

# Deseronto-Napanee Pastoral Charge

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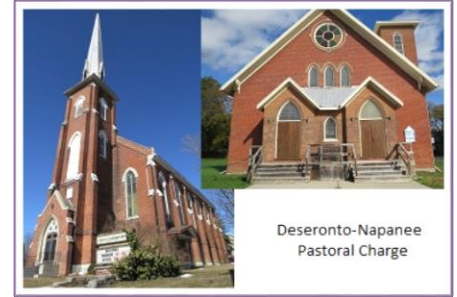
## A Saviour for the Whole World

A few years ago, I had the opportunity to go to Guatemala to meet with Indigenous people who have been adversely affected by gold mining in their communities.

On our one day off, we went to a pretty tourist town called Granada. Early in the morning, I wandered down to the town square, to see if could find something for breakfast. On one side of the square, people were walking up a wide set of steps to go into a church. With a start, I remembered that it was Sunday. I followed the people into a large, ornate Roman Catholic Church, and found a seat just inside the door. The church was full; people were curious about me, but we were not able to talk to each other. I was handed a bulletin with the day's scripture lessons written out. Because it was in Spanish, I was not able to read it, but I figured out what the lessons were; they were the same ones that people in my home church back in Canada were using the same day.

I let the sounds of the liturgy wash over me, ignoring the actual words, which I couldn't understand, but soaking up the feeling present in that place. I had this over-whelming feeling of wonder that this Jesus, who was born in a small village in the Middle East, and spent only three years teaching a rag tag group of disciples, was being worshiped in a small town in Guatemala, in Canada, and in millions of villages and towns and cities all over the world. As Martin Luther King Jr. said in one of his most famous speeches, "He never wrote a book. He never owned a house. He never went to college. He never visited a big city. He never went two hundred miles from where he was born. He did none of the usual things that the world would associate with greatness. He had no credentials but himself."

And yet, the name of Jesus Christ is known all over the world. People all over the world sing his praises, know him to be the source of



## Upcoming Events

### December 2

**Advent One** – We will be participation in the **Sacrament of Holy Communion** at both churches. The Worship, Music, and Sacraments Committee will prepare and serve communion at Grace, and we are looking for volunteers to help at Deseronto.

### December 6

**Poinsettia Pick-Up** in the Board Room beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The Grace U. C. W. is pleased to be hosting a catered **Turkey Dinner** beginning at 12:00 p.m. Tickets are \$17.00 each. Everyone is invited to join us for fun, fellowship, and good food!!

Deseronto **U. C. W. Meeting** beginning at 1:30 p.m. in Stover Hall.

Grace **Worship, Music, and Sacraments Committee Meeting** beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

their strength, and put their trust in his promises. This is a miracle that only God could make happen.

This is the person for whom we prepare during the Advent Season. This is the Saviour that we greet on the day of his Nativity. This is the Lord that we worship all through the year.

I will look forward to seeing you at our Advent-Christmas Season worship services, so that we may hear again the old, old story of the Incarnation.

*Rev. Elaine*

## Deseronto's Congregational Picnic

On Sunday, June 24, 2018 Deseronto United Church welcomed Janice Brant from Tyendinaga Territory to their Worship Service. Janice read several of, Canadian Poet and Entertainer Pauline Johnson's poems. Gesina Laird-Buchanan also attended but was unable to bring her life sized sculpture of Molly Brant due to the possibility of rain.

Following the service, both Grace and Deseronto congregations were invited to an old-fashioned box lunch picnic. As an extra treat, the Anniversary committee provided cake and strawberries. Several of the committee members were dressed in period costumes. After everyone enjoyed the surprise box lunches, several children and adults retired to the side lawn for some old fashioned games of croquet, blowing bubbles and toss games. In the hall others enjoyed games of crockinole, pick up sticks, and jacks.

It was a great way to celebrate Deseronto's 150 years of worshipping together!

*Submitted by Marilyn Cole*



## Upcoming Events

### December 8

Grace is pleased to be hosting, **"It's Almost Christmas"**

**Bake/Craft/Vendor Sale** from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Hall. Tables can be rented for \$10.00 by contacting Louise Storey (613-305-1954) or Diane Remington (613-354-7130). There will be lots of items up for grabs for all ages!

### December 9

#### **Advent Two – Festival of Lessons and Carols**

presented by the Deseronto and Grace Choirs during our regular worship services. Please join us for a lovely Christmas Cantata featuring the vocal talents of our choirs.



## “Everything That’s Beautiful”

On the afternoon of Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Rev. Joe Ramsay delighted a crowd of 92 at Grace with, “Everything That’s Beautiful”, a concert featuring classic Christian folk music that has made an impact on Joe’s life and original songs that Joe has penned. Joe engaged the audience with several memories and anecdotes of his youth in the Napanee area, and shared some reflections on faith in a changing world. Joe was kind enough to join us during our morning worship to give us a taste of what we would hear during his performance, and then played for over an hour at his show. Thank you Joe, for sharing your insight and musical talents with us! We were truly blessed!



## Deseronto United Church’s 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

One hundred and fifty years of continued worship, community giving, and fellowship is an incredible feat for a church to achieve in a day and age in which religion is not at the centre of the average family unit, and churches are closing on a regular basis. We are SO blessed that not one, but both of our churches have reached this momentous milestone.

Our Deseronto congregation had their official 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup> with Amanda Hill, archivist with Hastings County, as guest speaker. Amanda spoke about the Town of Deseronto and the changes that have occurred in 150 years. She also enlightened us on some of the activities of our congregation within our community.

Rev. Frank Hamper and Rev. Burry Wiseman delighted us in attending our service, and the Deseronto and Grace choirs joined forces in a combined choir. It was a truly lovely services to mark the occasion.

After our service, those in attendance had a potluck lunch in Stover Hall. There was more food than people!

Thank you to everyone that has helped to organize this service, our picnic, and other events this year!! Here is to 150 more years of faith, fun, and fellowship!!



## Upcoming Events

### December 16

**Advent Three** – Grace will be having a **Children’s Christmas Pageant** as part of our regular worship service. If you know of any youngsters or young at heart that would like to participate, please speak with Rev. Elaine or Patti Sweet.

### December 21

Grace is pleased to be hosting a **Longest Night Service** beginning at 3:00 p.m. If you have lost a loved one or just find the holidays difficult, this may be the service for you. *Everyone is invited!*

### December 23

#### Advent Four



## The Kingston Ceili Band

Deseronto United Church was pleased to host The Kingston Ceili Band in concert on Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Sixty-seven people of all ages attended the afternoon concert where they had a hard time not tapping their toes and clapping their hands. The Kingston Ceili Band delighted the crowd with songs from their album, "Slainté" and other traditional Celtic and classic folk songs like, "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald".

This concert is the first in an upcoming series of concerts to help raise funds to renovate the front of our sanctuary and improve the lighting and sound system. This will be a long process, and we hope that you will join us and support us in this endeavor.

The Kingston Ceili Band graciously donated a box of CDs to help us raise funds. If you are interested in purchasing their album for \$10.00, please drop by the office or contact Leslie. Stay tuned for our next concert!!



## Upcoming Events

### December 24

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** – Both churches will be hosting a Christmas Eve Service. Deseronto's service will begin at 5:00 p.m., and the Grace service will begin at 7:00 p.m. We will participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion by *Intinction*, and we are looking for *volunteers* to help us prepare and serve. If you are able to assist us, please contact Leslie in the office.

### January 3

**Worship, Music, and Sacraments Committee Meeting** beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room.

### January 23

**Grace Board Meeting** beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room.



## The Risk of Birth

Christmas 1973

This is no time for a child to be born,  
With the earth betrayed by war and hate,  
And a comet slashing the sky to warn;  
That time runs out and the sun burns late.

That was no time for a child to be born,  
In a land in the crushing grip of Rome;  
Honour and truth were trampled by scorn –  
Yet here did the Saviour make his home.

When is the time for love to be born?  
The inn is full on the planet earth,  
And by a comet the sky is torn –  
Yet Love still takes the risk of birth.

## Thank you!!

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone that donated non-perishable food items for the community of Moose Factory. These items are flown, bits at a time and as space permits on the weekly flights to the community. The donations from our Presbytery (both clothing and food) are taken to Moose Factory and distributed through several communities including Moose Factory, Moosonee, Kashechewan and Attawapiskat by "Friends of the North Misiway". Through donations and financial support, Friends of the North Misiway was able to open a new facility in Moosonee called the "Misiway Sharing Centre" aimed at supporting the community by providing work training and part-time employment as well as clothing and food items to the largely Cree population in April of this year. The Kid's Club that is ran by this organization in Moose Factory is another beneficiary of this program. Kids are provided with a safe environment, hot meals, crafts, games, stories, and much more!

As a Pastoral Charge, we doubled our food donation, and as a Presbytery, we tripled our food donations from last year! Way to go! Thank you SO much for helping such a worthy organization!

Friends of the North Misiway website:  
[www.friendsofthenorthmisiway.ca](http://www.friendsofthenorthmisiway.ca)

Another BIG THANK YOU to everyone that contributed hats, mitts, scarves, coats, and other warm clothing items that were donated to the Morningstar Mission!! They had an overwhelming response to their plea, and they are pleased to offer many people a way to stay warm this winter. Without your kindness, this endeavor would not be possible. Thank you!!

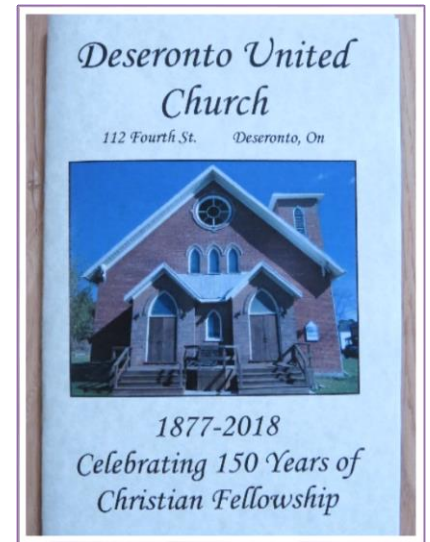
## Announcements

### Advent Readers

We are looking for families (or groups of friends) that are willing to read our Advent Candle Liturgy during December. We will need a total of 5 families or groups of friends, and the dates are all open! Please contact Leslie in the office if you might be interested. Thank you!!

### Photo Directories

Leslie is working away on our photo directories. We still need to obtain pictures of a few of our committees, so due to timing the directories will not be done and ready for pick up until the new year. Stay tuned to facebook, our website, bulletins, and the next newsletter to find out when they have arrived!



## Deseronto United Church History Booklet

In honour of Deseronto's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we have gathered information and photographs to create a small history booklet about our church building and the congregation that has met within. If you would like a copy of our booklet, please contact Leslie in the office. The cost is a donation of your choosing, made to Deseronto United Church.

## Newsletter and Bulletin Sponsorship

If you would like to sponsor our bulletin or newsletter in memory or in honour of a family member or friend, please contact Leslie. The cost of sponsoring a bulletin is \$10.00, and any contribution towards the newsletter is wonderful. We will accept up to two *bulletin* sponsors per week.