

## Happy Halloween! & All Saints' Day!



# Halloween (All Hollows Eve) & All Saints' Day

This weekend has two holidays: Halloween and All Saints' Day. History and tradition tell us that these two holidays developed both separately and together. Celebrations of the harvest existed among many cultures,

and the early church held vigils to honor the memory of the saints. As both of these days grew in significance among the faithful, a shared purpose emerged. Either holiday can stand on its own, but each has more to teach us when we look at them together.

#### **Darkness and light**

If you've ever walked out of a movie theatre on a sunny summer afternoon, you know the sun can be "blinding." But on the same day, if you've been at the beach or out in nature all morning, the afternoon sun doesn't seem so bright; same sunshine, different point of comparison. Halloween has a lot of elements that are far from



sacred however, the use of dark colours and creepy masks and the concept of warding off evil is purposeful. There is something to be said for placing a source of light in the darkness, as in the Jack-O-latern. Ann Frank wrote, *"Look at how a single candle can both defy and define the darkness."* All Hollows Eve can be a moment of defying darkness. On the following day traditionally Christians decorated the church in white paraments—the cloths that cover the altar and pulpit—and would often light candles in celebration of the goodness of the souls that have gone on to God in the past year. The brightness of All Saints' Day is even brighter because we lived through the eve of darkness (All Hollows Eve.)

The Bible is fantastic literature because of its vibrant descriptions of events, landscapes, and emotions. The use of darkness—a place of nighttime, sometimes a place of fear and/or pain, and often a place of waiting—is contrasted with the use of lightness —a place of daytime, sometimes a place of vibrant boldness, sometimes a place of peace, and sometimes a place of revelation. It is the light and dark working together that offer us expressions of God's presence in our lives. When we are in the places of fear or pain whether physical, spiritual or both, God is with us, offering us vibrant boldness and peace.

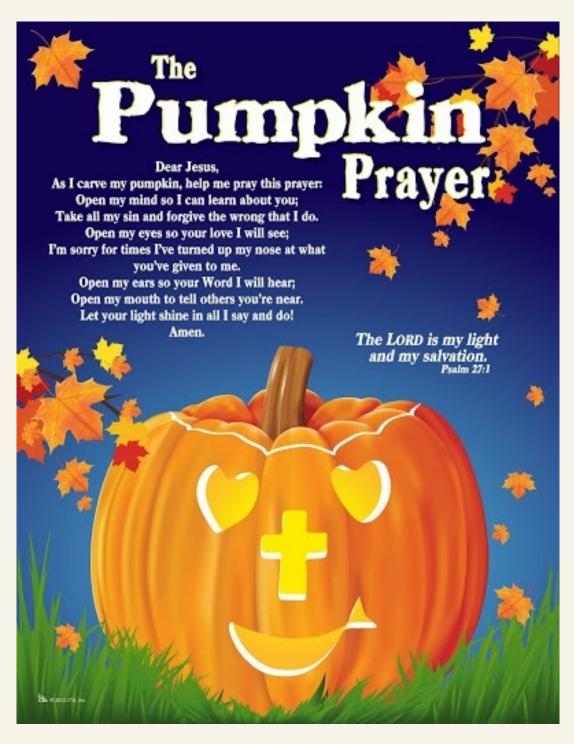
Ponder these two powerful quotes about darkness and light this weekend as we celebrate the fantastic fun & light of Halloween and the honouring of those who have gone before us on All Saints' Day!

"In order for the light to shine so brightly, the darkness must be present."-Francis Bacon.

*"Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."-*Desmond Tutu

May God' peace and light shine forth from your goodness, kindness generosity and warmth!

# P.S. consider carving your pumpkins using the Pumpkin Prayer below!



### **Pumpkin Prayer Intructions**

Dear Jesus, Open my mind so I can learn about You.

As you cut the top of the pumpkin, talk about ways God helps us to learn about God's love, God's creation and God's promises. "Know that the Lord, He is

#### God." (Psalm 100:3)

#### Take all my sin and forgive the wrong things that I do.

Scoop out the inside of the pumpkin to show how God removes our sins (seeds of greed, impatience, jealousy, hatred) and forgives us. God cleanses our hearts and makes us a new creation!

*"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us"*(1 John 1:9) **Open my eyes so Your love I will see.** 

As you carve the eyes in the shape of a hearts, discuss how God's laws are to protect us from harm, and so that we learn to treat others with the same love and protection as God gives us!

*"Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things from your law." (Psalm 119:18) I'm sorry for times I've turned up my nose at what You've given me.* Carve a cross-shaped nose and ask, "What does it mean to turn our nose up at something? 'Turning up our nose' means we don't like it. Sometimes we don't like a certain food or toy or shirt. When we are not thankful and grumble about what we have (or don't have), we have complaining heartrs. But we have been given so much! When we remember that Jesus died on the cross for us, we know that God has given us all we really need."

"...be thankful unto Him, and bless his name." (Psalm 100:4)

**Open my ears so Your word I will hear.** Carve the ears into a rectangle to represent the Bible and ask, "Do your parents ever have to tell you to do something more than once?" Just like our parents, God wants us to listen to the commandments of Jesus. The tells us Bible how much God loves us, how God wants us to live, and how God will help us. *"Incline your ear, and come to Me"* (Isaiah 55:3)

**Open my mouth to tell others You're near.** Carve the mouth into the shape of a fish. Jesus told His disciples that they would no longer catch fish but would instead fish for people by telling them about God's love for them. We can be "fishers of men" and use our mouths to tell others about Jesus, too. "I shall . . . declare the works or the Lord" (Psalm 118:17)

Let Your light shine in all I say and do! Amen. Light a candle and place it inside the pumpkin. The light stands for the Holy Spirit that lives in us. When we are open to God's work in our lives, God will shine through us so others will see God's love in us. Then our friends and family will be drawn to this light and love, too! Jesus said, *"Let your light so shine before all, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."*(Matthew 5:16)

Click here to go to Pumpkin prayer Worship Activities for this Sunday.

**Click here for Pumpkin Prayer print out** 

## Worship



## We continue to welcome everyone back to in person worship!

We are excited to be able to resume our worship services in-person. We invite you to join us weekly by registering through the provided link. We look forward to seeing you soon!

### Please remember registration is required to attend worship

If you register and are unable to attend please call and leave a message on the church voicemail as soon as possible, thanks in advance!

### Click here to go to Registration page.

#### How to register for worship:

1. To register please click the link above or button below. 2. Click the worship service you wish to register for,

fill out the information and submit.

OR

You may also call the church and leave a message on voicemail:please leave your name, your phone number, the number of people you are registering, the date of worship and that you are not experiencing any symptoms related to Covid19.

You have until 6pm on Friday night to register for this Sunday's worship service via this link or by phone.



### Worship Online continues!

Worship online continues, a prerecorded worship service is posted on Facebook each Sunday morning as well as on our website.

Prelude with Rosemary @ 10:45am Worship Service with Rev. Shelly @11am

or worship at your convenience on our website Click here to go to our Worship Videos page

# **Reaching Out**



## **News of Pies & Planters**

Friends,

Much gratitude to all who supported our recent Pie Fundraiser. We have raised over \$1400 for our mission work for local support services.

While we take a breath after making over 130 pies we want you to enjoy the 'fruits' of labour in those pies.

## Breathe in...Breathe out!



# Our next season fundraiser is the 'Festive Planters' project slated to be done on November 13.

We are busy gathering greens, vines etc. We ask everyone to consider donating clean pots -diameter larger than 14in or 37.5cm- to maximum 24in for

this purpose. Also we will accept any outdoor Christmas decor items to adorn the planters. See contact number below for donations.

### Preorders will be accepted til November 10.

We will be making 3 sizes. (Pot measurements are approximate based on supply.) Small (14 to 16in pots) for \$30. Medium (17 to 19in pots) for \$40. Large (20in+) for \$50.

All funds go to support the work and ministry of the church. Make cheques payable to Caradoc Presbyterian Church Ladies Aid.

All arrangements will include a pot, generous various greens, birch branches, colour accent decor with bow. Please state name, contact # (for questions and pick up notification), size and colour accent preference when ordering. Call or text Carol Huston 519 245 9780

or email cahuston61@gmail.com We will notify you on Nov.13th for pick up.

### Also look ahead for a Meat Pie Project in early 2022.

Thank you again for all your generous support.

Caradoc Presbyterian Church Ladies Aid

Lily Carrothers Carol Huston Trish DeRuiter



## Presbyterians Sharing & PWS&D

As we wrap up Presbyterians Sharing Month here's a reminder of the difference between Presbyterians Sharing and PWS&D.

# Presbyterians Sharing supports the overall mission and ministry of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Through **Presbyterians Sharing**, we share in a wide range of ministries in Canada and around the world. Together, we:

- \* help renew and grow congregations
- \* facilitate the development of new ministries
- \* support international mission partners with staff and grants
- \* invest in leadership development
- \* work together to advocate for justice and human rights
- \* walk with Indigenous people on a journey towards reconciliation
- \* encourage, support and equip ministry candidates, clergy and lay leaders ...and so much more!

As we encourage one another and teach about love, faith and hope, we are proclaiming the good news of the Gospel.

# Presbyterian World Service & Development is the development and relief agency of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Gifts to PWS&D are over and above gifts to Presbyterians Sharing.

Through **PWS&D**, we respond internationally to:

- \* ensure families have more and better food to eat
- \* provide aid to those fleeing conflict and disaster
- \* increase access to water, sanitation and health
- \* promote education and economic empowerment
- \* protect refugees and humanrights

PWS&D works with local partners overseas, through membership in ecumenical organizations like Canadian Foodgrains Bank and ACT Alliance, and with the support of the Canadian government for a sustainable, compassionate and just world.



## **Special THANK Offering**

Caradoc Church invites you to donate to our special THANK Offering in stead of bringing non-perishable food or garden items for a fall food drive please consider making a monetary donation. All donations for this special THANK offering will be equally divided between our two local food services, Caring Cupboard & Salvation Army Food bank.

# **Financial Update**



## Financial Summary to End of September 2021

The following provides a summary of our operating income and expenses to the end of September 2021.

- Offering Income \$43,710, plus a CEWS Subsidy \$13,846 (Total \$57,556)
  Interest
- Interest Income \$7,567
- Total Operating

Expenses 2021 \$91,587 Operating 2021 Shortfall to End of September \$26,464 (based on \$91,587-\$57,556-\$7,567=\$26,464)

### Thank you for your generosity through the COVID pandemic period.

Please give as you are able as we aim to have our income cover expenses over the last 3 months of 2021.

Note: CEWS = Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy

### Summary of Funds from Sale of Knox, Komoka

The following provides a brief summary for the Congregation of the funds received from the sale of the Knox Church building.

Total Sale Price \$451,000.00 Legal Fees (inc HST) (- \$1,112.88) Waste Recycling Adjustment (- \$18.41) Realty Fees (inc HST) (- \$20,385.20) Law Society Levy (- \$73.45) Net Funds on Closing \$429,410.06

\* 10% of net sale value to be donated to Presbyterian Ministries (\$42,941) Click here to see the 2020 Annual Report for more details

\* Net Funds are \$386,469.06 (\$375,000 invested in 5 - \$75,000 Investments at Mainstreet Credit Union), with balance of \$11,469.06 added to our General Account)

A detailed report of the Knox Sale will be included in the 2021 Annual Report.

# **Staying Connected**



## Coffee Break Every Wednesday morning at 10am!

Join in conversation with other faith family friends for up to 45 minutes, get caught up, see how people are doing, just pop in and say HI!

If you are interested in joining in for a Zoom Coffee Break please email Rev. Shelly or make a comment in the Coffee Break posts of Facebook by 9 am Wednesday mornings so that Rev. Shelly can send you an invite to Caradoc Coffee Break. (rev.shelly@caradocpresbyterian.ca)



## Zoom Choir

Zoom Choir will started again Thursday October 21, 7:30-8:15 pm

Zoom Choir is a time for us to meet, see each others faces, enjoy each other's company and sing together. We meet on Zoom every Thursday evening from 7:30 - 8:15 pm.

Each week I select and send out music, often the music that I play for preludes or postludes, for us to sing through together.

Because of the time lag of Zoom, all singers are muted, except me, so no one has to feel uncomfortable about using their singing voice in front of others.

It is simply a weekly opportunity to stay connected and to hear and sing along with music that can bring you comfort and spiritual joy.

I am excited to invite new members to join us. We would love to see you!! There is no weekly commitment. Just join whenn you are able!

If you are interested in receiving the Zoom link and the music please email me at rbanner59@yahoo.ca

I really hope that you will consider joining us! *Rosemary* 

# Looking beyond



## Activate your faith!

Consider visiting the Social Action Hub of the PCC.

Advocate

for global vaccine equity

click here!

 Get involved in Climate Justice click here!



### Consider praying for 31 countries around the world!

Activate your faith by praying each day for a different country where people are persecuted for their faith! We are a praying community and our prayers only become louder when we pray together. Consider joining Rev. Shelly and others in praying through "Praying for 31 Countries Around the World Where Religious Persecution is High" a resources provided by national offices. WE will begin this Sunday. The country, information and prayers will be posted on our website and on Facebook.

### What is prayer and why do we pray for those persecuted for their faith?

"Prayer is deeply rooted in Christian life and practice. The Scriptures don't only tell us the story of salvation; they also overflow with prayers written out of the depths of human response to God's work and presence, and to the daily pains, joys, doubts, and gratitudes that humans experience. Prayer is praise, thanksgiving, lament, rejoicing, asking, receiving and listening. It is response-to and relationship-with God. Living Faith reminds us,

Life in Christ involves prayer,

The seeking of God's will and blessing

On all of life.

Prayer is openness to the presence of God.

In words, or the absence of words,

Prayer is the focusing of our lives toward God.

As we commune with God through Jesus Christ,

The Holy Spirit enables us to express our deepest longings, And we experience the sustaining power of God's presence.

(Living Faith, 8.1.4 2)

Prayer is thus an important part of Christian life and spiritual practice. The centrality of prayer to healthy Christian spiritual life demonstrates why it is important, among one's prayers, to pray for people in difficult circumstances including Christians who are persecuted for their faith and for the very prayers they make. Sharing in a life of communal prayer, we lend our voices to those suffering for their faith, even while we as a church take additional meaningful

action to aid them through avenues such as advocacy and the sharing of resources.

It is of course not just Christians who pray. Other religions have prayer as part of their practice as well and Living Faith also reminds us, *Some whom we encounter belong to other religions And already have a faith.* 

Their lives often give evidence of devotion

And reverence for life.

We recognize that truth and goodness in them Are the work of God's Spirit, the author of all truth.

(Living Faith, 9.2.1)

#### And

Justice involves protecting the rights of others. It protests against everything that destroys human dignity. (Living Faith, 8.4.3)

Recognizing the work of God's Spirit in the truth and goodness of those whose religion differs from ours, as well as in those Christians persecuted for their faith, we can see that to be unable to practice one's religion in safety is an injustice that destroys human dignity. We pray therefore for all those who face violence for their faith; that their rights will be upheld and their dignity restored." (an excerpt from "Praying for 31 Countries Around the World Where Religious Persecution is High" - A resource produced by the International Affairs Committee of the PCC)

### Join us in prayer!

For more info click here for CPC's Power of Prayer webpage

# **Health & Wellness**



click here to go the health unit website

## Stay Safe! and Healthy

Please continue to be safe by sanitizing your hands, wearing a mask around strangers & friends and practice physical distancing while the Delta Variant is circulating.

## Get Vaccinated!

To stop the spread of Covid 19, protect those that cannot get vaccinated and those whose health is compromised it is imperative to get vaccinated.

For education, questions and concerns contact the health unit. For information on Covid19 and vaccinations go to the WHO.int or Canada.cawebsites.

Click the picture to the left to go to Middlesex-London Health Unit for more information about receiving a vaccination.

OR

CLICK this link to go to POP UP Vaccination Clinics!



