

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
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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 TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS THE FINAL SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 23 February 2020**

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 **Margo Nichol** for hosting today.

The Greeters this month are **Winnie Duncan** and **Shauna-Lei Leslie**.

Today's scripture readings will be read by **Pat Mullins**.

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

- Exodus 24.12-18 - The glory of God on Mt. Sinai
- Psalm 2 - "Why do the nations conspire?"
- 2 Peter 1.16-21 - Eyewitnesses of the transfiguration
- Matthew 17.1-9 - The transfiguration of Jesus

#### **This Week in First Church:**

- Today, following the service - Choir practice
- Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible study at Lalaine's home
- Wednesday, 5:00 p.m. - Meal-in-a-Bowl Supper
- Thursday, 7:00 p.m. - Session meeting

#### **Coming Up:**

- Sunday, 8 March - Deadline for submissions for the March Newsletter

**The Christian Year** - Today is **Transfiguration Sunday**, the final Sunday of the Season after Epiphany. On this Sunday we commemorate Jesus' transfiguration, recorded in Matthew 17.1-13, as well as in parallel passages in Mark and Luke. Like his baptism, Jesus' transfiguration was an event in which Jesus' true identity as the Son of God was briefly revealed. The color for Transfiguration Sunday is **white**, symbolizing joy and celebration, while the color for the rest of the Season after Epiphany is green, the color for ordinary time.

This Wednesday is **Ash Wednesday**, the first day of the Season of **Lent**. Lent is the season in which we prepare ourselves for the festival of Easter, through repentance — that is, turning away from sin, and seeking renewal in our relationships with God and each other. The name “Ash” Wednesday comes from a traditional ritual called the “Imposition of Ashes”, in which ashes are placed on a person's forehead in the shape of a cross, signifying the person's penitence, and consciousness of his/her mortality. The seasonal color for Lent is **purple**, symbolizing preparation and repentance.

**Interim Moderator** - John Zondag was appointed interim moderator for Knox Church in Neepawa, effective the 1st of February. He will need to lead the service there next Sunday (1 March), and chair their Annual Meeting following the service. Raymond Reichelt will lead our service that Sunday.

**Devotional Booklets** - Copies of the March-April issue of the devotional guide *Today* are now available on the table at the south entrance. Feel free to take one home.

**Transfiguration** - Today's Gospel reading is Matthew's account of the transfiguration of Jesus. The expression “was transfigured” (in the NIV) comes from the Latin translation of Matthew's original Greek, which actually says that Jesus “was metamorphosed” — or as we would say in English, “transformed”. Mark's account also uses that particular word, but Luke's does not. In all three accounts, Jesus' clothes turn a dazzling white, but only Matthew's account says that, in addition, Jesus' face “shone like the sun”. There is no account of the transfiguration in the Gospel of John.

**Presbyterians Sharing** - We received this week a **thank-you letter** from Ian Ross-McDonald, the General Secretary of our national church's “Life and Mission Agency”, thanking our congregation for contributing **\$3,651.69** to *Presbyterians Sharing* in 2019. Total contributions to *P.S.* from across the country last year came to \$8,389,514. The letter has been posted on the bulletin board in the Church Hall. New *P.S.* brochures for this year were distributed two weeks ago, and extra copies are set out on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Feel free to take one home with you.

**Newsletter** - If you have a submission for the March issue of the congregational newsletter, please give or e-mail it to Lisa Sneesby by Sunday, 8 March ([bneesby@mymts.net](mailto:bneesby@mymts.net)). We aim to have the newsletter ready for distribution the following Sunday, two weeks in advance of our next Communion Sunday (29 March).

**Refugee Families Update** - Thank you to all who came to the Ladies' Hockey Fundraiser on February 17 in MacGregor, and to those who donated. Over \$5,000 was raised – with half going to the project of bringing Iftikar Al Hallaq's brother & family to Canada (for more info contact Auna Brown) and the other half going to the Refugee 2020 Project of bringing the older 2 daughters & families of Hasan & Sheren Bakr (for more info contact Owen & Paula McKenzie). The next fund raiser for the Bakr families will be a Kurdish Dinner and Dance on Saturday, April 4, from 5-9 in the Trinity United Church gym. Tickets can be purchased in the church offices of both Trinity United Church and St. Mary's Anglican Church, or by calling Paula 204-872-0533 or Tirzah 204-871-2087. Donations are welcome as well.

**Prayer Calendars** - Copies of the Prayer Calendar for March are ready to be picked up at the back of the sanctuary. Don't forget your copy!

**Mission Moment**

**Screening for health in Somalia**

Samsam, a mother of five, lives in a community in Somalia where access to food is a consistent struggle and many people are malnourished. Samsam jumped at the opportunity to join a PWS&D-supported program to learn about nutrition for infants and young children. Through this program, she discovered a simple trick for determining whether a child or mother is malnourished: taking a measurement near the top of their arm. Now, by helping community members screen for malnutrition, Samsam is making sure that people in her village are receiving the care that they need. This program demonstrates the multiplying effect of enabling communities to help themselves. With 1,540 people trained on how to measure malnutrition in this way, over 15,000 children and 5,000 women have been screened so far.

*PWS&D helps children and mothers embrace a more promising future*

**FINANCIAL REPORT, January 2020**

	<u>Jan. 1-31/20</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
<b>FINANCES:</b>		
INCOME RECEIVED:	6,044.34	6,044.34
EXPENSES PAID:	<u>8,684.64</u>	<u>8,684.64</u>
<b>SURPLUS (DEFICIT):</b>	<b><u>(2,640.30)</u></b>	<b><u>(2,640.30)</u></b>
<b>PRESBYTERIANS SHARING – Total Allocation for year is \$3,200.00:</b>		
DONATIONS RECEIVED:	<u>170.00</u>	<u>170.00</u>
<b>FUNDRAISING:</b>		
INCOME:	580.00	580.00
EXPENSES:	<u>143.00</u>	<u>143.00</u>
<b>SURPLUS:</b>	<b><u>437.00</u></b>	<b><u>437.00</u></b>

**A summary of the surplus from the following events (the amounts are included in the above year-to-date fundraising information):**

- Burns Dinner
- Spring Dinner
- Fall Supper
- Catering
- Meal In A Bowl      **437.00**
- Spring Concert
- Presby. Pie Sale

**Thank you for your continued support of these events.**