



Community

Fall 2021

Pender Island Community Church
<http://www.penderislandcommunitychurch.ca>

Welcome to your community church home on Pender Island!

Whether you've never been to church or an old hand, we invite you to come to a Sunday service and worship with us. We preach the gospel, sing hymns, worship God and enjoy fellowship together.

The Website:

For more information, go to our website below or, on your device click below:

[Courtesy Pender Islands Museum]



penderislandcommunitychurch.ca



A time of Beginnings?

The year begins January 1. Yet in many calendars - including the Hebrew Calendar - the year begins (usually) in our month of September. Despite our calendar, this time of the year feels like a new year for parents and grandparents watching children head off to school.

In the Hebrew calendar the new year is called Rosh Hashanah ('Head of the Year') - a time of renewal, reflection, and seeking forgiveness for wrongs committed.

For Christians and those who are interested in faith, September can also be a time of renewal; it can be an introduction to a closer walk with God and learning that goes beyond what the Apostle Paul called 'milk' or the basics of the faith. It is a great time to start, maybe for the first time, studying the Bible and reconnecting with a church home.

For those interested in studying through the Bible, we offer a weekly Bible study in addition to regular services where, together, we grow in faith and understanding.

If tempted to say, '*church doesn't do anything for me*', we should recall the reasons we go to church. We go to collectively worship God, to receive from the faith and teaching of other believers and to contribute to their faith in return.

"Some people have given up the habit of meeting for worship, but we must not do that. We should keep on encouraging each other, especially since you know that the day of the Lord's coming is getting closer." Hebrews 10:25 (CEV)

Autumn



My sheep listen to my voice, and I know them, and they follow me - John 10:27

Scripture implies God has 'selective' hearing. He hears the cries of children, the pleas of the sinner repenting, and the worship of His saints.

Who then, does God not hear?

Isaiah tells us:

"... your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear" while the Psalmist sings out: "If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened."

In the Bible, the wicked are opposed to God, hate God, and refuse to acknowledge they are mere humans and God is above all. Such are not repentant, and want nothing to do with God. They are unwilling to give glory to any but their own self.

But God does hear those who call on him!

1 Peter 3:12 "For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

1 John 5:14 "And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us."

Psalms 10:17 "O Lord, you hear the desire of the afflicted... "

And of course He hears us when we repent:

2 Peter 3:9 "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."



Wm. Bracket Memorial

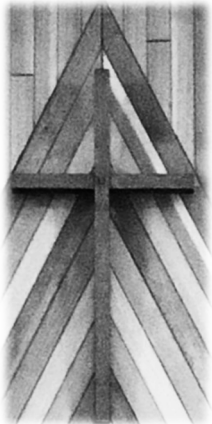
Recalling Sacrifice

Autumn's memories: school beginnings, wood stoves awakened from a long summer hiatus. Leaves turn as we become introspective of life's changes.

We also remember the sacrifices of those who have gone to war and paid the ultimate sacrifice - and of those burdened by the unwanted memories of battle.

The sacrifices of those who served with noble intent is always important to honour - and give thanks for. In Pender Island Community Church you will find a number of memorials to Penderites who left an island paradise to oppose the ambitions of despots.

So come in, pause, look, and give thanks for all that was given up by our service personnel.



The cross is a wonderful reminder of the extent that God has gone to reach out with his offer of peace to you. He desires your best which is knowing Him. Scripture puts it plainly:

¶ "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." John 3:16-17

The cross reminds us that Jesus paid the debt of your sin at His own expense; all you need do is trust in Him who will transfer you from death and darkness to life and light.

Jesus: "Listen! I am standing and knocking at your door. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and we will eat together."

Revelations 3:20