

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 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER CHRISTIAN FAMILY SUNDAY 9 May 2021

Online - We are holding our Sunday services by **Zoom**, live, at our regular time of 10:30, today and for at least the next two weeks. Each week's service is recorded and then uploaded to YouTube, for the benefit of those who are unable to join us in real time. As usual, each service will be available until the following Sunday, at which time it will be deleted from the YouTube channel. The link to the Zoom meeting is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84737316742?pwd=ZjZlZWYlTzBWR2RkZ1BOUy9nVlVuUT09>; it will be the same every week. After the service, the link to the recording on YouTube will be e-mailed out, along with a copy of the service script. That link is different every week. In addition, hard copies of the script can be printed and mailed out to anyone who would like them. If you would like to receive them, just call John at the church office.

Scripture Readings - The readings for today's service are

- Deuteronomy 6.1-9 - Obey God's commandments
- Psalm 128 - "Blessed are all who fear the LORD"
- Galatians 3.26 - 4.7 - Children of God by adoption
- Luke 2.41-52 - Jesus and his parents

Next Sunday's readings will be

- Acts 1.1-14 - The ascension of Jesus
- Psalm 47 - "Clap your hands, all you nations!"
- Ephesians 1.15-23 - "At the right hand of God"
- Luke 24.44-53 - The ascension of Jesus

The Readers today are **Philip and Margaret Dunn**.

This Week in First Church:

- Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible study, by Zoom
- Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - F&M Committee meeting, by Zoom

Coming Up:

- Sunday, 16 May - Deadline for submissions for the June newsletter

Spring Dinner - Many thanks to everyone who supported our take-out Spring Dinner this past Sunday! Special thanks to organizers Mardine Garnham, Margaret McNutt-Reichert, and Lisa Sneesby! A full report on the Dinner will be included in the June issue of the Newsletter.

Newsletter - If you have something to contribute to the **June issue** of our congregational Newsletter, please send it to Lisa Sneesby (bsneesby@mymts.net) by next Sunday, the 16th. We plan to have the Newsletter ready for distribution the following Sunday, the 23rd.

Today - Copies of the May-June issue of the devotional guide *Today* are now available. They are set out on the steps just inside the office entrance, and copies can be picked up anytime during regular office hours. Copies of the **Prayer Calendar** for May can be picked up from the same spot.

Christian Family Sunday - Since Mother's Day is essentially a secular observance, our national church decided decades ago to broaden the focus from just mothers to the family as a whole; and therefore created "Christian Family Sunday". So, within The Presbyterian Church in Canada, we celebrate Christian Family Sunday on the same day as Mother's Day, and have no particular observance on Father's Day, in June.

The Christian Year - This Thursday, the fortieth day of the Easter Season, is **Ascension Day**, on which we commemorate the ascension of Jesus — his departure from the earth and return to heaven. Ascension Day always falls on the Thursday following the sixth Sunday of Easter. The fullest account of the ascension is found in Acts 1.1-11, but there are many other references to it elsewhere in the New Testament as well, such as John 16.28 and 1 Peter 3.22. Jesus' ascension will be the focus of our service next Sunday.

Wear Something Red - Two weeks from today is **Pentecost**, the festival celebrating the giving of the Holy Spirit, which is narrated in Acts 2.1-13 (41). To make the occasion a bit more special, you are invited to wear something **red** for our service that day — the traditional color for Pentecost (symbolizing the "tongues of fire" that appeared to Jesus' disciples).

Mission Moment

Ministry of Hope and Care

Fernando's dream of becoming a police officer seemed out of reach when he and his brother were children living on the streets of Miscke, a rural village in Romania. Twelve years later, he attends university and is closer to fulfilling his dream thanks to Samuel House, where Fernando and his brother found a welcoming home. Samuel House is a Christian social ministry of the Reformed Church in Romania, Királyhágómellék District, providing nutritious food, education and after-school care to children from disadvantaged families. Presbyterians Sharing has been supporting this important ministry of hope and care since 2014.