

Jan's Journal



On the first Sunday in October, all Christian churches worldwide are invited to join in World Communion Sunday.

Welcome to October! The days are getting shorter and the nights are, generally speaking, getting colder. We have had some glorious fall days during the past week. It is a perfect time to reflect upon the magnificent beauty of God's creation!

I have some good news, and I have some bad news. First, the good news--- the oil tank was removed on Tuesday, September 30th. The soil samples were taken around the tank "nest" and are now being analysed. We are in a time of waiting for the results.

A second piece of good news is that The Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive Committee met on September 24th. I have been advised that East Plains' request for assistance was on the Meeting Agenda for discussion. The members voted to pay the cost of the Indigenous representatives' presence during the Burial Site Assessment. We will receive the funds when the work is complete and we have received the final invoice.

The not so good news is that, because the excavator and the trucks to vacuum out the oil and sand needed to be brought in twice, we will be paying those costs twice, plus we now have the addition of the payment at the disposal facilities. There is a charge per litre of oil for disposal and a charge per ton of sand/soil. The total cost of the removal of the oil tank is now \$45,109.60. This brings the cost of the oil tank removal and Burial Site Assessment up to approximately \$115,000. We were aware that there would be an additional fee for the disposal of the contents of the tank, but we had not anticipated the duplicate cost of the equipment.

The Financial Challenge Team has contacted our local MP, Karina Gould, our local MPP, Natalie Pierre, and the office of the Mayor with an explanation of the financial challenge that East Plains faces, and an appeal for assistance. So far, we have not received any encouraging response.

A reporter from the online publication Burlington Today, will be writing an article on the current challenges of East Plains United Church. He thought that the article would be online by the weekend.

There also has been a team formed to work on grant applications. There are two grants offered through TUCC and one grant offered through Halton Region, which we feel are appropriate to our cause.

For the past three weeks, an excerpt from a **Theology of Place** and **A Song of Faith**, have been printed on an insert in the Bulletin. Each week, the colour of the paper they are printed on changes. This is designed to help you ensure that you are up to date on your reading and reflecting! The Community Hub Ad Hoc Team is hoping that you will take the pages home and spend some time reflecting on the ideas presented and on the questions that pertain to those

ideas. You are encouraged to discuss these ideas and questions with family, friends, colleagues on ministry teams at the church, etc. Following worship this Sunday, October 5th, you are invited to join in conversation about the first three reflections and the accompanying questions, during the time for refreshments and fellowship following worship. As the Ad Hoc Community Hub Team explores the possibilities for future ministry in the Aldershot community, your thoughts are very valuable.

As always, I am available to discuss any of the information written in this "Journal."

You can reach me at: revjanmcc@gmail.com or on my cell phone: 905-630-8202.

Blessings,

Pastor Jan