



Pinegrove United Church
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Website:
www.pinegroveuc.org

Find Us on Facebook



Visit our facebook page.

Pinegrove United Church

New Address?

If you have a new address, please let the church secretary know. Call, email or drop off a change of address card.

Email Listing

If you would like to be added to the Pinegrove email listing, please send your request to Joan Bailey, Communications – bailey@tbaytel.net

Pinegrove Website

For further info about upcoming events, please check out our website:
www.pinegroveuc.org



*Enjoy a wonderful,
fun, and safe summer.*

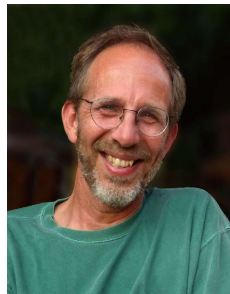


Pinegrove Post

"Reaching Out to Others With God's Love"
Summer 2016 Edition

CAN YOU FEEL IT, TOO?

A message from Pastor Hubert Den Draak



Something unusual happened at our most recent board meeting. Call it some form of... shift. We've had to deal with all kinds of challenges for so long, that we've sort of gotten used to it. If it wasn't one thing, it was sure to be another. But at last week's meeting, we suddenly realized (and celebrated!) that compared to the last 5 or 10 years, Pinegrove is doing pretty good! Okay, so it may not be perfect, but things are definitely looking up.

Could we be experiencing an upswing? Attendance is up. Donations are up. We're seeing more children. Fundraisers are quite successful (and not just financially). Our community events are increasingly popular. But most of all: there's a growing excitement about our ambitious new outreach initiative "Café del Soul".

"Café del Soul" will bring new and different people to our church. No, I'm not talking about Sunday worship, I'm talking about week days. Starting on September 8, we will open our church doors on Thursday afternoons to offer a good, free lunch, good company and a listening ear to folks who are looking for a place to feel welcomed and accepted for who they are. You'd be surprised how many people in our community are looking for just that: an accepting, non-judgmental community.

But "Café del Soul" will be even more than that: there will be live music, and local artists will display their arts and crafts. We'll be bringing together faith, food and the arts. We'll invite other organizations, churches and businesses in our wider rural community to be part of it. And once all that is in place, all we need to do then is to let the Spirit do its work. People will connect, conversations will take place, stories will be shared, there will be laughter and tears, folks will come back and bring others, and most of all: Christ will be present.

Sounds like a lot of work, right? Right! So we applied for special grants, and were very fortunate to receive enough funding to hire someone for 1 day a week to coordinate it all. We found just the right person in Wendy O'Connor, who introduces herself elsewhere in this newsletter. With help from us, Wendy will be connecting with the different rural stakeholders, businesses, politicians, artists, musicians, etc. She will source and coordinate the volunteers, organize the food supply, do publicity and reporting, apply for more funding (because money for this comes from outside), and so on.

That's still a lot of work for a modest part-time job! So let's see what we can do to help make our Café del Soul outreach project a success. Consider putting up posters, or volunteer to help set up or serve, or pick up food, maybe pick up or drop off visitors who need transportation; but most of all: tell others about it and spread the word. And of course you can always chat with Wendy or me if you have any questions, ideas or concerns.

Yes, something good is brewing at Pinegrove. There's a special kind of energy in the air that wasn't there before. Can you feel it, too? I believe it's the Spirit at work, challenging us to go into new territory; it challenging us to live out our mandate to

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Summer Services: 9:30 a.m.

Starting on July 3,
services during the
summer months will
begin at 9:30 a.m.

On September 4,
the service time will
return to 10:30 a.m.

*Be still
and know
that I am
God*
-PSALM 46:10

Picnic in the Park

On Sunday, June 19,
members from
United Churches in
the city and
surrounding area
came together to
worship and have a picnic.
Traditionally this service is
held at Waverley Park in the
north ward, but as it was a
cool and wet day, everything
was moved inside to the gym
at St. Paul's United Church.
About 100 people attended the
event which featured a pirate
theme! Fun activities
throughout the service,
including a treasure hunt,
made for a great experience!



CAN YOU FEEL IT TOO? (continued from page 1)

offer a welcoming, accepting community for all who need it. And with God's help, this will spill over in everything else we do.

Some would call it an upswing; I call it God's Spirit at work. What a great way to start the summer!

In Christ,
Pastor Hubert

SUMMER GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD



Summer is upon us now and Pinegrove continues with services every week at the earlier summer time of 9:30 a.m. which I know some of you really like. Pastor Hubert will be with us all summer as he has indicated he will not be taking holidays until the fall. The Board did talk about whether a Sunday evening casual service might work better in the summer months and the congregation will be asked which they prefer. Give us your feedback.

Don't forget that we still have expenses during the summer so keeping your regular givings really helps us. That's where the PAR opportunity comes in handy as a regular amount is taken from your bank account each month - no worrying about envelopes, having the right amount on hand, etc. Give it some consideration.

Many thanks to Marion Wilson for being our Treasurer for the last year and a half. She is busy training Dale Holland for some of the job and the Finance committee is looking after seeing that the other aspects of the position are covered off as well.

It is exciting to see that the Café del Soul plans are moving ahead. A coordinator has been hired, so watch for things happening soon and volunteer where you would like to be involved.

Enjoy the summer doing all of your favourite things!

Blessings,
Claire Belluz, Chair

ABOUT MYSELF - Wendy O'Connor

Hi everyone! I've been a resident of Oliver-Paipoonge for 10 years, and I never intend to move. The environment here - including the people! - is second to none, and it's a privilege to make my home in this area.

My lifelong work has consistently featured communications - the most recent stint being 5 years with the good folks at City of Thunder Bay as Website Communications Coordinator. Aside from performing communications work for my living, I also write for pleasure, and through the years have been a member of many creative writing groups. An interest in languages adds texture to this, and I consider myself a beginner in French, Swedish and Spanish.

A highlight of my life in Oliver-Paipoonge has been my role in the creation and management of Kakabeka Farmers' Market - along with Jacomyn. I've found the Market to be



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a great place to meet my neighbours, and keep abreast of other news and events in the community. I am also a market vendor, selling plants and fresh veggies from my market garden, "BearHaven."

When time allows, I also indulge my other great interest, music. If I sing too loud beside you, just elbow me!

I greatly look forward to getting to know all of you better through my participation in this congregation, and my new role as Outreach Coordinator of Café del Soul.

SUMMER GREETINGS!

(A farewell message from Christina Stricker.)

In the fall of 2008 I began my journey with the folks of Pinegrove United Church. What an awesome journey it has been for me and I hope at least 'ok' with you!!!
LOL

I have learned so much about the local church, the Wider Church, administria, faith development, supervision strategies, the profession and call of ministry, board management and style, friendship, and perseverance. We have shared many hours together, at meetings, at Worship, in deliberation, and at social events. There has been angst now and then but the overwhelming experience has been one of being part of a vital and faithful community. I have been blessed in participating with you in the various and sundry aspects of church life in the past eight years. And, honestly, I will miss being with you in a regular and 'official' capacity.

Of course some things will be easy to let go of ... long drives in the winter from my home (north of Thunder Bay) to your church home in Rosslyn. And I won't be too sad to say goodbye to my own angst of not always being sure I was providing correct information or processes and maybe innocently misdirecting people sometimes.

June to July is often a time of transition in the Church - many ministers move to new locations. In your case, there has been a change to the Pastoral Relationship due to Hubert's graduation and commissioning as a Diaconal Minister. And this year it is a time of transition in our relationship too. Effective July 1, I will cease to be your Pastoral Charge Supervisor and evolve into being an occasional visitor.

The Congregation of Pinegrove United has continued to be a vital source of spiritual and relational comfort and guidance to its members and to the community of Rosslyn. Your ongoing attention to, and involvement with, the community is admirable and something many other congregations would be proud to claim.

The welcome received at the door is for all who cross the threshold and is warm, caring, open and heartfelt. The Congregation and Board expresses willingness to embrace ideas, to consider alternatives as well as traditions, to examine its role in the wider church, to evaluate the needs of the community in terms programs and ministry, and to maintain your building and grounds to a high degree. The continuing support and care that each member offers to the others is remarkable.

You are a true Family of Faith. I feel quite blessed and honoured to have been able to share this part of your journey as a congregation.

And I gained about fifty pounds due to the Food. I almost forgot to mention that!

May all of you and each of you have a blessed summer, growing into ever more faithful and faith-filled people, serving your community and one another in Christ.

Christina,
Retiring Pastoral Charge Supervisor

A Summer Prayer

*Creator God who breathed
this world into being,
who is discernible within
the harmony of nature,
the perfection
of a butterfly's wing,
the grandeur
of a mountain range,
the soaring eagle
and hummingbird,
thank you for this world
which you have created.
Thank you for summer sun,
which reminds us
that your creative breath
is still alive and active.
Thank you for the warmth of
your love, sustaining this world,
your garden, your creation
rolled into a sphere,
packaged in sunshine,
gift-wrapped in love,
given to us. Thank you.
Amen*

BUY A LETTER CAMPAIGN



Wow!!! Pinegrove folk responded so well to the "buy a letter" campaign for the new Pinegrove road sign. We raised \$626 which fully covered the cost of the letters. The majority of letters "purchased" spelled out the names of spouses, parents, children and grandchildren. Thanks again everyone! It's great when you can put the "fun" in fundraising!

Cauliflower "Potato" Salad

1 med. head of cauliflower
6 hard boiled eggs, peeled and chopped chunky
2 large celery stalks diced
2 green onions, chopped
1/2 c. mayonaise
1/4 c. pickle relish (optional)
1/2 tsp. each of salt and pepper (or season to taste)
1 tsp. of paprika

Directions - Cut cauliflower into flowerets (about 10 cups). In a large saucepan cover cauliflower with water and bring to boil over medium high heat. Boil until tender crisp (about 6 minutes). Drain and rinse under cold water. Put in large bowl and using a knife cut flowerets into bite-sized pieces. (You can also just keep the cauliflower raw - it makes a crunchier salad.) Add chopped eggs, celery, and green onions. Add the mayonaise, relish, salt & pepper and toss gently. Sprinkle with paprika and refrigerate for several hours or overnight. Tastes like potato salad!

Rhubarb Cake

1/2 c. butter (softened)
1 1/2 c. brown sugar
1 beaten egg
2 c. flour
1 Tbsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
1 c. milk
1 tsp. vanilla
1 Tbsp. vinegar
2 1/2 - 3 c. chopped rhubarb

Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease a 9" x 13" pan. Cream butter and sugar together. Add egg and vinegar and stir. Sift dry ingredients together and add to the creamed mixture, alternating with the milk and vanilla. Fold in the rhubarb and pour into the prepared pan. Sprinkle with 1/4 - 1/2 c. white sugar and 1 Tbsp. Cinnamon on top. Bake for 30-40 minutes or until an inserted toothpick comes out clean. This is a very moist and light cake.

GREEN THUMB TEA REPORT

Our Green Thumb Tea, held on Wednesday, May 25th, was a very successful event. Many thanks to all who made this happen by working at the tea, donating to the tea, or supporting it in any way. You made this the success it was, and our profit to date is \$2,915.46. The atmosphere of the tea was welcoming and very enjoyable, due to the friendly faces working it, the lovely decorated church hall and vestibule, the delicious looking baking, the silent auction of beautiful items, the plant sale centres outside and in, and last, but not least, the delicious desserts served. This was another success for our church family, socially and financially. Thank you all.

OUTREACH

FOOD BANKS - Summer is upon us, with this ample rain we are having the gardens should flourish. If you have extra produce, why not donate it to the Rural Cupboard Food bank, or in September bring it to church on our dedication day to the Grow-a-Row Project. All donations go to the RFDA (the regional food distribution association). This organization supplies all food banks, shelters, and soup kitchens in the district including the Rural Cupboard Food Bank.

Don't forget our monthly donations to the Rural Cupboard Food Bank over the summer. This is a lean time for donations received by the organization. Watch your bulletin for the date of collection of donations each month.

JUST A REMINDER - Rural Food Bank does collect Canadian tire money. They use it to buy cleaning products. If you have some just 'hanging around', why not bring it to church and put it in the jar on the Compassion Cupboard in the vestibule.

OLD EYEGLASSES - There is a box on the Compassion Cupboard for old eyeglasses and cases. Just drop them in the box and they will be forwarded to people who send them to needy areas all over the world.



FINANCE

We still are receiving some offering envelopes without numbers, most Sundays. Please make sure your name or number is on your envelope. Why not take a couple of minutes this afternoon and number all the envelopes you have on hand, so you don't have to worry about forgetting on a Sunday morning. We can't credit your offering number if we don't know it's yours!

LOOKING FORWARD ----- SAVE THE DATES!!!

On Friday, September 9, Pinegrove's annual Welcome Back Corn Roast will be held. As we get closer to the day, more detailed information will be available. Watch your email for a reminder in early September.



On Sunday, September 25, there's going to be a concert at Pinegrove. The Great Plains, an awesome husband and wife singing group, Darrel and Saskia, put on an amazing show! Watch for further info, but be sure to mark your calendars....and invite your friends and neighbours to also save the date. Let's see if we can fill the pews and have the rafters ringing! In the meantime, check out their website: <http://www.thegreatplains.ca/>