

Greetings,

Who could have guessed that our Lenten journey would be such a challenge as we deal with uncertainty? These are the new realities created by the COVID-19 virus, and an involuntary fast from social contact, as well as the absence of our beloved minister, Rev. Lynda.

We continue to receive your inquiries regarding her health and well-being, and questions about when she may be expected to return. Regretfully we cannot provide answers to those questions at this time. With respect to how the United Church handles medical leave, it is normal that information is confidential. It is also normal that a minister on medical leave of absence will not be checking email, taking calls or responding to requests for pastoral care. While we are all concerned about Rev. Lynda's health and well-being, we must respect her privacy and we ask you for your patience.

We are very grateful to Ralph Taylor and Paul Vavasour for leading us in worship and providing pastoral care in Lynda's absence and thanks to Susan Shantz for leading Bible Study. May I also add my thanks to Helen MacGregor for enabling us to transmit worship services via our website [<http://www.kemptvilleunitedchurch.org/>].

Probably the most helpful thing that we can do for Rev. Lynda at this time is to hold her in our thoughts and prayers with love and kindness. And while we are doing that, let's remember the medical practitioners, front line workers and all those who are helping us deal with the uncertainty we are facing today.

On behalf of the Executive Board Chairs and members, thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Respectfully

Emile Lajoie
Chair
St. John's Executive Board