

## **2017 Report of Huron Feathers Presbyterian Centre, Sauble Beach ON**

### **To the Synod of Southwestern Ontario**

Once again this summer the unique and creative ministry/mission of Huron Feathers provided outreach in the name of Jesus to the Sauble Beach community and to the many who vacation there. Despite the sometimes “iffy” weather, our ministry was very strong throughout this season! Our mission takes many forms and the highlights are listed below:

1. **Worship and Pastoral.** Sunday “beach” worship was offered from May to Labour Day. Informal in nature yet powerful, our worship celebrations embrace the creative goals of Huron Feathers. Rev. Ted Creen led the worship services, basing messages on the parables of Jesus under the title, “Say What?” We celebrated “Christmas in July” complete with a full turkey dinner for over 60 people. In August, a couple who serve on our Board of Directors celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary enabling a marriage vow re-dedication during the service. A weekly Bible Study was also held based on the summer theme of parables.
2. **Children and Youth.** Under the direction of Melissa Van Steenbeergen and three student staff, a 5 day per week, 8 week Day Camp/VBS was held. Numbers were strong: 53 average in July and 35 in August. A number of older (age 11-13) campers became Leaders in Training. We developed a stronger training program for them which took place on Tuesday evenings. Youth programming was very successful this summer: up to 20 young people attended the two nights per week programs. Twenty youth participated in a regional “mud volleyball” tournament.
3. **Stokes Bay partnership.** During the past winter, our Board of Directors met with representatives of the Session of Knox, Stokes Bay. The result was the development of a partnership leading to the hiring of Mark deVos. Mark provided worship leadership and a one day a week children’s program at Stokes Bay and assisted in our children and youth programs during the week at Huron Feathers. This partnership will be reviewed during this fall to ascertain whether such a partnership can continue next year.
4. **Community Relations.** Huron Feathers has always been a leader in supporting the wider Sauble community. This year, in association with another local church we hosted “Sauble’s Got Talent” night which packed the Centre. We provide support for the local group of volunteers who assist with the preservation on the endangered species, the Piping Plover.
5. **Board of Directors.** As soon as this summer’s ministry was completed, our Board will begin the planning for summer 2018. The mission of Huron Feathers began in the mid 1960’s and our building was dedicated in 1969. We will prepare to celebrate all that God

has done through this special ministry of the Presbyterian Church for our 50<sup>th</sup> celebration in 2019. We thank the Synod for their ongoing support for our ministry.

Recommendation: That Huron Feathers Presbyterian Centre, Sauble Beach, request a grant for 2018 or \$22,000.

Submitted on behalf on the Board of Directors, Rev. Ted Creen