

Pastoral Letter

TO THE MEMBERS AND ADHERENTS OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

Another year is past, and there is much cause for gratitude in the retrospect. During the terrible epidemic which brought death and sadness into so many homes in this city our Congregation was mercifully spared. With a complete immunity from the disease ourselves, we were enabled to give our sympathy and our help to the sufferers.

There has been a steady and encouraging growth in every department of our congregational life. Our members have increased, and there has been more than a proportional increase of active workers. The services on Sunday have been largely and regularly attended, and I earnestly pray that these are bearing fruit in deepening Christian life and increasing Christian charity. The most discouraging feature in our review of the year's work is the smallness of the attendance at our Wednesday evening services. This is at least one of the pulses, and not the least significant, by which we must judge of the spiritual health of the Congregation.

Will you kindly take this matter into your most earnest consideration, and do what you think right by your minister, your fellow-members, your children, your companions, and your own souls. Is it not well, if not absolutely needful, for us unitedly to acknowledge Christ and ask His help in the midst of our week-day life and work and temptations?

The steady increase of our Young Men's Association cheers me greatly. I delight in our Sunday morning meetings, and wish many more would come to join us. I hope ere long to be able to report that as an Association we have taken up some practical Christian work.

I acknowledge with sincere thanks the aid and encouragement given to me by the Elders and Trustees and the varied Christian workers in the different departments of our activity.

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