to support Mission & Service partners near you. From coast to coast, our partners are helping record numbers of families in need. Your generosity through Mission & Service is providing shelter to Canadians without homes, serving nutritious meals to families struggling to make ends meet, offering critical pastoral care in hospitals and schools, extending life-changing education and job training opportunities. Thank you!

## Blessings everyone,



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