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Trinitarian People

“For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them.” Matthew 18:20

Greetings from your Community Wellness Co-Ordinator!

Since beginning in this role on September 1, 2019, one of my main priorities has been creating and providing programs and events that overcome ‘social isolation.’ Bringing people together over coffee, or boardgames, to watch a movie or theatrical presentation, around a common interest such as pole walking – this has been the heart of my ministry with you. Building relationships and fostering connections have been my goals. I could never have imagined after six months, facing such a challenge as the entire world being encouraged to create ‘social distance.’

We are social creatures – pack animals – created, in God’s trinitarian image to be in relationship with others. Which makes the recommendation for self-isolation even more difficult to bear.

How do we manage to stay engaged and connected with one another in such a time as this?

I am heartened to hear of the many ways people are staying ‘in touch’ without touching, ranging from the newest super technology of Zoom meetings, to more old-fashioned methods such as making personal phone calls and handwriting cards. We are all learning to navigate the balance between old and new methods, and finding creative new ways to connect. I heard of a Spanish aerobics instructor teaching classes from a rooftop as participants exercised on their balconies! Elsewhere, one son sits outside the window of his elderly father’s nursing home each day as they chat on the phone – still able to see each other’s facial expressions.

Volunteers are buying groceries and dropping them on the doorsteps of those in isolation, while parents are generously sharing tips online on how to keep housebound children entertained.

My fear initially, was that ‘social distancing’ might become the norm, or worse yet, an excuse to isolate ourselves from our neighbours and those who are different. What I am delighted to be seeing instead, is that this virus is revealing to us all, just how closely connected we actually are.

May we continue to reach out to one another in ways that are healthy, creative and life-giving, and in doing so, may we experience between us and among us, the presence of Christ!

Grace to you, and peace,

Elise

*"Our relationship with God and each other strengthens us, and helps make the world a better place.
We welcome and include **everyone** into congregational life."*