

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 14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 11 September 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 downstairs in the Church Hall following the service.

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

The Reader today is **Philip Dunn**.

Scripture Readings - The readings for today's service are

- Jeremiah 4.11-12, 22-28 - An oracle of destruction
- Psalm 14 - "Fools say to themselves ..."
- 1 Timothy 1.12-17 - "I was shown mercy"
- Luke 15.1-10 - Parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin

This Week in First Church:

- Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible study begins
- Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - Finance & Maintenance Committee meeting

Coming Up:

- Sunday, 18 Sept. - Deadline for submissions for the September Newsletter
- Saturday, 24 Sept., 9:00 a.m. - Men's Breakfasts begin
- Sunday, 25 Sept. - "Sundae Sunday" - See separate announcement
- Wednesday, 28 Sept., 5:00 p.m. - Meal-in-a-Bowl Supper

Newsletter - If you have a news item, report, photo, story, or joke to contribute to the September issue of the Newsletter, please get it to Lisa Sneesby (bsneesby@mymts.net) by next Sunday, the 18th. We are aiming to have the Newsletter ready for distribution the following Sunday, the 25th, a week before our Communion Sunday on the 2nd of October.

Protocols Dropped - The Session has decided to discontinue the remaining pandemic protocols for our Sunday services. Among other things, this means that we will go back to using hymnbooks and pew Bibles, and gathering the Offering the way we used to do. Those who wish to continue wearing a mask and/or using hand sanitizer should feel free to do so, however. Similarly, those who feel uncomfortable shaking hands with others should feel free not to do so.

Treasurer - Mardine Garnham has given notice of her intention to step down as treasurer of our congregation. We are therefore looking for someone to take over the position from her. Financial records are kept on the church's computer, so the new treasurer would need computer skills as well as knowledge about creating financial statements, etc. If you're interested, or have questions, please speak to either Mardine herself (239-0497) or Keith Kelly (857-5712), the convener of the Finance and Maintenance Committee.

Next Sunday - Raymond Reichelt, one of our lay preachers, will be preaching the sermon next Sunday. John Zondag will lead the rest of the service.

Men's Breakfasts - After nearly 2½ years, we are finally resuming our bi-weekly men's breakfasts, beginning on Saturday, 24 September, at 9:00 a.m. in the Church Hall.

Sundae Sunday - The Session is planning to serve **make-your-own sundaes** following the service on Sunday the 25th, in place of the usual coffee and cookies. Mark your calendar, and plan to be here!

Retirement - In its meeting last Wednesday evening, the Presbytery approved John Zondag's application to retire as of 1 January 2023, as well as that of Glenn Ball, who is planning to retire at the same time. Thank you to Raymond and Keith for speaking on behalf of the congregation at the meeting.

Now Available - Copies of the September-October issue of the devotional guide *Today* are now available on the table behind the back pew, as are copies of the Summer issue of *Presbyterian Connection*, our national church's quarterly newspaper. Feel free to take one home with you.

WICM - Winnipeg Inner City Missions is undertaking a renovation of its Anishinaabe Fellowship Centre building at 287 Laura St. in Winnipeg. The total cost will be \$500,000, and they expect to raise some of that money by selling their Flora House building on Flora Av. The renovation project will renew an old building, transforming it into spaces for physical activity and cooking classes, as well as room for arts, crafts, computers, and books. Children in the after-school program and summer day camp, adults in the First Steps program, and families living in the surrounding community will all benefit from this renovation. For details, see the **full-color flyer** posted on the bulletin board in the Church Hall. If you would like to donate toward this project, **donation cards** have been set out at the back of the sanctuary, which you can pick up, starting next Sunday. Donations can be made by cheque (sent to WICM at 415 Logan Av., Winnipeg, Man. R3A 0A4) or by e-transfer to wicm@wicm.ca. For more information on WICM, you can visit their website at www.wicm.ca.

PWS&D - To mark its 75th anniversary this year, Presbyterian World Service & Development has created a book of photographs chronicling its work in emergency relief, development, and refugee sponsorship since 1947. The book is entitled *Practical Compassion*, and can be ordered online from PWS&D's website (www.WeRespond.ca) for \$25.00. See also the flyer posted on the bulletin board in the Church Hall.

Appeal - The **National Indigenous Residential School Museum**, here in Portage la Prairie, is planning a special event to mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (a.k.a. Orange Shirt Day) on the 30th of September, and is appealing for donations to help cover the cost of the event. Donations can be mailed to the Museum at Box 430, Portage la Prairie, Man. R1N 3B7. The museum is located at 212-5000 Crescent Rd. W. (the Rufus Prince Building). The letter we received about this, containing details, is posted on the bulletin board in the Church Hall.

Emergency Appeal for Pakistan - PWS&D is appealing for donations to help with the assistance it is providing to people in Pakistan affected by flooding and landslides caused by unusually heavy monsoon rains this summer. For details, go to PWS&D's website (www.WeRespond.ca), and click on "Pakistan Flood Response" under the heading "Latest News". You can make a donation to PWS&D online using your credit card (click on the "Donate Now" button on the website), by sending a cheque to PWS&D at 50 Wynford Dr., Toronto, Ont., M3C 1J7, or through our own congregation. Please mark your donation "Pakistan Relief", so that it gets to the right place.

Place of Hope - has an urgent need for essential items to place in suites when new people move in. Each suite requires a set consisting of the following items: toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, hand soap (liquid or bar), toilet paper and dish soap.

If you can donate any of these items it would be greatly appreciated. A donation box labelled "Place of Hope" can be found at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for your support.

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

Mission Moment

Inspired by the early apostles, the Rev. Mike Veenema launched REACH, a ministry that takes place in the streets, screens, homes and public institutions of Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley. REACH focuses on gathering people to worship and become disciples of Jesus Christ. Central to this ministry is Mike's willingness to go out and draw people together in worship where they are. As the Rev. Mike himself described, "Whether they are in custody, in long-term care, struggling on the streets, or in their homes, I go to where they are." Mike receives coaching and training support through Cyclical PCC, a church-planting initiative that is supported by gifts to *Presbyterians Sharing*.