

Pioneer Memorial-Stoney Creek United Churches

Two Churches - One Heart - One Community

eNews - Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Worship Has Returned To Stoney Creek UC!

Join us for worship this Sunday, June 29, at 9:30 a.m. at **Stoney Creek United Church!**
All welcome! Please wear red & white in celebration of Canada Day!

PLEASE NOTE: There will be NO 9:30 a.m. worship service at Stoney Creek UC ON SUNDAY, JULY 5! The ONLY worship service this day will be held at 2:00 P.M. at PIONEER MEMORIAL! We hope you will come out to say "Farewell" - please invite your family & friends, former members and adherents to join us as well. Refreshments will be served afterwards. All are welcome!

Clean Up Dates

Helpers are needed for the final two clean-up days at Pioneer. Tasks will include removing pictures/plaques/etc. from the walls and removing final items from the sanctuary.

- Thursday, July 9, 10:30 am-1:30 p.m.
- Thursday, July 16, 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Important Notice Re: Keys

Anyone who has keys to the outside doors, offices, cupboards, etc., at Pioneer Memorial is asked to turn them in to Sharon, Kathy or Ralph as soon as possible so that we can turn them over to the new owners.

Books Available

Pioneer has a large quantity of hymnbooks - Songs for a Gospel People and Voices United - which RCN (the church purchasing the building) does not want. If you know of another church or organization which would like them - or if you would like a copy (or copies) as a memento - please speak to Kathy Bagu, Ralph or Maureen Hayman or leave a message with the church office.

There are also a number of copies of Pioneer's history book, "A Journey Together". If you would like a copy (or copies), please speak to Sharon or Kathy.

From the Minister's Desk... The Lord's Prayer

For the month of July, I will commence a reflection and teaching on the Lord's Prayer. This was triggered by a conversation I had with a member of our church, who shares similar views as I that this prayer was never intended to be a weekly recital without the requisite application that it demands. Like other portions of scripture, without the context of its usage, the meaning gets lost.

The Lord's Prayer is recorded in both Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4. The text from Matthew is longer and was intended for a Gentile audience, many with little or no religious experience. Luke's record of it is short, succinct, and to the point, intended for the former Jews who have had left behind their orthodox rabbinical upbringing and started the spiritual journey as disciples of Jesus.

So, the prayer begins not with a petition (and there are seven of them); rather, it begins with an acknowledgment of our identity as children of God, the Father. This is an important aspect of the prayer if its to be prayed properly. This is key because, not just for the Lord's Prayer, but should be the approach we take to all prayers we offer to God. I will develop on the themes and petitions rendered in the Lord's Prayer and introduce the application elements. This will get us to do a deeper dive in a familiar text which will require a suspension of any fore-knowledge and an openness to exploration.

For me, the truth is, as I've gotten older, matured, and gathered a bit of life experiences, my appreciation and understanding of these sacred directions for prayer has evolved, so I too am open to where God will lead as we explore together.

Blessings,

Lennox

Prayer Requests

If you would like prayers for someone in your family, for a friend, or for yourself, please submit your requests to Rev. Lennox at lennox112002@yahoo.com, or (226)-920-8799.

Your request will be kept confidential, unless you wish it to be included in the Prayers of Intercession.

Thank You!!

Wow. I do not have the words to thank all of you enough for the wonderful celebration this past Sunday for my retirement! I had planned on slipping off into the sunset quietly but apparently you had other ideas! When Kathy told me that I HAD TO be at church on June 21, I thought that meant there was going to be a cake at Coffee Hour. I was not expecting the recognition during the morning service. Thank you to Rev. Lennox and Kathy Bagu for your kind words and beautiful flowers and to everyone for your hugs and good wishes! Thank you to the congregation and the UCW for the generous gifts - I will put them to good use!

This is not a job I had ever foreseen doing - I applied for it thinking that, *if* I happened to get it, I would do it for a couple of years until my son was in school. But here I am - almost 35 years later! There have been a few rough days - as there are in any job - but the overwhelming majority of my time here has been wonderful! I have had the honour & privilege of working with 9 ministers, 4 student ministers, many organists, Sunday School people and the UCW. And, of course, I have had the joy of serving, and serving with, the people of the congregation of Pioneer, and later, St. Columba. As I said on Sunday, this has been the best job in the world! But, unlike most retirements, this isn't "Good-bye" - I may not be in the church office any more but I will still see you on Sundays!

From Stoney Creek United Church...

Mark your calendars!

We have a beautiful milestone ahead of us! On Sunday July 12th, we are officially opening our doors to welcome **Pioneer Memorial** as they begin nesting within our building.

As a reminder, nesting means that **Pioneer** will remain a completely independent congregation with their own leadership, but they will be sharing in worship and our facilities. This is a powerful opportunity for us to practice radical hospitality and steward God's house together for the kingdom.

To kick off this partnership, we are hosting a special welcome as part of our morning service. Please join us in praying for our communities as we make this transition. Let's continue to share the deep warmth and love that defines both our church families



The last meeting of the Bible Study group for the summer will be this Thursday at 3:00 p.m. on Zoom. **OLD** Zoom link: 424-263-1461 and the password: grace. The group will resume on Thursday, September 10 at 3:00 p.m.

Stoney Creek's Bible study will resume on Monday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m.



Mark your calendars for the following dates & events - and watch the announcements and upcoming newsletters for more details!

- Saturday, July 18, 1:00-5:00 p.m. Karaoke "Fun-Raiser" at Stoney Creek United Church, hosted by Re.spire.
- Friday, August 28, 7:00 p.m. The Youth Theatre Arts group of Stoney Creek United Church presents "Hamlet".
- Sunday, September 13, 11:00 a.m. Worship & Picnic at Battlefield Park. This will be a pot-luck picnic instead of a BBQ. Please bring a dish to share and any serving utensils needed - note: we will not have electrical outlets so don't bring anything which needs to be heated or kept hot. Coffee, tea, juice & water, cups, plates, napkins & cutlery will be provided.
- Sunday, September 27 - Truth & Reconciliation Sunday. Please wear orange!
- Saturday, October 17 - Family Paint Night.

Land Acknowledgement

The City of Hamilton is situated upon the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas. This land is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

As settlers, we continue to benefit from the land and its gifts. As settlers, we must ask ourselves how or if we have shared and cared for the earth and its gifts. Facing the truth is hard. Truth must come before reconciliation

Bible Challenge

Welcome everyone! This column is about fun, and stretching our knowledge of the Bible. Don't worry if you don't know all the answers — that's how we learn! The goal is to discover something new about the Bible - bonus point if you know the scripture verse, if there is one! Answers will be in next week's eNews.

1. What did Jesus say about the salt losing saltiness?
2. What is the first book of the Bible?
3. Where did Mary and Martha live?
4. What made Paul very bold?
5. What is the Mizpah benediction given in Genesis 31:49?
6. Who told Naaman what to do to be cured of leprosy?
7. Who said, “Rabbi, I want to see”!

Answers to last week's Bible Challenge: June 17

1. During his temptation, how long did Jesus go without eating?
40 days and 40 nights. Matthew 4:2
2. What Hebrew measuring reed was equal to six cubits (9 feet)?
The sweet cane
3. The first Epistle of Peter was addressed to strangers scattered throughout five areas. Name two of them.
Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia. 1 Peter 1:1
4. According to Hebrews, what three things were in the Holy Place?
Lamp stand, table and the consecrated bread. Hebrews 9:2
5. When Pharaoh heard that Moses had killed an Egyptian, what did he try to do?
He tried to kill Moses. Exodus 2:15
6. Who was the mother of six of Jacob's sons?
Leah. Genesis 35:23
7. Who said, “Will a son be born to a man a 100 years old?”
Abraham. Genesis 17:17

An Invitation

Dear Friends of Pioneer Memorial United Church:

This is an invitation to a **Service of Farewell and Thanksgiving** for our building, Pioneer Memorial. For 71 years, the building at 1974 King St E. has served as a sanctuary for worship, a centre for ministry, and a home for our community.

It is with heavy hearts, yet profound gratitude for God's faithfulness, that we invite you to join us for a final service to mark the closure of this cherished space.

The **Service of Farewell and Thanksgiving** will celebrate the ministries, friendships, and sacred moments that have occurred within these walls. We will also take this opportunity to give thanks for all who have worshipped here and to prayerfully look forward to how Pioneer's faith community will continue to worship and serve alongside Stoney Creek United Church.

Service Details:

- **Date:** Sunday July 5th, 2026
- **Time:** 2 pm
- **Location:** Pioneer Memorial United Church

Following the service, there will be refreshments in the MacMillan Hall and a time to share memories, fellowship, and stories.

We hope you can join us for this important occasion as we honour our past and entrust our future into God's hands. Please invite your family & friends, former members and adherents to join us as well.

This is NOT the end of our story as Pioneer Memorial United Church, just the end of a chapter!

Sincerely,

Melanie Jamback

Chair of Church Council