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For Immediate Release

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Popular Names in Canadian Comedy help local Christians Unite in week of Prayer

Pembroke, ON – Every year between January 18th and the 25th, Christians around the world are invited to celebrate a Week of Prayer for the Unity of all Christians. The initial event started in 1908 and every year Christians are asked to reflect on scripture together, participate in jointly-organized ecumenical services and share fellowship.

With the blessing of the Pembroke Area Clergy Association (PACA), a local group called, Funny in a Good Way is set to launch a unique event that will bring individuals together for an evening of laughter, praise, worship and fellowship as they share in a kickoff to the annual week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The event is not going to be in your traditional worship setting as organizers have arranged for the event to take place at Festival Hall on January 20th, 2018. Doors open at 6:30 pm and the event will run until about 9:30 pm.

A main attraction for the event will be a family friendly comedy show performed by Lift Up Laughter. Second City Alumnus and Canadian Comedy Award Nominee, Rick Wharton has assembled an amazing line up for the Comedy portion of the evening.

Rick says, "The power of laughter and prayer are two amazing things and I'm really looking forward to bringing some of my improv friends to Festival Hall to celebrate this wonderful event."

Rick is set to display his special improv talents as a special guest to perform with the Comedy Troupe "The Yes Man" which includes some very well-known names in Canadian Comedy:

Neil Crone: Neil is an actor and writer and has performed in dozens of television and radio commercials, TV shows and feature films and is the voice of numerous cartoon characters every Saturday morning. Probably best known for his six seasons as Radio Redneck 'Fred Tupper' on CBC's hit comedy series, Little Mosque on the Prairie, Neil is also a Second City Mainstage alumnus, an award winning syndicated humor columnist and a Canadian Comedy Award winner. When Neil grows up he wants to be an astronaut.

Kevin Frank: Kevin has made a career of not being Kevin Frank. Whether it's playing the 250 different characters on his Gemini-nominated Comedy/Pet show Pet Project or his countless appearances on popular series: the Red Green Show, Daily Grind or Due South, Kevin has had fun not being himself.

Patrick McKenna: Patrick may be best known for his fifteen seasons as the lovable, nerdy, techno-geek, Harold on the hilarious Red Green Show. But he started his career as a Stand Up comedian before joining Toronto's Second City mainstage company. Patrick is a three-time "Best Actor" Gemini Award winner for both comedy and drama and is currently starring as Dr. Healy in TVO's acclaimed new series, Hard Rock Medical. You can also hear Patrick in no less than five regular animated series.

The event will also feature some not so well known names in the Comedy scene as some of the local members of the Pembroke Area Clergy Association deliver their own version of "Ministerial Mirth".

Contemporary Christian band Gate47 will provide the worship music with their rendition of songs from many of today's top Christian artists.

Funny in a Good Way is a newly formed not for profit organization created with the idea of bringing individuals together for opportunities to have good, clean fun and helping out local organizations along the way. Coordinator, Michael Gulliver says he is, "Pleased to have the support of PACA and is excited to invite the community together for an event that starts such an important week for Christians. Events that strengthen the relationship between Churches and bring Christians together are going to play an ever increasing role in our Christian walk.

"We're also pleased to announce that our inaugural event will be raising funds to help out The Grind in downtown Pembroke. With The Grind's focus on being an agent of positive change in our community it is a perfect fit for the vision of Funny in a Good Way."

There are still opportunities for businesses, organizations and youth to offer up additional support for the event. Interested sponsors, volunteers or those looking to learn more should contact Mr. Gulliver directly at funnyinagoodway@outlook.com.

Tickets for the event can be purchased online at www.funnyinagoodway.ca or they can be purchased directly at The Grind - 122 Pembroke St. W., Pembroke, Ontario. Tickets for the special night of laughter and praise are \$15.00 in advance and early purchase is encouraged.

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Lift Up Laughter / The Yes Men

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