

NEVADA—(phone) Bob Bardeen reported that they are still having services in the sanctuary. Pews are roped off so that no one can congregate in a group. Masks are required of all participants. They are also providing a ZOOM opportunity for those who want to participate from home. They send the link out by e-mail and snail mail for those who do not have e-mail. Attendance has increased over the past few weeks for both in-person and ZOOM. Everyone seems to be fairly upbeat about the way things are going.

WILLARD—I attended the session meeting of 1/19/21. John Nipper is helping the session with their MIF, and expects to have it ready for the March COM meeting. Greg Esselman is still moderating the session.

John Nipper has been filling the pulpit since the beginning of Advent, and said he will continue until Easter. He is more than ready to retire, but doesn't want to leave the church in a lurch.

I told him that human nature is such that they won't make any move as long as he is there, so he needs to be firm and let them know his intentions. He said he will take that into consideration.

GOLDEN CITY—(phone) Christine Ianucilli has been the supply pastor for 11 years. She has recently retired as hospital chaplain. Her compensation has not increased from the \$150/week that has been in place for a few years.

She asked for the \$1500/year CE allotment, but the church balked. It sounded to me like it was a case of "sticker shock", so I suggested that she re-approach the session with asking if they would be willing to reimburse her for any CE opportunities that she may take. If she gave a typical case scenario of like "\$75 for the event plus mileage" they might be able to see more clearly. She appreciated the suggestion and said she will approach the session again.

She is quite happy with the church and doesn't want money to be an issue. So, I need to step in to see what I can do to help. However, the session only meets quarterly. Though we discussed a special called meeting, we both decided that may not be wise at this time. I will just take the time to get to know them before trying to push for anything.

She is wanting to spend more time in the community since she lives there. She mentioned to the session about looking into some sort of evangelism opportunity, but only got a "deer-in-the-headlights" look in return. They said, "No."

I suggested that she might re-phrase that and cast it as an opportunity for church growth. She liked that approach and said she would try it.

At their session meeting this month, they decided to not offer Communion. They only offer the sacrament quarterly as it is, but they couldn't find a work-around for our current situation in the pandemic.

I suggested the individual communion cups, and she thought that was a great idea. She did not know of their existence.

They have about 13-15 in attendance for Sunday service with all the necessary protocols in place for the pandemic. She is considering starting a Sunday School class.

The church is involved in community outreach, but due to the aging population of the church, they are only providing monetary assistance to different agencies.

Before the next session meeting, I will ask that a financial statement be ready for me to study.

I am holding my hand out for a knuckle slap, but I still have not been able to complete the exit interview with John Becker.