



2060 Dundas Street East, London, Ontario N5V 1R2
Telephone 519-451-7780
The Rev. Canon June Hough, Rector
Email: office@ascensionlondon.com
Website: www.ascensionlondon.com

Dear Members of Ascension

The COVID-19 pandemic is showing us the value of family, friends, and communities. Many of us are keeping in touch through phone and social media. Rev. June, Jordan Murray, Philip Templeton and a small cast and crew are producing weekly Sunday worship services, and Rev. Jim is providing daily Evening Prayer, all keeping us focused on our faith and trust in God. June is also available at 226-448-3790 for phone support during this difficult time.

As our clergy respond to our spiritual health, we as a congregation need to respond to the financial health of our church. We have ongoing expenses (salaries, utilities, apportionment, etc.), which are met from regular donations, especially now that major fundraisers have been cancelled or postponed and rentals have stopped. Fortunately, many people have moved to pre-authorized monthly donations, and others are sending their offerings by mail or Interac e-transfer. This is a huge help. However, the regular weekly envelope collection at church is also an important part of how we pay our bills, and these have slipped as we have been unable to gather for worship.

The Diocese of Huron has been working with parish church treasurers to forecast upcoming revenue and expenses. As you can imagine, this is not easy to do. The range for Ascension extends from break-even to \$12,000 in the red. The diocese will also be assisting with applications for the federal government's wage subsidy, but we are uncertain whether we qualify and, even if so, when the money would flow.

Remember also, there are people in our community who do not have a lot of resources to weather this situation, especially those who rely on our Community Breakfast and other agencies in London. We have recently been able to help Youth Opportunities Unlimited by giving them some of the gloves we have for kitchen use so that their staff can continue to serve homeless youth safely. Our church doors may not be open, but our hearts are. Our donations allow us to be active in the community, living the example of Jesus in taking care of those in need.

If you normally make donations when you attend services, and if you are currently able to continue your support, please consider one of these options:

- Mail a cheque (not cash) to the church, where mail is being delivered and essential banking is being done:
Church of the Ascension
2060 Dundas St.
London, ON
N5V 1R2
- Make an Interac e-transfer through your online banking to office@ascensionlondon.com.
- Sign up for pre-authorized givings. Contact our church treasurer, Bill McKinstry, at either 226-224-0222 or mck728@mac.com and he will guide you through the process.

It is not what happens, but it is how we respond that is important. Love God, and love our neighbours.

With prayers for everyone's health and safety, your Executive Team,

Rev. Canon June Hough
Churchwardens Russ Braley and Mary Grant
Deputy Churchwardens Sandra Coulson and Steve Holmes
Treasurer Bill McKinstry