



News for the Pews

The Newsletter for Wasaga Beach Community Presbyterian Church
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September, 2017



Barry's Blog

There's Still Time!

"I wish I had more time!"

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. Ecc.3:1

"Where has the time gone?"
"There are just not enough hours in the day." Have you ever found yourself thinking or saying these things? Of course you have... we all have... Many things cause us to consider the concept of time... the changing of the seasons, (*where did the Summer go?*), a new school year, life events, etc.



Time comes and time goes... But, what are we to do with this gift of time? How do we best steward this precious commodity? These are the questions we ask at certain times of life. What are we to make of time and its passage? How are you approaching a new season, whether it is a season of the year or a new season of life? Do you look forward to fresh possibilities and renewed potential? Or do you cling to the familiarity of the past? Whether we like it or not, time pushes us forward. Our future stretches out before us like a blank sheet of paper. How will you approach it?

Ecclesiastes eloquently proclaims that there is a time to be born and a time to die, a time to make peace and a time to make war, a time to laugh and a time to cry. For everything under heaven there is just the right time. Beautiful thought. But all this talk about the right time is preceded in Ecclesiastes chapter 2 by a not-so-beautiful thought: And only God knows when that right time is... There is just the right time for this, and the right time for that, but you'll never know the time! God just doesn't keep time the way we keep time.

There are times, when we're waiting on God to do something for us, when God seems to take forever. And there are times when God is waiting on us to do something, when, (thank God) God seems to give us more time. In my experience, God rarely hurries. There are times in my life that I have had to wait a long time... And that's hard, especially when you are suffering, or needing an answer, or waiting for a loved one to come home. We want God to act now!

But... sometimes divine tardiness is a blessing. Jesus tells this story about a tree that ought to be cut down. Yet a servant pleads, "*Master, give it some more time.*" (Luke 13:6-9) And that's grace, especially when you have yet to bear the good fruit that God wants you to bear... or when you have not yet come to blossom into what you were created to be. In such times, God's delay is God's gift. **There's still time!** I think that this is what Jesus was doing in this parable, to try to get us to think more deeply about the gift of time and how to be wise stewards of that gift. And there's a profound message of grace in that for us...

The reality is that... We do ignore things, neglect things, we put things off... we put off maintaining contact with that friend we haven't talked to in a while... we put off reaching out to that family member that we haven't spoken to forever... we put off doing the things that we need to do... we resist making that change in our life that we know we need to make... and we get to a point in life where we feel it's too late... "*I've blown it!*", and we end up feeling like we've missed our chance. And the word of grace comes to us and says:

"You haven't missed your chance. There's still time! And there's forgiveness in that, there's grace in that, that can set us free. Despite what we've ever done, or not done, it sets us free to live as fully as we can, into this moment right now...



Blessings, Rev. Barry Doner





to so many of you who have continued to carry out the work of the church throughout the summer...
God's work is never done!

- ⊗ to Larry Herron and Alex Boyter who organized the volunteers for parking cars on our lot during the four long weekends, plus the Bike weekend, too. The weather did not cooperate but it was still a worthwhile project.
- ⊗ to Marie Henry for organizing the trunk sale, to Elizabeth Gibson and Ivy Wilson for their private yard sale and to everyone who participated by donating or working or purchasing at one or the other. (P S. My husband is not allowed to comment on any of my future purchases, following his shopping spree!)
- ⊗ to the Visioning Team under the guidance of Rev. Barry and Terry Densmore. They have kept us focused and informed via the many meetings and workshops as we draw closer to our goal of expansion.
- ⊗ to Randall Corbett for availing us of his expertise and stump removal machinery and to the team who have worked to clear the brush, remove the logs, kill the poison ivy. This will give us more parking spaces and enhance the green spaces on our property.
- ⊗ to all of the individuals who came faithfully each Sunday to fulfill the duties of Greeters, counters, sound and power point technicians, minister assists, song leaders, Sunday School teachers, coffee hour staff, decorators of sanctuary and meeting room.
- ⊗ -to the Creative Hands group who have met on Wednesday afternoons from 1-3pm all summer. Many have worked on crafts at home, too. If you wish to join come along and bring your ideas or learn something new.
- ⊗ to Val Stinson who took over the Vista programme from Toots Arnold, who, over the several years she operated it, collected \$2000-\$3000 a year for our church general account. If you haven't tried the plan, talk to Val and find

out how you can help, since the percentages we earn all are based on the groceries, clothing and dining out that we do every week.

- ⊗ to Sue Henderson who assumed the role of custodian upon Andrew Hunt's retirement (well done Andrew during those many years). We can all pitch in to help lighten the load by assisting Sue with set-up and clean-up following events in our busy and growing church.
- ⊗ to Judy Bryans for keeping our calendar updated and our potlucks running smoothly.
- ⊗ to the Basingers and everyone who contributes toward the Youth Centre programme. The young people really enjoyed the summer BBQs.
- ⊗ to Ruth Currie for her musical leadership each Sunday as well as the many tasks (Bulletin production, tickets, posters, phone relays, plus any other requests from committees). And she still has time to tease Rev. Barry!
- ⊗ to Flora Marie for the many cards of encouragement and condolence that she had to send this summer. We have not been the healthiest of congregations, but we are turning over a new leaf this autumn.
- ⊗ to Doreen Playter our very patient editor of the newsletter. Although the submissions are sometimes late, she always produces a colourful and informative issue.
- ⊗ to Rev. Barry who, despite his busy schedule, finds time to visit us in hospital, at home and in his office. Through his great sermons, he leads us, his little flock, in search of the green pastures that can lead to a better life lived with grace, hope and trust. God bless you and your family Rev. Barry.

It is amazing that all of these projects and church events happened when many of us still took time for family and friends as well as for some holidays at home and abroad. Some people even found time to get married!

What a team!



Important Date! Sunday September 17th

On this Sunday, Rev. Dr. Herb Gale will be speaking at our worship service and will be conducting a workshop/seminar after lunch. He will be addressing such topics as Stewardship, Generous Giving, and Capital Campaigns as we move toward our expansion. Dr. Gale is former Moderator of the PCC as well as the former Director of Stewardship/Planned Giving within our denomination.



Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend this important day in the life of our congregation!

Mini. Golf outing Sunday Sept. 10 at 2pm

Join us for a game of mini golf at Pedro's on Mosley and First St. Sign-up sheet is in the meeting room.



Last year about 40 adults and children joined in...golfed, laughed, won some great prizes and returned to the church for a potluck dinner (with beef on a bun by resident chef Lois). This is basically the format for this year. If you have some wacky prizes to donate, see Sue or Marilyn. Some of the prizes, we think, are being regifted from previous years.

Meat Pies (Turkey and Beef) Project. October 3



By mid- September look for sign-up sheets in the meeting room for placement of orders and volunteers for the various jobs. Please consider how you can help:

- ✓ Making the fillings - 4 people,
- ✓ filling the shells, topping, crimping, etc
- ✓ Labelling bags, filling bags, storing bags
- ✓ Filling orders

Remember "Many hands make light labour."
There will be a meeting in September to lay out the schedules etc.

Ontario Presbyterian Chorus

Presents the gospel message through the singing of the Psalms, traditional gospel songs, and other music portraying our Christian faith.



Sunday, October 1, 2017 at 7 p.m.

There will be a reception following the concert. We are looking for volunteers to help to plan this reception.

Benefit Concert



Wow! The concert was a sellout.

The profit from the sale of tickets was \$1350.00 with \$320.00 (25%) going to the Treblemakers Choir and \$1030.00 (75%) going to our church expansion fund.

Thank you to The team who made it happen!

- to Ruth Currie for preparing posters, tickets, announcements, phone calls to churches
- to John McCartney for publicity through newspapers, radio
- to Richard Muir for advertising on the church website
- Lois and Marilyn for ticket sales
- to Joan Bowyer, Joan Cunningham and Yvonne Ruscoe for organizing the reception
- to Sue Henderson and the choir members for set-up and take down
- to Bob Bowyer, Alex, John and Ken Cunningham for assisting with clean-up and setup in the sanctuary.
- to John, Alex and Larry for manning the parking lot
- to Rev. Barry and Penelope for their radio interview and hosting the evening
- to Lois and Sylvia for assistance with receiving the attendees.
- to Heather Bostock and Elizabeth McNabb for greeting
- to everyone who contributed their time, money and treats to make the concert a wonderful experience for all
- to Richard and Penelope for sharing their talents with us thereby bringing joy as well as financial benefits to our congregation. Great team effort and wonderful suggestion from Penelope.

September

2017

Wasaga Beach Community Presbyterian Church

Rev. Barry Doner

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Parking
3 Service 9:30 am Tea & social following service Parking	4 Parking	5 Treblemakers Choir 6:45 pm	6 Creative Hands 1-3 pm	7	8 Calorie Counters 9 to 10:30 am	9
10 Service 9:30 am Mini putt at Pedros at 2 pm Pot luck following at the church	11 Youth Centre dinner	12 Treblemakers Choir 6:45 pm Congregational Life 9:30 am	13 Waterside Service 10:30 am Creative Hands 1-3 pm	14	15 Calorie Counters 9 to 10:30 am	16
17 Service 9:30 am Herb Gale speaker luncheon following and workshop	18	19 Treblemakers Choir 6:45 pm	20 Creative Hands 1-3 pm Corn Roast and BBQ 6:00	21 Board of Managers 6:30 pm	22 Calorie Counters 9 to 10:30 am	23
24 Service 9:30 am Tea & social following service	25 Session at 7 pm	26 Treblemakers Choir 6:45 pm	27 Creative Hands 1-3 pm	28	29 Calorie Counters 9 to 10:30 am	30
1 Ont. Presbyterian Chorus Concert 7 pm						