

DAYSRING DAYBOOK

Monthly Newsletter of Dayspring Presbyterian Church, 11445-40 Ave, Edmonton, AB, CAN, T6J 0R4

June 2020

AT WORSHIP AND WORK VIA ZOOM Connect

It is now more than three months since most of us have been in the Dayspring Church building. The exceptions include our minister, our admin assistant and several willing workers who have scrubbed the building down and lifted the pews out of their places in the sanctuary so that the floor can be cleaned. Also, the members of the craft group have gathered, at safe distance from one another, on the concrete apron at the entrance to the Great Room.

What a blessing **ZOOM** has been (although some might have uttered a few choice words when trying to make it work for them).

When it became apparent, in early March, that the Dayspring church building was not going to be the home of our community of faith and care for a while, some of us got together and figured out how to use **ZOOM** for worship and for the maintenance of community. Some of us had experience using **ZOOM**. Most were newbies.

The first worship service was very simple. Gradually we added music and other features. Meantime, those of our members who are educators were developing their skills in using **ZOOM** for their teaching and others were using **ZOOM** for other kinds of work. This workplace experience “rubbed off” on our use of **ZOOM** as a congregation.

However, we were also surrounded by a “cloud of witnesses.”

The communications team at PCC church offices, developed, and published, at the **PCC website**, several resource documents for the use of congregations that were broadcasting worship and doing other things via the internet.

The very existence of the internet and of relatively inexpensive computers and mobile devices (phones & tablets) has been critical.

There were numerous posts on the **PCC FaceBook page**, with discussion regarding equipment and choice of medium or platform. One of the participants was particularly helpful because they had had considerable experience using **ZOOM** for church-related educational events. Before long, a FaceBook group called **ZOOM Faith** was started with the specific focus of offering opportunity for resource sharing about how best to use **ZOOM** in worship, faith development, and service.

We may not be able to be together “in the flesh” - but we are learning how to be together in ways that keep each other and the people of the wider community safe.



Quote of the Month

Necessity is the parent of invention. A need or problem encourages creative efforts to meet the need or solve the problem.

- Plato in The Republic

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Coming to the End of a Journey ???

March 15, 2020: Are we still in the Negev desert? We arrived at a forest. It is a post stamp size but still a forest. We decided that it is the perfect place to camp for the night. The next morning we had an even bigger surprise. Around us were olive tree orchards and a huge orchard of some kind of nut tree, wheat fields and field mustard. It is unbelievable how green everything is. The field mustard looks like canola. The locals says that within 2 months from now everything will change to brown. We had a close encounter with 2 dogs. They live next to the trail and I saw them coming from a house which was about 100 meters away. They came straight for me. Cornelius picked up stones and only after he started throwing them they backed up a bit. When our US friends got to the same spot the dogs attacked them and bit the younger guy, Mike. There was a hole in the back of his pants. When we arrived at Kibbutz Har Amasa they offered us water but said that we cannot sleep there due to the Covid 19 warnings. We walked the 7 km to the Forester hut to find that they were also closed. We did get water from them and decided to camp next to the Forester hut in the field.

March 16, 2020: We were walking through forests. It was easy walking. There were quite a few nomad people watching over their sheep that reminded us of King David. Avi, the manager at the Lahav Kibbutz allowed us sleep at the kibbutz after we assured him that we are not sick. It was so nice to have a shower and a real bed. Avi was fluent in English and he told us lots of interesting stories. We received the news that the Israeli government was planning on a lock down within a few days and people would not be allowed outside their homes. We were unsure what to do at this stage.

March 17, 2020: Our walk today was through a nature reserve. They are very strict and protective of the flowers. You are only allowed to walk on the trail. Part of the path was on the ruins of the WW2 railway and bridge. There was a restaurant on the farm a few years ago but now they allow hikers to sleep on their property. It rained dogs and cats during the night.

March 18, 2020: This morning after heavy rain we were feeling helpless. We were cold and every-



thing was wet. We phoned the Canadian embassy in Tel Aviv about 20 times without being able to get hold of anyone. Our US friends, father and son, also spend the night at the farm. The father could speak Hebrew. He knew somebody that knew somebody else and managed to get the 4 of us a ride to the bus stop that goes to Tel Aviv. Our feet were muddy and wet. We put plastic bags over our shoes before we could get into the car. Once we were in the bus and already driving a few kilometres I realized that the side of the bus where you put your luggage in was still open. Of course the bus driver did not understand English. Luckily Paul, the dad, could ask him to stop and check to see that our bags were still inside the bus. When we arrived in Tel Aviv we walked the 6 km to the Canadian embassy but it was closed and nobody was available to assist us. It was still bitterly cold and windy. We were feeling helpless but Cornelius started making arrangements for us to return to Canada. There were no direct flights to Canada available. We booked the first available flight via the US to Toronto and hoped that the borders would not be closed before we arrived.

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FROM OUR MINISTER:

Summer is here

Summer is here..., with a different spin!

Isn't there a pleasant sound to the whole notion of summer's arrival? While summer is here, isn't it tough to be extra cautious on these nice warm days?

While we approach this season of summer with so much more caution, it's easy for us to develop a feeling of resentment over the many things we wish we could have done. I know it's the case for me and I can only imagine it's so for many of us.

How do I manage my emotions? How do I keep them from spiralling in a negative direction? There's some good advice from the writer of Proverbs: *"Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life"* (Proverbs 4:23, New Living Translation). When a level of discontent takes hold of our lives, this guarding of the heart seem to be paramount to our wellbeing.

Now how do I guard my heart? Perhaps a bit of gratitude could pave the way for hope and optimism. Many of us would have loved to do a roadtrip, gone to a cabin, and perhaps that's possible. On the other hand, it could be beyond all possibilities. There could be more losses than we can stomach. Where have our health, our jobs, our school and family connections gone?

What do we do when summer community events, sports, even serving opportunities, have been diminished, depleted or dumped entirely?

When there is more hurt than we can handle, how do we "get over it." I don't think it's easy at all. Perhaps we can try this — as there are ways to declare each day, three things for which we are thankful, because it is gratitude that changes things, it changes me. It makes me present, and it gives me hope.



A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Heinrich". The script is cursive and fluid.

What I Love about the Masks

Is they are a visible indication
Of an internal decision to protect,
to guard,
to say your safety is more im-
portant
than my lipstick
or even my smile.

What I love about six feet apart
is that I see you
and I honor the space you may
need
to remain whole,
to celebrate the next milestone,
to feel my reverence
at your very being.

What I love about staying home
is that your unvarnished face
has become more beautiful.
Your presence,
the never deserved,
but always welcomed
declaration of a Good creation.

May all of this distance
be a drawing near.
That I may guard your soul
as I guard the droplets flying from
my mouth.
May this distance
create a sacred seat in my soul,
always awaiting your arrival.

Another child of Grace
seeking wholeness,
finding a little more peace,
knowing your blinding glory.

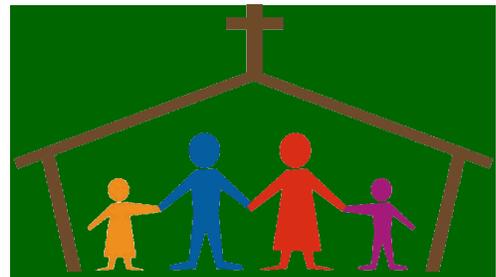
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blog/2020/5/21/what-i-love-about-the-
masks](https://www.jennywarner.com/blog/2020/5/21/what-i-love-about-the-masks)

The End of the Journey (continued from page 2)

March 19, 2020: We stayed in a hostel in Tel Aviv. We were the only people and the owner was very friendly. Then we started on our journey home. Our biggest hurdle was at the train station. In Israel they have security similar to the airports. The security lady did not want us to go in at the station. She had so many questions and wanted to know if we needed to be in quarantine. Luckily we were in Israel more than 14 days. She took our entry visas and gave it to a guy. My eyes did not leave that guy for a second. He was running around and asking different people questions. Of course we did not understand a word of Hebrew and could not really follow what was the problem. I think nobody had an answer for him and he gave our visas back and let us through without even scanning our bags. The rest of the trip was without problems. We were not stopped or tested anywhere. We were relieved and thankful when the plane landed in Edmonton. My daughter had packed our car with food and water for 14 days so we could spend the quarantine period at the lake property.

This was a trip that we will not forget. We did just more than 400 kilometres and hope to continue next year to complete our hike to Dan. There are still 600 kilometres left to walk.

Susara & Cornelius



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DayBook Deadlines

3rd Sunday of September, October
and June

2nd Sunday of November, December,
January, February, March, April,
and May

SESSION

Moderator: Heinrich Grosskopf

Session Clerk: Gina Kottke

Deputy Clerk: Iris Routledge

Roll Clerk: Jim Jeatt

Other Elders

Hostensia Bineba (on leave)	Sam Malayang
Bill Davis	Samuel Mforteh
Jane de Caen	Jan Ray Moncada
Darlene Eerkes	Nick Nation
Peter Eerkes	Laura Patterson- Fortin
Carina Grosskopf	Todd Shipman
Ransford Kusi- Menkah	Heather Tansem Mary Waugh

MINISTER

The Rev. Dr. Heinrich Grosskopf

CHURCH STAFF

Church School Coordinator: Lynn
Vaughan

Youth Coordinator: Saúl Carvajal

Worship Arts Coordinator
Gordon McCrostie, B.Mus., M.T.S.

Pianist: Binaifer (Binu) Kapadia, B.Mus.

Alternate Pianist
Darolyn McCrostie, B.Mus., P.D.A.D.
(Education)

Administrative Assistant: Linda

Custodian: Jim