

# Deseronto-Napanee Pastoral Charge

150 Robert St.  
Napanee, On  
K7R 2M7

613-354-4373  
[www.graceuc.ca](http://www.graceuc.ca)  
[graceuchurch@gmail.com](mailto:graceuchurch@gmail.com)

Find us on Facebook at “Deseronto-Napanee Pastoral Charge”

---

On Sunday, September 12, 2021, we once again gathered in person for worship in the church building at the corner of Bridge St., West and Robert Street. The worshipping congregation had been absent from the sanctuary for 36 Sundays.

It was so good to see people again. There was a mood of excitement in the air, as friends greeted friends they had not seen for a long time. It felt like ‘coming home’ for many people; we were returning to a well-loved ritual of getting up and “going to church” on a Sunday morning.

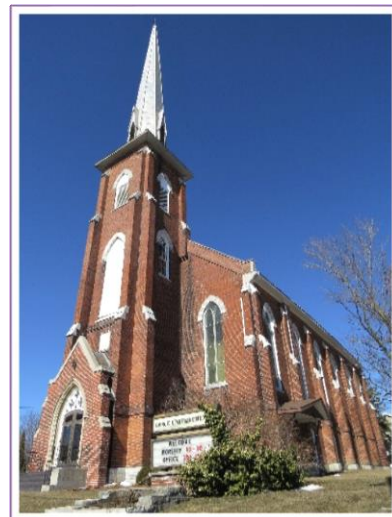
At the same time, I did say in my sermon that morning that we know the church is not the building. The pandemic has shown us that the church continues, building or no building. I was so grateful for the dedication and skill of the worship committee, (the musicians and technology people) who through the miracle of electronics sent out worship and prayer and song into the world every week all through the pandemic. I am so grateful for those faithful viewers who worshiped at home in front of their TVs or computers.

The church has continued all through this weird time in the prayers of the faithful, who continued to lift up the needs of members and friends in all circumstances. It has continued in chatty phone calls, in friendly cards sent through the mail, in one pilgrim stopping by with groceries at the home of another pilgrim.

The apostle Paul has this to say in his letter to the Ephesians:

*“You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, build on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole*

---



## Upcoming Events

### October 9<sup>th</sup>

The Worship, Music, and Sacraments Committee is hosting a **decorating bee** in preparation for Thanksgiving. If you have any fall items that you would be willing to donate like gourds or pumpkins, please let one of the members know. Otherwise, plan to join us beginning at 9:00 a.m.

### October 10<sup>th</sup>

#### Thanksgiving Sunday –

Please join us in giving thanks and praising our Lord for everything that we have been given.

### October 13<sup>th</sup>

#### Christian Education Committee Meeting

beginning at 6:00 p.m.

---

---

building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit." (Ephesians 2: 19-22)

Let me repeat Paul's words: "**Christ Jesus is the cornerstone of the church.**" The foundations of the church have nothing to do with bricks or concrete or masonry or stained glass – it is only with Christ as the foundation that the church can exist at all. The church rises from Christ, and exists for Christ.

That reality ought to give you a clear sense of your identity and mission as a member of the church. During the pandemic, we didn't leave the church – we were the church.

Blessings,

*Rev. Elaine*

---

## A Note from the Grace Finance and Stewardship Committee

The Finance & Stewardship Committee would like to offer our heartfelt thanks for your continued and generous support since the pandemic started back in March 2020. So many of you continue to faithfully donate and your givings have helped us continue on without a significant financial hardship. We also have supplemented our finances by taking advantage of the Federal Government's Wage Subsidy Program.

Our financial position for local givings at the end of September is a deficit of approximately \$5,700. Looking back at years prior to Covid, this year's deficit is less than previous years which is truly amazing.

At the end of September our M&S givings are at approximately 83% of our goal for the year. This demonstrates your continued outreach support.

Once again, thank you very much and blessings to all.

The Grace Finance & Stewardship Committee

\*\*If you would like to make a "Thanksgiving" donation, and receive the newsletters digitally, there will be envelopes on the table in the narthex on Thanksgiving Sunday. Otherwise, if you receive it via Canada Post, you will find your donation envelope enclosed.



---

## Upcoming Events

### October 16<sup>th</sup>

**Nate and Thomas in Concert** beginning at 3:00 p.m. Please join us for an afternoon of music with this up and coming Canadian duo out of Brockville. Nate and Thomas play an assortment of gospel and contemporary pop, covers and originals. Tickets are \$10 each, and are available through the church office. Masks must be worn, refreshments will *not* be served at this time, and social distancing protocols must be adhered to.

### October 17<sup>th</sup>

There will be a brief **Grace Congregational Meeting** following our worship service. Please plan to attend.

### October 20<sup>th</sup>

**Deseronto Board Meeting** in the Hall beginning at 7:00 p.m.

## Fall Thoughts

I am always learning from members of my congregation. Chris Ingersoll has shared the following quote from Henri Nouwen, which I thought was beautiful, so I am passing on the quote:

### The Rhythm of Nature

"This morning John Eudes spoke about autumn as a time of plenitude, a time of fulfillment in which the richness of nature becomes abundantly visible, but also a time in which nature points beyond itself by the fragility of its passing beauty...When I walked out I was overwhelmed by the beauty of the landscape unfolding itself before my eyes. Looking out over the Genesee valley, I was dazzled by the bright colors of the trees. The yellow of the hickory trees, the different shades of red from the maples and oaks, the green of the willows—together they formed a fantastic spectacle. The sky was full of mysterious cloud formations, and just as I walked down to the guest house, the sun's rays burst through the clouds and covered the land with their light, making the cornfields look like a golden tapestry.

"The beauty of the fall is unbelievable in this part of the country. I can only say with the psalmist: "The hills are girded with joy, they shout for joy, yes, they sing" (see Psalms 65:12-13).

"Two weeks from now the colorful leaves will have whirled to the ground and the trees will be bare, announcing the coming of winter and snow. It will only be a few months before all the hills will be white and the green of the winter wheat covered with a thick blanket of frozen snow. But then we can remember the rich powers hidden underneath that will show themselves again to those who have the patience to wait."

## Upcoming Fundraisers

### Nate and Thomas in Concert

Come out and join us for an awesome afternoon concert with Nate Pardy and Thomas Mastin, an up and coming duo currently out of Brockville on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. These guys have a TON of talent with smooth sounds likened to contemporary artists like Coldplay and Ed Sheeran. Nate and Thomas both have a background in gospel music, with Thomas growing up in the Roblin Wesleyan congregation. Amongst their mix of contemporary pop and gospel based tunes, are a combination of cover songs as well as their own originals. Put the date on your calendar, grab a ticket (or two) from Leslie, bring your mask, and enjoy a good time! All social distancing protocols will apply. Tickets are \$10 each.



## Upcoming Events

### October 24<sup>th</sup>

**Anniversary Sunday** – Please join us in celebrating the anniversary of both congregations!

### October 27<sup>th</sup>

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

### October 31<sup>st</sup>

**Memorial Sunday** – Please join us in remembering and honouring members of our congregations, as well as members of our outlying communities that have left their heavenly bodies in the past year to be in the arms of our Lord. If you know of anyone that should be added to our list, please contact Leslie.

### November 7<sup>th</sup>

**Remembrance Sunday** – Please join us as we honour and remember all of our past and present members of the Canadian Armed Forces, and thank them for their service to our Country and our community. Chris Ingersoll will be leading our worship as Rev. Elaine will be away. Chris is a retired member of our Armed Forces, and is very active with our local Legion.



## Poinsettias

It is hard to believe that it is “that time of year again”! Our Poinsettia Fundraising Package has arrived! Get your order in for your dining room table or that of a friend or family member. These plants make wonderful gifts.

The majority of plants being offered this year are the same as last year. There are a few items not being offered due to availability at the greenhouse, though. All orders *must* be placed by Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, and pick-up will be at scheduled times on Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Board Room. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Leslie.

4" Poinsettia - \$5.25 (red, white, and pink)

6" Poinsettia - \$8.75 (red, white, and pink)

8" Poinsettia - \$22.50 (red, white, pink, tri-colour, and red and white)

10" Poinsettia - \$29.00 (red, white, pink, and tri-colour)

11" Round Planter - \$24.00

12" Oval Planter - \$31.00

6" Cyclamen - \$12.25

We will also be decorating the front of our sanctuary with poinsettias placed in memory and in honour of friends and family members as we have in years passed. We will be purchasing the 6" pots, and we usually only purchase the red and white ones unless specified. If you would like to order one, place an envelope marked, “poinsettia” with your name, the individual's name, and money on the collection plate or in the mailbox. The cost per plant is \$8.75. Cash is preferred for this portion as it makes processing the order easier. As always, anyone that purchases a plant may take it home after our Christmas Eve worship service.



## Upcoming Events

**November 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Poinsettia Orders Due**

**November 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Deseronto U. C. Annual General Meeting**

immediately following our worship service. *Everyone* is strongly encouraged to attend.

**November 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Mary's Merry Minstrels** will be gracing our presence once again for a fabulous fiddle concert called, **“Fiddle Night in Canada”** beginning at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students 13-18, and free for children 12 and under. Tickets are available by calling the office.

**November 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Grace U. C. Annual General Meeting** immediately following our worship service. *Everyone* is strongly encouraged to attend.

## Fiddle Night in Canada

Please join us for a fun, toe-tapping, hand-clapping, knee-slapping afternoon with Mary Kennedy and her troop of **Mary's Merry Minstrels** as they delight us with a new show called, "Fiddle Night in Canada" on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Mary brought her crew to Deseronto U. C. in 2019, and put on a fabulous show about the history behind Canadian fiddle music and its influences. Everyone that attended left with a smile on their face as the music paired with Mary's delightful sense of humour and history lessons uplifted even the most down-trodden. Tickets for the show are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students 13-18, and free for children 12 and under. Tickets are available by contacting the office. Masks must be worn and social distancing protocols will apply.



## P. A. Day Program

The Grace Christian Education Committee is excited to be planning for P. A. Days in 2022!! Their hope and goal is to be up and running for the February 2<sup>nd</sup> P. A. Day. Stay tuned for details as they become available.



## Upcoming Events

### November 21<sup>st</sup>

**1<sup>st</sup> Napanee Valley Cub Car Rally** in the Hall beginning at 2:00 p.m.

### November 27<sup>th</sup>

**1<sup>st</sup> Napanee Valley Beaver Buggy and Scout Truck Rallies** in the Hall beginning at 9:00 a.m.

### November 28<sup>th</sup>

**Advent 1** – We will be beginning our Advent season by participating in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

## Help Wanted!!

There are several committees that are looking for new members. If you are able or are interested in learning about a new aspect of our church community, please contact the office. Committees looking for members include:

- Pastoral Care Committee
- Finance and Stewardship Committee