

I think the phrase, “people don’t go to church, people are the church” is extremely relevant in the Covid-19 world in which we are living. We literally can’t “go to church” on Sunday mornings these days, but we can be the church! Another phrase I’ve been using a lot for the last year or so is, “Ministry is all about relationships!” Investing in Relationships is one of the priorities of the CBWC, and now is our time to figure out how to be relational and still be responsible with social distancing. I’m so impressed that on such short notice last week many of our congregations were able to put their services online. It was the first time I’ve ever visited 5 CBWC church services on the same Sunday morning. And already churches are improving their technology for this Sunday and have started hosting virtual small group gatherings. Church looks different. The pastoral role looks different. But that’s okay, because we know that God is still in control and we can lean on Him even when nothing else seems constant.

We’re in a unique time, with wonderful opportunities. Turn the tech geeks loose from your congregation and let them shine. Allow the creative thinkers to come up with new ways to connect and support your neighbours. Let the prayer warriors assure each person that they are being brought before God regularly and help your pastors to know that you are willing to be resourced in ways you never thought possible. The people are the church; ministry is all about relationships; God is in control. May we not shrink back or be anxious, but in faith may we be available to serve Him and our communities in new and creative ways, and may the church be stretched in the process!

And if you are going stir crazy in your homes, fill this inbox covid@cbwc.ca with selfies! Just be warned, they may appear in other publications!

And check out www.cbwc.ca for a weekly updated list of resources to help you with your creative thinking!

We are in it together, keep well,

Rob