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PRESS RELEASE

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Funny in a Good Way unity event gets profiled by a national organization, as well as having an important local impact.

(Pembroke, ON) Funny in a Good Way (FIAGW) held its annual event to celebrate the week of prayer for Christian Unity on January 18th, 2025, at Pembroke Pentecostal Tabernacle and the event was a success on so many levels. Emcee, Deacon Adrien Chaput, praised and thanked the estimated 440 in attendance for the strong show of unity and support evident at the event.

It wasn't just local folks in attendance that were taking notice, as The Canadian Council of Churches had reached out and requested the opportunity to interview Managing Director, Micheal Gulliver regarding FIAGW's ability to attract large crowds to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and their rather unique formula of offering up laughter, worship and fundraising. The profile article for FIAGW 2025, and pictures of other events from across Canada can be viewed through the website www.weekofprayer.ca/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-in-canada/ . There is a full link to the Funny in a Good Way profile which provides a recap of the event's makeup and origins.

While it is exciting to see national organizations such as The Canadian Council of Churches take interest in what is happening our Ottawa Valley community, Managing Director, Michael Gulliver states that "it's the impact that we have been able to have for local organizations, as well as just bringing the community together that has been the true blessing." Over the six years that FIAGW has held events, they have been at or near sellouts and been able to contribute over \$20,000 to local organizations that include food banks, The Grind, First Step Options, and this year Saint Vincent de Paul - Pembroke.

Saint Vincent de Paul – Pembroke (SVDPP), President, Muggsie Boland was over the moon with SVDPP being selected as the recipient of the net proceeds from the event this year. During the event presentation, Ms. Boland made numerous references to the fact that what they do is provide people with a chance to "Lean on Me" until they can get back on their feet. The reference to the 1972 song title by Bill Withers turned into a powerful flash mob rendition of the song at January 18th event and this had more than a few folks at the event choked up with emotion.

At a recent presentation, representatives from the board of directors of FIAGW were pleased to present President, Muggsie Boland and Deacon Adrien Chaput with a cheque presentation for \$3,050. Representatives from both organizations were in awe at the support for the event from sponsors, churches, the venue provider, businesses, volunteers, and those in attendance. While everyone was in awe of the success, as Deacon Adrien reiterated, "we're in awe but not surprised, because we know that Gods got this".

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For Further information

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