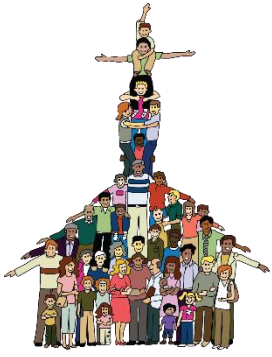


NEWS FROM THE SYNOD OF SOUTHWESTERN OTARIO

www.swo.org

Welcome



In these times of continued physical distancing, one of the great blessings of our denomination is our connectedness. This is a short newsletter to update you on the ongoing work of the synod and to provide

some resources for clergy, sessions and congregations as they seek to be the church during Covid 19.

What's a synod? The word synod means "assembly". These assemblies of teaching and ruling elders have gathered in various regions from the middle of the 2nd century. In the Presbyterian Church in Canada, synods oversee the work of presbyteries and are accountable to General Assembly. The synod of Southwestern Ontario stretches from as far east as Fort Erie, west to Windsor, north to the Bruce Peninsula and south to Lake Erie .



Online Synod meeting The Synod of Southwestern Ontario will meet on Friday October 16th, 2020 at 1pm via zoom. A practice session will be held for all participants to ensure they are comfortable navigating this online platform. In 2017, the synod made the decision to have commissioners appointed by presbyteries to attend this annual meeting.

WE ARE
Stronger
TOGETHER

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Resources re. re-opening church buildings

The national church has provided several important resources for sessions to consider as they discuss in person meetings or worship in the fall. These include session resources, health unit advice and updates, as well as a detailed check list provided by the Toronto Health Unit, which is particular for churches. Check it out at www.presbyterian.ca Sessions are reminded to check with the specific health unit guidelines for their area, as well as checking with their insurance provider regarding guidelines and restrictions. Sharing resources and experiences within presbyteries is one way that we can find a safe and meaningful way forward for our churches during Covid 19.

News about the Synod Creative Ministry Fund



Because of COVID 19 most ministries have had to change their summer outreach programs. Is your church now making plans for late summer and early fall? Small grants can still be considered for 2020 until September 1. Applications for ministry after Synod through 2021 will be considered but will take effect following the Synod of October 2020 if granted. Please check out the CMC link on the SWO website for guidelines and application templates for the Fund. We encourage you to be extra creative in your new plans this year and for the next. Contact Rev. Martin Wehrmann at maw49@hotmail.com for more information.

P.Y.P.S. (Presbyterian Young People's Society)



PYPS is excited for the chance to re-invent ourselves during this time of transition. Keep your eyes on our facebook page

and look for our synopsis emails to see where God is taking us as we attempt to work for the kingdom in our synod this fall.

Huron Feathers Centre Update



Huron Feathers is a synod funded ministry in Sauble Beach. This ministry has existed for over forty years - providing Christian fellowship, worship, and education on the shores of Lake Huron for families and children.

The Board of Directors of Huron Feathers regrets to announce that they have not been able to proceed with their Day Camp Program or Youth group for the summer of 2020. Due to the limitations and restrictions by the Provincial Government and The Public Health Department, it was decided, for the safety and concern for all, to suspend the programs this summer. Initially, thoughts of a Virtual Camp were explored, but in canvassing previous participants' families we learned that many do not have access to the internet service that is required. The Huron Feathers program hopes to resume and see all in 2021.

Join us on the lawn or listen to the Service from your car.

The Board of Directors has decided to try a new initiative, a restricted service starting Sunday, July 5, 2020, whereby, you can listen from your car on or around the property or bring a lawn chair and sit outside the building. Bring your own refreshment! You will be expected to adhere to the guidelines of 2 metres **Social Distancing** and wear a mask when this is not possible. There will be no provision for child care.

All Welcome!

Our first service was on July 5, 2020, with, Tariq Deonandan, preaching and 22 people attended on the lawn overlooking Lake Huron.

We are still in discussion for a possible Saturday night campfire, virtual and recorded.

Camp Kintail

Camp Kintail is a place to grow for people of all walks of life. This Presbyterian church



residential camp is on the shores of Lake Huron and has been offering important faith forming ministry for children, youth, and adults since 1929.

Covid 19 has meant that Camp Kintail can

not safely hold onsite activities. Nevertheless, the camp continues to seek ways to support the churches, youth, families and children of our synod through online activities. Check out the camp website at www.campkintail.ca or contact the camp at 519-529-7317 to access these resources. There is an online camp worship service for churches to use in order for clergy to enjoy a "Sunday off"; a virtual "leader in training" program; regular devotionals and online music and more.

The impact of Covid 19 on the finances of Camp Kintail has been profound. Individuals, congregations, and presbyteries are encouraged to consider donations to Camp Kintail during these unprecedented time. Our goal is that this important ministry within our denomination will come out of this time of pandemic strong and ready for many years of camping ministry in the future.

Try out "Flame's Blueberry Muffin" recipe for a taste of Kintail. (aka Shelagh O'Neill)

Blueberry Breakfast Muffins

Ingredients:

- 2 Eggs (lightly beaten)
- 1 C Plain Greek Yogurt*
- ¼ C Vegetable Oil**
- ½ C Brown Sugar***
- 1 ¼ C Whole Wheat Flour****
- 1 C Quick Cooking Oats
- ¼ C Milled Flax Seeds (Optional)
- 2 tsp Baking Powder
- 1 tsp Ground Cinnamon and ¼ tsp Nutmeg
- ½ tsp Baking Soda and ¼ tsp Salt
- 1 C Frozen Blueberries

Instructions:

1. Spray muffin tray lightly with oil (or line with papers) and preheat oven to 400 F.
2. In a large bowl whisk eggs, yogurt, vegetable oil and brown sugar until completely combined.
3. In a medium bowl mix together flour, oats, milled flax, baking powder, cinnamon, baking soda, nutmeg and salt.
4. Add dry ingredients to wet and mix just until fully combined. Fold in frozen blueberries. Batter will be wet and sticky.
5. Spoon batter into muffin tin.
6. Bake 18-22 minutes until tops are browned, muffins spring back when touched, and a tooth pick comes out clean.
7. Let muffins cool in the muffin tin for 5 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely. ENJOY!

