

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
17 Royal Rd. S., Portage la Prairie, MB. R1N 1T8
Office Phone: 204-857-4351 email firstpc@mymts.net
www.firstpcportage.com

Minister: **John Zondag**
Home Phone: 204-239-6719 email jzondag@mymts.net
Organist: **Margaret McNutt-Reichelt**
Clerk of Session: **Raymond Reichelt**

We acknowledge that we are in Treaty 1 territory, and that the land is the traditional lands of the Anishinabe and Dakota Nations, and the homeland of the Métis Nation

ANNOUNCEMENTS SHEET

THE 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST **22 September 2019**

We extend a warm welcome to our guests! We invite you to sign the guest book at the back of the sanctuary.

Everyone is invited to remain for a time of fellowship and refreshments in the Church Hall (downstairs) following the service. We thank **Pat Mullins** for hosting today.

The Greeters this month are **Rob and Cheryl McPherson**.

Today's scripture readings will be read by **Debbi Miles**.

Scripture Readings - The scripture readings for today's service are

- Jeremiah 8.18 - 9.1 - "Is there no balm in Gilead?"
- Psalm 79 - "God, the nations have invaded your inheritance"
- 1 Timothy 2.1-7 - "One mediator between God and humanity"
- Luke 16.1-13 - The parable of the dishonest manager

Next Sunday's readings will be

- Jeremiah 32.1-3a, 6-15 - Jeremiah buys a field
- Psalm 91 - "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High ..."
- 1 Timothy 6.6-19 - "Godliness with contentment"
- Luke 16.19-31 - The parable of the rich man and Lazarus

This Week in First Church:

- Today, following the service - Annual fire drill
- Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible study meeting at Gwen's home
- Thursday, 7:00 p.m. - Session meeting
- Friday, 12:00 noon - Great Presbyterian Pie Sale

Coming Up:

- Sunday, 6 October - Communion Sunday

In Gladstone Hospital - Jean McBurney

Newsletter - Hard copies of the October issue of the Newsletter are now available for the elders to pick up and deliver to those in their districts who do not have e-mail addresses. Everyone for whom we do have an e-mail address has already received the Newsletter by e-mail. Many thanks to Lisa Sneesby for putting the Newsletter together, and to Gwen Henwood for printing the hard copies!

Fire Drill - Our annual fire drill will be held at the end of today's service, weather permitting. When the fire alarm rings, please leave the building, and gather at the back of the City Hall and the Olina flower shop — watching out for any traffic in the lane! Please use the exit that is closest to where you are seated. Church School students, upon leaving the building, are asked to stay with their teacher until a parent or grandparent comes to pick them up. When the drill is finished, everyone may go back inside for our usual fellowship time in the Church Hall. If it's raining, we'll try again next Sunday.

Reading, Anyone? If you would like to take a turn reading the **scripture readings** on one of the Sundays in October, please sign up on the yellow sheet on the music stand at the south entrance. Please sign up for one Sunday only, so that as many others as possible also can take a turn.

Scripture Readings - For the most part, the **Gospel** readings in our services this fall will be semi-continuous passages from the middle part of the Gospel of Luke, in which Jesus makes his way to Jerusalem, and then has a brief ministry in Jerusalem before he is arrested. The **Old Testament** readings for the next few weeks will be from the Book of Jeremiah; later in the fall, there will be readings from the prophets Joel, Habakkuk, Haggai, and Isaiah, as well. The readings from the **Letters** for the next few weeks will be semi-continuous passages from the so-called Pastoral Letters (1-2 Timothy and Titus), and then from 2 Thessalonians. The **psalms** are chosen to tie in with each week's Old Testament reading. The readings are those prescribed by the Revised Common Lectionary, which is designed to give congregations exposure to as much of the Bible as possible over a three-year period. In the seasons of Ordinary Time (After Epiphany and After Pentecost), therefore, the readings on a given Sunday may or may not have themes in common with each other.

SK Volunteers - Those who volunteer in the Soup Kitchen (including members and adherents of the congregation) are asked to fill out a **Teacher/Leader Form** and sign a **Covenant of Care Form** (two sides of a single sheet). If you are a Soup Kitchen volunteer and haven't yet done so, forms are available from John Zondag. This is a requirement of our national church's "Leading With Care" policy.

Parking - In the past, we have rented out the parking spaces behind the church (the west side) to people who work downtown. In the past couple of years, we have had no renters, but starting the first of October, we will be renting four parking spaces to people who work at the City Hall. This means that those parking spaces will not be available to others on weekdays, although they will be available on weekday evenings and weekends. Only the space marked "Elder" will normally be available.

Devotional Booklets - Copies of the September-October issue of the devotional booklet *Today* are available on the table at the south entrance. Feel free to take one home with you.

Newspaper - Copies of *Presbyterian Connection*, our national church's quarterly newspaper, are available on the table at the south entrance. Feel free to take one home with you.

Retreat at Trinity United Church – Is your life going perfectly according to plan? Are you free from disappointment, regret, frustration, uncertainty and stress? If so, then this retreat is NOT for you. But if, like the rest of us, your life isn't picture-perfect all the time, then this retreat may be for you. Sometimes, life is a real pain. That doesn't mean there is anything wrong with us, or that we aren't being faithful with our lives. If you are looking for a safe space to be real about the ups and downs of life, and to look for God in the midst of it, this retreat is for you. It will be held on Saturday, November 16 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Trinity United Church. It will begin with a continental breakfast, and will include a hot lunch. Some of the themes that will be explored include: owning our own story, practising self-compassion, laughter can be holy, embracing vulnerability, resisting the "quick fix", letting go, and noticing grace. Pre-registration is required by Monday, November 4, so they can plan for meals, and have adequate supplies. The suggested fee is \$50 to cover the cost of meals (\$15), supplies, and some of the time that went into preparing and leading the retreat. However, cost should never be a barrier for anyone who wants to participate. Pay whatever you can, and free is an option. To register, call the Trinity Church office at [204-857-4471](tel:204-857-4471) or email trinityu@mts.net.

Mission Moment

Committed to serving

For over 90 years, Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre has offered empowering, supportive programs and services to the community of Little Burgundy in south-west Montreal. As one of the few English community centres in the city, Tyndale's programs include early literacy programs for preschoolers, after-school programming and day camps for school-aged children and life-skills training for adults. Located in an area that faces challenges related to poverty and has a high concentration of single-parent families, the centre is committed to ensuring that each member of the community has the opportunity and skills needed to realize their full potential.

Presbyterians Sharing helps people realize their full potential