

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 16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

12 September 2021

Welcome! We extend a warm welcome to our guests, and invite you to sign the guest book at the back of the sanctuary. Unfortunately, however, we are not yet able to resume our after-service fellowship time.

Online Services - For the time being, John continues to record an abbreviated service each Sunday, and upload it to YouTube. However, the link to the recording is now sent out only to those who request it. If you would like to receive the link to the recorded service each Sunday, please let John know.

Scripture Readings - The readings for today's service are

- Proverbs 1.20-33 - "Wisdom calls out in the street"
- Psalm 19 - "The heavens declare the glory of God"
- James 3.1-12 - The power of the tongue
- Mark 8.27-38 - Who is Jesus? Passion prediction Nr. 1

The readings for next Sunday will be

- Exodus 4.10-17 - "I have never been eloquent"
- Psalm 104 - "LORD, my God, you are very great!"
- 1 Corinthians 12.27-31 - Spiritual gifts: Conclusion

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

The reader today is **Lalaine Buan**.

Church School resumes today. Our Church School teachers this year are Charlie Clifford, Margaret Dunn, Keith Kelly, and Debbi Miles. We thank them for giving leadership in this important ministry!

This Week in First Church:

- Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible study, by Zoom

Coming Up:

- Sunday, 19 Sept. - Deadline for submissions for the October Newsletter

Protocols - In order to protect each other from transmission of the COVID-19 virus, please follow these protocols in our Sunday services, until further notice:

- Wear a mask. Those participating in leading the service may remove their masks when they are speaking, so that they may be more easily understood.
- Maintain physical distance (2 meters) from others (except members of your own household).
- Use hand sanitizer when entering the sanctuary.
- An offering plate has been set out at the back of the sanctuary.
- Remain seated throughout the service, including for the hymns.
- Bring your own cushion and/or Bible each week, if desired.
- Prefer that washrooms not be used.
- There will be no coffee/fellowship hour.
- Refrain from shaking hands, etc.
- The names of attenders will be recorded each Sunday, so that we have a record of who attended on which Sunday, in case contact tracing should need to be done later.

Prayer Calendar - The Prayer Calendar for September has been sent out by e-mail. A few hard copies have been set out on the table at the back of the sanctuary for those who don't have e-mail. Copies of the September/October issue of the devotional guide *Today* are available at the back of the sanctuary as well. Feel free to take one home with you.

New Beginnings - At its meeting on the 26th of August, the Session decided to hold off on resuming our participation in the New Beginnings process until January, due to a) uncertainty about the pandemic, and b) scheduling challenges. The next stage in the process is the "Introduction to Transformational Ministry" weekend, to be led by our coach, Ian Fraser, who lives in Montréal. This will be followed by a series of small-group meetings, to be led by members of our own congregation, each small group meeting four times over a period of eight weeks.

Appeal for Birdtail - We received in August an appeal from **Yvonne Bearbull**, Director of the Kenora Fellowship Center, in behalf of her home community, the **Birdtail Dakota Nation**, which is north of Virden, and within the bounds of our Presbytery. We once had a Presbyterian congregation there, but it was dissolved at some point in the 1980s or 90s. However, for the past few years, ministers in our Presbytery (including Henry Hildebrandt, Glenn Ball, and Laura Hargrove) have been holding a Sunday afternoon service there once per month. Yvonne's note reads, in part:

I am very saddened to advise that the state of many in the community is in dire need. The poverty many experience in the community and compounded with COVID and the impact of the mental health crisis. Families have been hit hard, and many have been separated. Some have been reunited, and are in need of furniture and household items. So many things that we take for granted and the comforts of life are so far out of reach for many. It feels awful typing this, knowing the need is so great. There are a few families who we know who have very little in the way of household furnishings, and you can imagine the level of depression and worry this brings. ...

So the consideration is to put out a request to congregation members, or even in congregations more rural and close to the community, and if anyone is willing to donate items: household items, kitchen items (pots and pans, dishes, cutlery, etc.), towels, bedding, furniture (tables, chairs, couches, etc.). ...

My heart goes out to the moms who are struggling to keep their kids, and have so little. It would be such an encouragement to them to know someone cares and wants to offer you (this).. out of love and care.

If anyone has items to donate that can be transported by car, please bring them to the church; and John will deliver them to Glenn Ball in Brandon, who will look after transporting them the rest of the way to Birdtail.

Newsletter - If you have a submission for the October issue of the Newsletter, please get it to Lisa Sneesby (bsneesby@mymts.net) by Sunday, 19 September. We aim to have the Newsletter ready for distribution the following Sunday, the 26th.

Proverb of the Week -

*A gentle answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger.* (Proverbs 15.1)

FINANCIAL REPORT, September 2021

	<u>Aug 1-31/21</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
FINANCES:		
INCOME RECEIVED:	6,256.24	70,386.66
EXPENSES PAID:	<u>6,103.72</u>	<u>59,113.71</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT):	<u>152.52</u>	<u>11,272.95</u>

Included in the above Y-T-D income is 15,000.00 from the Manitoba Bridge Grant and 17,143.51 from the Canada Employment Wage Subsidy (CEWS)

If our Church had not received the Manitoba and Federal government grants (\$32,143.51) our Y-T-D deficit would have been \$20,870.56.

PRESBYTERIANS SHARING – Total Allocation for year is \$3,200.00:

DONATIONS RECEIVED:	<u>155.00</u>	<u>1,305.00</u>
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FUNDRAISING:

INCOME:	0.00	3,701.60
EXPENSES:	<u>0.00</u>	<u>793.10</u>
SURPLUS:	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,908.50</u>

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

Spring Dinner	2,908.50
Fall Supper	
Catering	
Meal In A Bowl	
Presby. Pie Sale	