



## The Lighter Side of Social Distancing



*You may think you can hide, but God knows exactly what you are doing during Zoom church.*

## Formation of a "Back-to-Church Committee"

During Tuesday's Council meeting a "Back to Church Committee" was formed to start planning our return to church in compliance with the Ontario Government's three phase Roadmap to Recovery and United Church guidelines. While the road to back to church appears to be lengthy, we can take heart that a dedicated team has been assembled to make recommendations to the Council as we move forward. If you have ideas or suggestions as we travel to the new, please feel free to contact any committee member.

Your "Back-to-Church Committee" members are:

**Robert Lawson**  
Pastor

**Bill Outred**  
Music Minister

**Brian McDonald**  
Council Chair

**Marleene Kretchman**  
Chair of Pastoral Care

**Janet Hamilton**  
Chair of Worship

**Marian McDonald**  
Chair of Ministry & Personnel

**Jim Bradley**  
Chair of Finance & Property

**Trudy Pickersgill**  
Healthcare Consultant

**Dr Ron Dowd**  
Healthcare Consultant



## Zoom Update

Last Sunday, many of you experienced the "Zoom Outage" which affected thousands of churches across North America. Zoom believes that it has things from its end now fixed, and we are praying that everyone will be able to hear and see this Sunday's service.

That being said, Zoom has updated its platform a number of times during the pandemic, and highly suggests that all users taking part in Zoom meetings use its most recent version.

Before Sunday's service, please visit [zoom.us/download](https://zoom.us/download) and click on the button that says Zoom Client for Meetings, and follow the prompts that appear on your screen to make sure that the version of Zoom you are using is current.

## Staying Connected

### Connect With Your Pastor

If you wish to talk to Robert, you can easily reach him by phone at: (226) 920-6218, or at [rlawson@vaxxine.com](mailto:rlawson@vaxxine.com).

### Connect With Your Church

Every day Patrice checks voice messages left at (905) 892-6433 and emails sent to [fonthilu@vaxxine.com](mailto:fonthilu@vaxxine.com).

### Friday Morning Zoom Coffee Hour

Connect with each other every Friday morning during this time of Social Distancing, for coffee, conversation, and, occasionally some theological reflection. If you are feeling the need for some face-to-face time, this meeting is for you.

### Sunday Morning Zoom Church

Connect with God's presence in our midst, every Sunday at 9:30 am with music, scripture, prayer and reflection.



## NEW

### Fonthill Online Book Club

"We read to know that we are not alone," said C.S. Lewis, author of *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Although meeting people is hard with social distancing, through books we can connect with characters and their stories in magical ways. Fonthill United will be having an online summer book club in July and August. Stay tuned for details!

## Boredom

When Elijah heard the silence, there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

This week while waiting to get into Shopper's, a couple told me about their difficulty keeping their children entertained during this time of isolation.

"They are bored," said the father.

"Climbing the curtains," said the mother.

I asked them, "Are you bored as well? Are you climbing the curtains?"

The father replied, "Well, our lives are just so much smaller now," and the mother said, "It is hard to face the way that our lives have shrunk."

The small world we now inhabit is something we all struggle with. Before the Pandemic, the number of ways we could distract ourselves was dizzying: shopping; dining out; going to the gym, library or church; visiting friends and family; getting a haircut or visiting a spa; going to a concert, sports event, movie or market. And, if all this was not enough and we really needed some excitement, we could travel.

All changed, changed utterly. Now the bright, shiny things we can distract ourselves with are few and far between. Picking up fish and chips on Friday night at the Legion is about as exciting as it gets. No wonder we want to climb the curtains!

The prophet Elijah spent most of his life in the public eye as a critic of Ahab and Jezebel. His life was full of excitement, including a kind of 'Celebrity Chef' cook-off with the priests of Baal. When Elijah was forced to flee to the mountains and his life became smaller, it was a difficult time for him as well. He kept trying to entertain himself with the natural disasters around him: the great winds that he saw splitting mountains and breaking rocks, the mighty earthquakes, and the brilliant fires.

Only when Elijah could face the silence – the reality of his drastically reduced circumstances – was he able to encounter the "still, small voice" of God that he needed to comfort him, and help him work out the purpose of his new life.

In our suddenly smaller world, with fewer distractions, boredom is a temptation. But if we are able to notice what abides in this stillness – love, nature, pattern, beauty, commitment and spirit – then what may seem to be boring, may become a source of gentle wonder.

Indeed, if, in the stillness, we can, like Elijah, hear God's voice whispering, "What are you doing here?" we might just discover the sense of purpose we are seeking for the new, smaller lives we are living.

~Pastor Robert Lawson

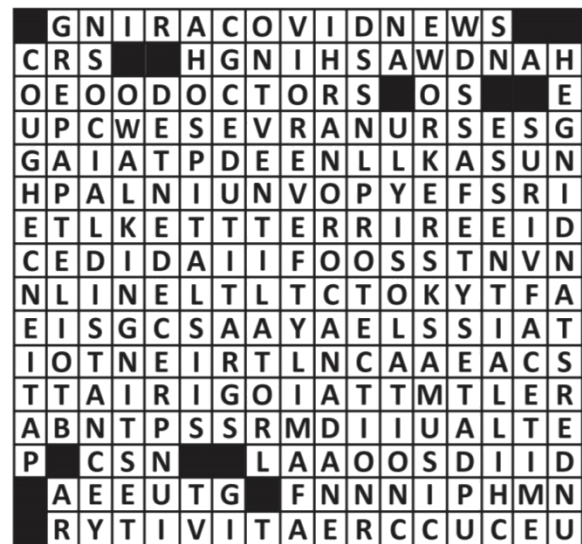


## Covid Word Search

created by Faye Barrett

Circle the letters of each of the clue words found below. Words can run horizontal, vertical, backwards and diagonally. Some letters will overlap with more than one word.

You will end up with 14 letters which you can place on the first line of blanks. Rearrange these letters to spell the special Covid message



- |                    |                   |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. CORONA          | 12. FEVER         | 23. PATIENCE      |
| 2. VIRUS           | 13. CHILL         | 24. UNDERSTANDING |
| 3. NURSES          | 14. RESPIRATORY   | 25. UPDATES       |
| 4. DOCTORS         | 15. VENTILATOR    | 26. WALKING       |
| 5. ESSENTIAL       | 16. HOSPITALS     | 27. COUGH         |
| 6. WORKERS         | 17. UNPRECEDENTED | 28. GRATITUDE     |
| 7. ISOLATION       | 18. MUSIC         | 29. FACETIME      |
| 8. SOCIAL DISTANCE | 19. CREATIVITY    | 30. SAFETY        |
| 9. HAND WASHING    | 20. FAMILY        | 31. PROTECTION    |
| 10. MASKS          | 21. CARING        | 32. O CANADA      |
| 11. TOILET PAPER   | 22. COVID NEWS    |                   |

LETTERS REMAINING:

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SPECIAL COVID MESSAGE:

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