

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Minister: **John Zondag**

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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 18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST HARVEST SUNDAY 13 October 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 **Mardine Garnham** for hosting today.

The Greeters this month are **Miep Verhoeven** and **Pat Antoski**.

Today's scripture readings will be read by **Raymond Reichelt**.

Scripture Readings - The scripture readings for today's service are
- Deuteronomy 26.1-11 - An offering of the firstfruits of the harvest
- Psalm 67 - "May God be gracious to us"
- Philippians 4.4-9 - "... by prayer ... , with thanksgiving"
- Luke 17.11-19 - Jesus heals ten men with leprosy

Next Sunday's readings will be

- Jeremiah 31.27-34 - God promises a new covenant
- Psalm 119.97-104 - "Oh, how I love your law!"
- 2 Timothy 3.14 - 4.5 - "Preach the word"
- Luke 18.1-8 - The parable of the persistent widow

This Week in First Church:

- Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible study at Gwen's home
- Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - Men's Breakfast

Coming Up:

- Wednesday, 23 October, 5:00 p.m. - Meal-in-a-Bowl Supper

In Gladstone Hospital - Jean McBurney

Today - As we did last year, we are collecting donations of non-perishable food for the local **Food Bank** today (Harvest Sunday). Please add your donations to the Thanksgiving display at the front of the sanctuary. After the service, the donations will be delivered to the Food Bank. As we give thanks to God for the harvest, we remember also to share food with those in need.

The Christian Year - Thanksgiving Day has been celebrated continuously as a holiday in Canada since 1879. However, both the date and the focus of the celebration have varied during that time. For example, in the years of Queen Victoria's golden and diamond jubilees, those events served as the focus for the day. In the 1920s, Thanksgiving and Armistice Day were celebrated together on the Monday closest to the 11th of November. Since 1957, however, the date of Thanksgiving has been the second Monday of October, and the focus has been thanksgiving for the harvest.

In the Christian Year, Thanksgiving Day is somewhat of a secondary festival, since it has to do with something other than an event in the life of Jesus or the history of the church. Nevertheless, it is a significant festival, since it affirms that God, as Creator, provides for our needs. Thanksgiving gives us a special opportunity to give God thanks and praise for the harvest, through which he provides the food that sustains our lives. To emphasize this, our national church has, in recent years, changed the name of the day *before* Thanksgiving Day from "Thanksgiving Sunday" to "Harvest Sunday".

Office Hours - Since Monday is a holiday, John will not be in the church office until Wednesday morning. If a pastoral need should arise on Monday or Tuesday, please call him at home (239-6719).

Next Sunday - Immediately following the service next Sunday (the 20th), in the sanctuary, Donna Frost from the **Alzheimer Society of Manitoba**, will give a brief presentation on ways in which we can make our congregation a "dementia-friendly church". It will be approximately ten minutes in length; those who wish to hear it can remain in their seats, while those who don't may leave.

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

Meal-in-a-Bowl - Our monthly Meal-in-a-Bowl Suppers are moving back to the fourth Wednesday of the month this year. So the date for this month will be next Wednesday, the 23rd (at 5:00 p.m.), not this Wednesday.

Finance & Maintenance Committee - The Finance and Maintenance Committee is looking for an additional member, ideally someone who could also serve as secretary. The committee meets once a month, from September to June (ten meetings per year), normally on the second Wednesday of the month, at 6:30 p.m. Committee members serve for three years at a time, with the possibility of serving further three-year terms if desired. If you are interested, or have questions, please speak to Keith Kelly (857-5712).

Presbyterians Sharing Update - Givings to *Presbyterians Sharing* as of the end of September totaled **\$1,775.00**, which is 59% of the allocation that we accepted for this year (\$3,000). Many thanks to everyone who gives to *Presbyterians Sharing*!

12-Step Recovery Worship - Trinity United Church invites people to join them for a special worship service that honors the experience of those whose lives have been touched by addictions of various sorts. Everyone is welcome, whether or not they are part of a 12-step group. The first service will take place this coming Sunday (the 20th), at 4:00 p.m. at Trinity Church (15 Tupper St. S.). For more information, text or call Sarah Bruer at 872-3563.