

GROUP 1

Ste. Genevieve UC

- ORA Loss and Living Program – providing space for conversations about grief, loss and hope

St. James UC

- MCM
- Interfaith Council – library

Summerlea UC

- Wider community
- Syrian refugee a few years ago with other groups – Mosque shooting – strong alliance with local mosque
- Food distribution in community
- Local community needs as they arise

Cedar Park UC

- Economically resilient area of city
- Hidden food insecurity amongst seniors – especially last 6 months
- TQSOI community organization – also housing insecurity
- Spiritual development - first within and then beyond
- How we position ourselves as unapologetically affirming communities of faith
- Biblical resources for education
- Relook at own identity and ability to offer resources
- “So you want to talk about race” book group

Mountainside UC

- Sold building wondering how much longer to continue there or where next
- Online meditation
- Geographical boundaries less important these days

GROUP 2

Waterville-North Hatley PC

- before COVID they did a Friday night free supper for students and meals on wheels - great way to reach out and meet the needs of the local community in a practical way.

Laurentian Area Ministry

- in the Lachute area they do work with the Rehab Center that is for people released from prison as well as Christmas Baskets and Care for the community

SouthWest UC

- work with Manna food bank for their food drives

Ste. Genevieve UC

- ORA Loss and Living Program and Spiritual Care Giving with VON

Trinity-Anjou UC

- food in places of need as well as Spirituality development on line and work with Transgender Christians and the Bible.

Kanesatake UC

- translation of the Bible into Mohawk and the great importance of this piece of work.

GROUP 3

Ayers Cliff-Georgeville-Magog PC

- A phone tree to provide individual support for members and those loosely connected with the community and friends of the church community.
- An outdoor foodbank on the steps of the church in the early stages of Covid-19 to help people bridge through the initial weeks

- Paniers de Noël are now also done for Pâques as well ... this year, coupons were offered to avoid direct contact and allow people more choice, and also as a way to better understand the needs of families by what was purchased. The amounts were forwarded to the grocery store in advance, and then the store offered an itemization of purchases to help better clarify the needs.
- Beulah United rang its church bells at noon every day for several months (I think until the fall)
- Both Beulah United and St Paul's rang their bells as asked by the provincial government during the Mar 11 commemoration service in Quebec City.
- Beulah and St Paul's also decorated their front doors with signs of hope and encouragement for Thanksgiving and Christmas

Église Unie St. Pierre-Pinguet

- Much outreach is done on Zoom.
- "La Parole sur la pouce" on Friday is very popular, drawing people from all over, including from Europe
- Gérald Doré offered workshops on Zoom prior to Covid-19
- Denis Fortin does a lot with the ACA (Association Chrétienne pour l'abolition de la torture) on line
- The Church continues its involvement in ROJEP with a focus on non-violent action
- Paniers de Noël done in partnership with Chalmers-Wesley UC

Mountainside UC

- Mountainside continues its on-line courses on Tuesday mornings; most recently one on "the History of the Church" offered by Timothy Johnson; Next course will be on the Gospel of Mark.
- There is also a group of meditation on Tuesday afternoons.

Ulverton-South Durham-Trenholm PC

- Sending letters to members as "les lettres d'espoir" to encourage people during the pandemic

Riverside UC

- Continued groups on Zoom
- Confirmation preparation with 3 adolescents participating

GROUP 4

Lennoxville UC, Montreal DIO, Wesley UC, Greenfield Park UC, Merging Waters PC, Saint Columba House

- Working on welcoming new influx of refugees
- Trying to keep our community together, moving to online is a huge shift. Those who have no technology, we make calls to read the bulletin and chat
- Similar, working to remain in contact with our congregation. Better participation in online forums than we had in person for Sunday worship. Lesson learned to create this new way to connect with those who can't be with us physically. Challenge is fundraisers. Busier now than in person. Kept us vital as a community that we can contribute in a meaningful way to our community.
- Pandemic crisis has made us realize how insular we have become - Advent we put a 6-foot-tall Christmas tree but community was decorating as well. Fun to do this in community
- the question we need to ask ourselves is What is the thing you have started doing during the pandemic that you don't want to stop doing?
- 52 mother tongues spoken, looking for multilingual volunteers and volunteers for food programs that have quadrupled due to the pandemic

GROUP 5

Saint James UC

- Reimagining their ministry in conjunction with Montreal City Mission
- Tiny urban forest for the community
- Regular support for the community, e.g. helping the homeless

Roxboro UC

- Weekly Celtic meditation: prayer, reading and reflection, Buddhist singing bowl
- Worship resources online
- Financial support for Saint Columba House
- Plan to start social justice action in the community

St Columba by-the-Lake Presbyterian

- Accepts full suggested donation to Presbyterians Sharing
- Donations to a half dozen local organizations included in the annual budget
- Food ministry: monthly community suppers, food bowl event, new tenant Corbeille de pain/Bread Basket

Ormstown-Howick-Franklin PC

- They have struggled with this, something they need to work on
- However, they do provide some support to the local community

GROUP 6

- making use of technology and retired ministers, which has allowed for this community to stay together and worship.
- Using a Lenten calendar, everyday question to answer, and if you can answer positively to the questions, you would add a financial donation. This is a way for expanding reflection during lent.
- Staying connected with other communities; even in the happenstance of not being able to connect with ones own usual community.
- White gifts – financial donations offered instead of physical gifts – to a woman's shelter.
- Continuing to give financial gifts to various organizations (especially during time of pandemic).

GROUP 7

Ste-Genevieve

- Active outreach programs online through ORA and challenges faced through the pandemic, looking at getting guest minister, and student ministers to share the space for their learning.

Cedar Park

- things continue to go on fully, outreach on online, food ministers, small group and discussion group ministries, took time to renovate sanctuary into community space/labyrinth, people missing the in-person stuff, do they keep online ministry when able to be back in person.

Roxboro

- began edge process to continue use of building for meetings/get togethers, the size of the building is attractive to the wider community and keeping in touch with community groups

Laurentian Area Ministry

- new minister just began March 1 – have met many nice people through office work, meditation, exercises midweek, fundraising efforts, bible study online, etc. Have found ways to stay in touch by phone/zoom and studies/discussion groups going on.
- Many agree not going into building until after vaccines are more plentiful, keeping online services while having in person still

United Eaton Valley PC

- phone calls to members of congregations, cupcake ministry to wider community and church community, weekly written reflections for the churches that are regular mailed, emailed, and physical copies that can be picked up by people.