

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 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 15 May 2022

Welcome! We extend a warm welcome to our guests, and invite you to sign the guest book at the back of the sanctuary. Everyone is invited to remain for a cup of coffee in the Church Hall following the service.

The Greeter this month is **Terry Rempel**.

The Reader today is **Keith Kelly**.

Scripture Readings - The readings for today's service are

- Acts 11.1-18 - Peter justifies his actions
- Psalm 148 - "Praise the LORD from the heavens!"
- Revelation 21.1-7 - New heaven, new earth, new Jerusalem
- John 13.31-35 - Jesus' new commandment

The readings for next Sunday 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

This Week in First Church:

- Today, 5:00 p.m. - Spring Dinner
- Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible study, by Zoom

Coming up:

- Sunday, 22 May - Deadline for submissions for the May Newsletter
- Wednesday, 25 May - Meal-in-a-Bowl
- Sunday, 5 June - Communion Sunday

Ukraine - PWS&D is accepting donations toward the effort to provide assistance to refugees fleeing the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The most urgent needs are for food, water, and shelter. PWS&D provides assistance through its partners, the ACT Alliance and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. Donations can be made through our congregation; just mark your cheque or envelope "PWS&D - Ukraine". If you would like your donation to reach PWS&D faster, you can donate online, using your credit card. Go to www.WeRespond.ca, click on "Ukraine Crisis Appeal" or "Ukraine Crisis: Irina's Story"; then click on the "Donate Now" button, and follow the prompts. You can check the website also for periodic updates.

Comfort Dolls and Baby Caps - We are still looking for someone to take over coordinating the Comfort Dolls and Baby Caps project. If you are interested, or would like more information, please speak to John.

Newsletter - If you have any submissions for the May issue of the Newsletter, please get them to Lisa Sneesby (bsneesby@mymts.net) by next Sunday (the 22nd).

Today - Copies of the May-June issue of the devotional guide *Today* are now available, and have been set out on the table behind the back pew. Feel free to take one home with you, to use in your daily devotional reading.

Next Month - The Session recently decided that we will again hold an **Outdoor Service and Barbecue**, following a two-year hiatus, and Bruce and Lisa Sneesby have offered to host it at their farm. The date is Sunday, 12 June, with the service beginning at 10:30, as usual, and the barbecue following. Keep an eye on the Announcements Sheet in the coming weeks for details.

Canna Lilies for Ukraine - As the tragedy in the Ukraine unfolds, many of us have gone beyond asking "What can we do?" to "What more can we do?" This latest effort takes advantage of the prodigious growth of canna lilies planted in and around **Trinity United Church** last summer. A limited number of lilies have been started in containers from the 2021 harvest of bulbs. These are available for patio container or garden planting for a suggested donation of \$15 - \$20. All proceeds directed to Mission & Service Partners in the Humanitarian Coalition for the people of Ukraine: ACT Alliance and the Food Grains Bank. Orders will be taken through the Trinity office (857-4471), and will be available for pick-up at the Portage Mall, Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m. (starting May 14) and Saturdays from 2-4 p.m. Sponsored by The Portage Mall, Trinity United Church, HB Book Centre, Whoop & Hollar Folk Festival, and Jeffries Nurseries.

Current Protocols - The current pandemic protocols for our Sunday services are as follows:

- Wearing a mask and hand sanitizing are optional.
- For the time being, we continue to maintain physical distance (2 meters) from others (except members of our own households). We also continue to refrain from shaking hands, etc.
- An offering plate is set out at the back of the sanctuary. It may be brought forward for the dedication of the offering by the Greeter (or someone else) if he/she is comfortable doing so.
- We stand for the hymns and other parts of the service for which we stood previously; but have not yet put the hymnbooks and Bibles back into the pews. Those who wish to remain seated for the entire service should feel free to do so.
- Those who wish to do so may bring their own cushion and/or Bible each week.
- The names of attenders each Sunday are no longer being recorded, since contact tracing is no longer being done.

Mission Moment

In Malawi, unreliable rainfall patterns are a significant issue affecting farmers. As a result of climate change, these unpredictable rains greatly impact food security and limit what farmers can and cannot plant. To assist farmers in Malawi's Karonga District, workshops that teach conservation agriculture techniques are held. Farmers learn how to use mulch and make compost to nourish the soil and grow better crops. Farmers also learn other essential techniques, including weed and pest management, to address the ongoing challenges of climate change. **Since implementing a conservation agriculture approach, many farmers have significantly increased their crop yields.** This agricultural project is supported by *Presbyterian World Service & Development*, in partnership with Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Financial Report - (see below)

FINANCIAL REPORT, April 2022

	<u>April 1-30/22</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
FINANCES:		
INCOME RECEIVED:	5,336.27	30,736.04
EXPENSES PAID:	<u>9,727.94</u>	<u>33,701.39</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT):	(4,391.67)	(2,965.35)

Included in the above Y-T-D income is \$2,430.96 from the Canada Employment Wage Subsidy (CEWS) and \$10,000.00 from the Endowment Fund

PRESBYTERIANS SHARING – Total Allocation for 2022 is \$3,200.00:

DONATIONS RECEIVED:	120.00	540.00
---------------------	---------------	---------------

FUNDRAISING:

INCOME:	365.00	365.00
EXPENSES:	<u>81.95</u>	<u>81.95</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT):	283.05	283.05

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

Spring Dinner	
Fall Supper	
Catering	
Meal In A Bowl	283.05
Presby. Pie Sale	

Thank you for the generous donation to our Easter Offering. The total amount received was \$1,025.00.