

Labour Day is over, schools are back: the church year has begun - not perhaps the traditional church year but reality has overcome tradition.



By that scheme, our church year's first festival is Thanksgiving - whatever do American churches do until theirs?

This year, the congregation is encouraged to bring the fruits and vegetables to decorate the Sanctuary a week in advance, that is this Sunday, so they can be artistically arranged. As well as a decorated setting, our choir has re-assembled in excellent voice and will be singing an appropriate anthem.

October 1 is also World Communion Sunday, to be served in the traditional way in the pews.

CRAFT FAIR

Close behind follows the annual Ten Thousand Villages Craft Fair on October 28 and 29.

Ten Thousand Villages is an amazing organization that supports the work of artisans in developing countries with fair wages and a minimum of middlemen and always brings new delights, even rarities, for us to buy.

Because these are fair wages in the context of much less affluent countries, their products are often surprisingly good value considering the labour entailed in their making.

Deep River's long tradition of hosting this event is well known and greatly appreciated in the Ten Thousand Villages organization - mention it if you drop into their stores anywhere and you'll often get recognition.

More details nearer the time, but keep the last week-end of October in mind.

The event will also coincide with another silent auction. Call the church office (613-584-2812, Tuesday to Thursday mornings 9-11:30 am this week) if you'd like any items for the auction picked up.

The one event that defies summer slowdown is our coffee mornings, every Friday from 10 to 11:20 am in the CEC upper level.

All are welcome almost every Friday to drop in for a snack, refreshments and a time to chat.



MULTI-MEDIA ART SHOW

DRLAC (the Deep River Library Arts Committee) is now showing "ART 2017" featuring over 75 artworks of 26 artists, including Eva Gallagher and her ceramic wall hangings. DRLAC only does one multi media art show a year and this is it. Show is open during all library hours until Saturday, October 7.

Submitted photo

Valley residents to unite in laughter, praise

With the blessing of the Pembroke Area Clergy Association (PACA), a local group is set to launch an event that will bring an evening of laughter, praise and worship to the Valley.

As a kickoff to the annual week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the event is set to take place at Festival Hall on January 20, 2018. Doors open at 6:30 pm and the event will run until about 9:45 pm.

A main attraction for the event will be a family friendly comedy show performed by Lift Up Laughter.

Second City Alumnus and Canadian Comedy Award nominee Rick Wharton has assembled a number of well-known names in Canadian comedy as they set out to provide some much needed laughter to Valley folk in the deep winter cold of mid-January.

"The power of laughter and prayer are two amazing things and I'm really looking forward to bringing some of my improv friends to Festival Hall to celebrate this wonderful event," Wharton says.

The evening will also feature the contemporary Christian band Gate47 as they deliver their rendition of songs from many of today's top Christian artists.

Gate47 band member Kevin Rabishaw says, "It's a well-known fact that laughter and praise are good for the

body, mind and spirit, so why would someone not want to attend such an event?"

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is a world-wide annual event that is set to remind Christians about Jesus' prayer for his disciples that they, "may be one so that the world may believe" (see John 17:21).

Congregations and parishes all over the world take steps to exchange preachers or arrange special ecumenical celebrations and prayer services as they seek to promote and encourage Christian unity.

"Funny in a Good Way" is a newly formed not-for-profit organization created with the idea of bringing individuals together for opportunities to have good, clean fun and helping out local organizations along the way.

Co-ordinator Michael Gulliver says he is, "pleased to have the support of PACA and is excited to invite the community together for an event that starts such an important week for Christians."

"Events that strengthen the relationship between churches and bring Christians together are going to play an ever increasing role in our Christian walk.

"We're also pleased to announce that our inaugural event will be raising funds to help out The Grind in downtown Pembroke.

"With The Grind's focus on being an agent of positive change in our community, it is a perfect fit for the vision of Funny in a Good Way."

There are still many opportunities for businesses, organizations and youth to offer up additional support for the event.

Interested sponsors, volunteers or those looking to learn more should contact Gulliver directly at <funnyinagoodway@outlook.com>.

Tickets for the event can be purchased online at <www.funnyinagoodway.ca> or directly at The Grind - 122 Pembroke St. W, Pembroke.

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