



# News for the Pews

The Newsletter for Wasaga Beach Community Presbyterian Church  
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April 2024

## Barry's Blog

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*If we want God to speak to us and guide us in a new way, in a we have never seen before, then we need to do what we have never done.*

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If we want God to speak to us and guide us in a new way, in a we have never seen before, then we need to do what we have never done. There are times when God wants to take us to the next level in our spiritual lives, but we hesitate because of fear and uncertainty. The same holds true for churches as well... God wants to take us to a new place, but we fear the unknown. In these moments, we are between two worlds - one in which we understand, and the other that is beyond our comprehension. Instead of launching out in faith, we tend to linger where we feel comfortable and secure. In doing so, we miss the exciting destiny that God has for us. We can never grasp God's future for us, if we are still clinging too tightly to the past. The problem most congregations run into when facing this critical breaking point, is that instead of tapping into the God's power, we depend on our own limited strength, and end up staying right where we are, and not moving anywhere. If we have any vision of seeing God move in new ways in our churches, we must be prepared to step out in faith. God's power is always there for the taking. Sometimes though, the Lord requires us to take the first step of faith and then the resources will be provided. In Indiana Jones & the Last Crusade there is a scene when Indiana's father has been shot and will die if Indy doesn't return with the Holy Grail. On his trek

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through the caverns, he comes to a deep and wide ravine that is between himself and where he needs to go next. It's too far to jump and there's nothing with which to build a bridge. So, he takes a deep breath as he steps in faith off the edge toward the side he needs to get to. He breathes a sigh of relief when he finds himself standing on an invisible bridge connecting the two sides. Are we willing to trust God wholeheartedly to meet us exactly where we are, and trust that God will not let us fall into that deep ravine that lies between where we are where we'd like to go? When Joshua led the Israelites across the river Jordan, the waters did not part until the priests first put their foot in the water. Are we willing to step into the water, even if we don't know where it will lead, or even if we don't have all the answers? The truth is... If we wait until we have all the answers, all the money, every "i" dotted and "t" crossed, then we will never accomplish God's vision for us! After all... If we had it all figured out before we ever took a step, then that wouldn't require much faith at all, would it? If we want God to speak to us and guide us in a new way, in a we have never seen before, then we need to do what we have never done before. And that will require taking that first bold step off the edge, or taking that first step into the water.

Blessings, Rev. Barry Doner



## Financial Update



Thank you for the continued support for the mission of this congregation and our community.

Thank you for remembering the church through your prayers, participation, and financial gifts

Board of Managers – Do you have a gift for finance, maintenance, caretaking, etc. The Board of Managers is seeking people who are passionate about keeping our Church looking great and for maintaining our budgets. Speak with Dallas Stinson

## The Kitchen Party



### A Down home Newfoundland Evening

Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m.

(Limited tickets are available)  
Get your tickets from Nancy Thatcher  
705-888-1703

A big thank you to Dave Williams for organizing this fun evening.

## Wasaga Beach Foodbank and Outreach in our Community

The Wasaga Beach Ministerial Food Bank's Mission Statement is to bring glory to Jesus Christ by using our God-given resources, to provide food and spiritual support to disadvantaged residents in the Wasaga Beach area in a dignified and caring manner.

The Food Bank is open on Tuesdays from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM and Thursdays from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM and 6:30PM-8:30 PM.

Currently in need of: Canned tuna and salmon, Fruit cups, pet food.

## April Showers bring May Flowers

It's time to start thinking about the upcoming clean up of our Community Serenity Garden. It is always such a beautiful place to sit, enjoy God's beauty, or visit our little library. Volunteers are always welcome to help with the garden to prepare it for the upcoming season, from clean up, planting, weeding, watering, etc... Don't have a garden at home or apartment? This is a great way to get out and enjoy the fresh air and the joy of gardening. Please speak with Bonnie Smith or Marilyn Schneider as to how you might help.



## CREATIVE HANDS



Well, this is the news you have all been waiting for. Creative Hands will once again resume meeting at the church in the lower hall as of Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 from 10 a.m. until noon.

We will be knitting and crocheting for mission and starting with the Izzy Dolls. So far, I only have a pattern for knitted dolls, but will continue to look for one for those who crochet. If you knit, or would like to learn to knit, come on out and join our fun. We have been in contact with a soldier from Camp Borden who is willing to take our finished product and make sure it goes with the next group that is deployed and those soldiers will distribute the dolls to children in the area that they serve. Come on out and help us make this project a huge success.  
Nancy Thatcher

## Bible Study

Our Wednesday morning bible study continues to be a popular way to connect, discuss questions of faith and grow in one's relationship to God. The participants who gather together via Zoom have just completed a Lenten study on World Religions. It was informative and sparked great discussion. World Religions discussed were Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Sikhism.



## Books by the Bay Book Club

Meets – The Last Tuesday of each month via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. Join us as we discuss books from a variety of genres. Our discussion is lively and fun! Please plan to join us. Speak with Heather Doner 705-309-6111 for more information.

**This month's book: The Paris Apartment by Lucy Foley**



## From the Media Booth



You can find the links to our upcoming services on our Church webpage, [www.wasagapresbyterian.org](http://www.wasagapresbyterian.org), or through our YouTube channel.

Did you know that we also offer audio and/or livestreaming of services other than our regular Sunday schedule? We can make our resources available for other ceremonies such as weddings, baptisms, celebrations of life...just to name a few. Simply reach out to David Williams for more information.

## Meat Pies and Shepherd Pies

More delicious meat pies and Shepherds pies will be made in April. Remember to stock up on some of these delicious creations for your freezer. More information will be available soon. To help with the assembly of the pies please speak with Nancy Thatcher or Lee Gosse.



Which bird should  
you never let into  
a jewelry store?  
A robin.



RD

Babies born March  
31st are the  
easiest to prank  
on April Fools'...

They were literally  
born yesterday!



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