



News for the Pews

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



July 2021



Barry's Blog

Summer Sabbath Time

The old Porgy and Bess tune that declares, "*Summertime, and the livin' is easy*", no doubt was written when life was so much different than what it is now. If you're like most people, you are hoping that summer will be a time to kick back and relax a little, but maybe you're afraid that it will end up like most other summers with lots to do and flying past far too quickly. Isn't summer supposed to be footloose and fancy-free? What happened to sleeping in and time to rest and unwind? Are relaxing summer days merely a thing of the past?

Now, it seems like the summer can instead be filled with days when the kids are bored and whiny, plans get cancelled, work interferes with vacation time, the AC goes out, and traffic is horrendous. Days when we lose our patience, harbour a bad attitude, and have had quite enough of family time. Days when we feel powerless against the exhaustion of our busy schedule and stress rules the day.

We all need a break from the busyness of life from time to time. Resting isn't just a good idea, it is, in fact, modelled by both God and Jesus. God rested after six days of creating the universe. God also instituted the Sabbath so that we would get the point that no one can work without a

"Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Matt.11:28

break along the way. Today it seems that we don't have Sabbath days anymore, but merely, Sabbath moments. Even Jesus, with more sermons to preach, more people to heal, and more tasks to accomplish, often went apart to rest a while.

I am not sure why it is that some of us feel guilty or unfulfilled if we are not busy all the time. We wear busyness as a badge of honour... When people ask how we are doing, our common response is, "I'm busy!" Tanks that run on empty all the time soon lack the stamina to cope spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and relationally. It's important to realize that not everything needs to be done—at least not done *right now*. This Summer, it may be more important than ever to sit back with a tall glass of your favourite beverage and contemplate the beauty of God's creation.

So carve out a little Sabbath time this Summer and refresh your heart and spirit with blessedness instead of busyness. And don't worry; the chores will still be there. They aren't going anywhere!

Blessings,

Rev. Barry Doner





Financial Update

As you can imagine, it is a struggle financially for many people, and the same holds true for the church. Currently we are \$5600 below expenses.

THANK YOU to all who have and are contributing each month! We will get through this together.

Dallas Stinson (acting Chair BoM)



Sad News

It is with great sadness that we share the news that Terry Densmore passed away on Wednesday June 23rd. Terry was an Elder in our church, an amazing source of passion, vision, and character, who contributed in many ways to our church here in the Beach. His Serenity Garden continues to this day! He will be deeply missed! Please find his obituary below... Blessings, Rev. Barry

<https://www.mementofuneralchapel.com/obituary/Terry-Densmore>



Celebrations

July Birthdays

Roger Barr, Lois Boyter, Judy Bryans, Joan Clements, Heather Doner, Mavis Hamilton, Flora Marie Johnstone, Sarah Keller,

July Anniversaries

Rev. Barry & Heather Doner
Claude & Mavis Hamilton
Martin & Diane Malcolm
John & Marilyn Schneider
Dallas & Val Stinson



* Blessings to all who are celebrating this month *



Our church garden received a generous gift consisting of two Linden trees and one Magnolia from Mark Crowe, the developer of the Stonebridge community here in Wasaga Beach. In addition, his company provided transportation of the trees from Orangeville as well as two staff members to assist with the planting.



Presbyterians Sharing

Our congregation has planned to donate \$2000 for 2021. At this time, we have raised \$230.00.

It is difficult to hold a fund raiser or project so we must rely on your generosity. If anyone has an idea for a project, please let us know.

Marilyn Schneider



BOOK CLUB:



Books by the Bay Book Club meets – The Last Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Join us as we discuss books from a variety of genres, best sellers, fiction, non-fiction, multicultural, religious and not so much. We will read and discuss books that make you happy, sad, frustrate, challenge and make you think.

This month's book: "Anxious People" by Fredrik Backman (Fictional comedy)

For more information and to sign up to be a part of our discussion please contact Heather Doner 705-429-9963 or by email doner.heather@gmail.com. A Zoom invitation will be given to you for each of our discussion times.



