



# News for the Pews

The Newsletter for Wasaga Beach Community Presbyterian Church  
Editor: Doreen Playter  
Email: doreenplayter@hotmail.com



January, 2018



## Barry's Blog

### **Are You Ready for Something New?**

Most of us look forward to Christmas with joy and anticipation. Then, almost too quickly, the New Year abruptly arrives only a week later. How do you view the coming year? Do you look forward to fresh possibilities and renewed potential? Or do you cling to the familiarity of the past year? Whether we like it or not, time pushes us forward. The New Year stretches before us like a blank sheet of paper. Why not take advantage of the clean slate the New Year provides and set some goals to work toward? As you set goals, be willing to take steps out of your comfort zone.

Someone has said, "***No one can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending***". The idea is that we don't start over; but we begin again right where we are, making things new in our lives. Thanks to Christmas, we all end the year with new things—new toys for the kids, new clothes, new pounds on our bodies. We start the year off with new things, too—a new calendar on the wall, new bills to pay, and new resolutions for the days ahead. Everybody likes new things, including God who says, "***Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!***" (Isaiah 43:19) God begins His book with the story of His creating a new world; He ends it with His plans to make a new heaven and new earth.

***"No one can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending".***

God wants to do new things in our lives. He wants to teach us new truths about Himself, provide new opportunities for ministering to others, take us to a deeper place in our relationship with him. But too often we are like the Israelites when

they were traveling in the wilderness. God promised to provide for them by giving them bread from heaven six days a week. He instructed them to gather only enough manna for each day, except for the day before the Sabbath when they were allowed to store up two days' worth. When some of the people disobeyed and tried to hoard extra manna, it became rotten by the next morning.

I'm like that sometimes. God wants to do new, fresh things in my life and in my ministry. But often I try to hold on to yesterday's stale manna. I don't want to let go of what is comfortable and familiar—same old way of thinking, a certain way of doing things, my usual area of serving in the church and the community. I may miss new and exciting things God has planned for me if I don't open myself up to new opportunities, even if those opportunities might take me down unfamiliar paths.

A good way to celebrate the New Year is to let go of anything that has gone stale or rotten. Then we'll be free to live each day expecting new, fresh things from the one who promises, "***I am making everything new!***" (Rev.21:5) What new things might await you in 2018? What new things await us as a congregation? Are you ready for something new? I don't know about you... but I can't wait!

Blessings,  
Rev. Barry Doner



## CHRISTMAS ANGELS Christmas Tree Angel Project



Starr Scott and I would like to thank everyone who participated in the 2017 Christmas Angels project by taking an Angel and purchasing a gift for someone less fortunate. All of the Angels were taken and the gifts were all returned by December 10th as we requested so that we could distribute them before Christmas. You have helped to make someone's Christmas a little bit merrier! This is a wonderful outreach ministry. God bless you all!

Heather Bostock, co-project leader 2017 Christmas Angels Project.

## New Support Group:

We have begun a new group here at our church.



*This is an opportunity for those who are struggling with grief, loneliness, or a sense of loss in any way to come together and connect. Come and enjoy a coffee, conversation and community. This group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 6:30 - 8pm.*

*We would love to have you join us.*

## January 2018

### Wasaga Beach Community Presbyterian Church

Rev. Barry Doner  
208 Mosley St, Wasaga Beach ON L9Z 2K1  
705-429-1461



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Creative Hands 1-3 pm	4	5 Calorie Counters 8:45 am	6
7 Service 9:30 am Tea & social following service	8 Exercise for seniors 1 to 2 pm Youth centre dinner	9 Congregational Life 9:30 am Exercise for seniors 1 to 2 pm Treblemakers 6:45 pm	10 Waterside Service 10:30 am Creative Hands 1-3 pm	11 Support Group 6:30	12 Calorie Counters 8:45am	13
14 Memorial Candlelight Service 9:30 am Tea & social	15 Exercise for seniors 1 to 2 pm	16 Exercise for seniors 1 to 2 pm Treblemakers 6:45 pm	17 Creative Hands 1-3 pm Robert Burns Pot Luck 6 pm	18 Board of Managers 6:30 pm	19 Calorie Counters 8:45am	20
21 Service 9:30 am Tea & social following service	22 Exercise for seniors 1 to 2 pm Session 7 pm	23 Exercise for seniors 1 to 2 pm Treblemakers 6:45 pm	24 Creative Hands 1-3 pm	25 Support Group 6:30	26 Calorie Counters 8:45am	27
28 Service 9:30 am Tea & social following service	29 Exercise for seniors 1 to 2 pm	30 Exercise for seniors 1 to 2 pm Treblemakers 6:45 pm	31 Creative Hands 1-3 pm			