

(May use as an insert page in bulletin)

Does this describe someone you know?

A retired woman enjoys being with children. Her grandchildren don't live in the area, so contact time is limited. Yes, they talk on Skype, and that helps, but there is still a desire to have direct contact with children. She keeps busy doing interesting things, but the desire for child contact continues.

What is God inviting her to do?

- volunteer in a local school
- help with Big Sisters
- help in the local Community Centre after school program
- lead a Girl Guide group
- teach Sunday School
- other _____

A man in his early 30's has a demanding job. He feels the weight of needing to support his young family. Most of his time seems to be spent sitting at a desk, with a phone and computer, or driving. He is recognizing that his life is not balanced, and that he needs to do something active outside of his work place and his home. What might God be inviting this person to do?

- join a sports team
- get a ticket to the local gym
- volunteer to coach a young soccer team, one that his son can join.
- lead activities for the local youth group in the church
- other _____

This person has been leading the Altar Guild for a long time – perhaps 20 years. It is working very well. Everyone in the group knows their job, and does it well. She has noticed that gradually the work with the Altar Guild is not as much fun as it used to be. It is becoming more of a job and no longer a joy. But, as everyone tells her, she does it very well. "We count on you to take care of us." She wonders who else would do it? Nobody is stepping forward and offering to take over. What might God be inviting this woman to do?

- resign from the altar guild, with an offer to answer questions a new person may have

- try something new – join a community quilting group (not a church group)
- join a contemplative prayer group
- join a sports team
- commit to go walking every day with a friend
- other _____

A man wants to be involved in his church. He has always led the Men's Group. He is a member of "the Book Club", has been asked to be a Greeter on Sundays, and is the person they call when something needs fixing immediately. Living his faith is very important to him. Recently his wife was diagnosed as having a form of dementia. She is at home, but needs supervision. She does things like put the kettle on the stove, and then walk away forgetting it is there. What might God be inviting this man to do?

- take care of his wife, knowing she is loved by God regardless of her mental abilities
- join a support group for caregivers
- Is he to ask for help from the community – perhaps a day care program
- admit his own limitations, and help her make the transitions into a care facility
- give up all his connections with his faith community
- other _____

What about you? What dreams or activities excite you? Often the desires within us are planted there by our God. In honouring them, we honour God. What might God be inviting you to explore, to try, to do? How might you encourage others to acknowledge their dreams, and try something new or if what they are currently doing is their dream, to celebrate that?

William J. Toms once said, "Be careful how you live. You may be the only Bible some person ever reads." If we all stay within church buildings, there is no Bible available to many people in our neighbourhoods.