

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 13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 4 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 **Lalaine Buan**.

Scripture Readings - The readings for today's service are

- Jeremiah 18.1-11 - A lesson from the potter
- Psalm 139 - "LORD, you have examined me"
- Philemon 1-21 - Paul advocates for Onesimus
- Luke 14.25-33 - The demands of discipleship

The readings for next Sunday will be

- 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:

- Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. - Presbytery meeting, by Zoom

Coming Up:

- Tuesday, 13 Sept., 7:00 p.m. - Bible study begins
- Wednesday, 14 Sept., 6:30 p.m. - Finance & Maintenance Committee meeting
- Sunday, 18 Sept. - Deadline for submissions for the September Newsletter
- Saturday, 24 Sept., 9:00 a.m. - Men's Breakfasts begin

Protocols Dropped - At its meeting on the 25th of August, the Session 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.

Retirement - As John announced by e-mail last Sunday, he is applying to retire from the Ministry of Word and Sacrament as of 1 January 2023. Glenn Ball (St. Andrew's, Brandon) is applying to retire at the same time, as well. The Presbytery will meet by Zoom this Wednesday evening (the 7th) at 7:00, to deal with both applications to retire. The Zoom link will be sent out by e-mail ahead of time, and anyone in the congregation who would like to observe the proceedings is welcome to do so.

Newsletter - Believe it or not, it's already time to start thinking about the September issue of the Newsletter! If you have a news item, report, photo, story, or joke to contribute, please get it to Lisa Sneesby (bsneesby@mymts.net) by Sunday, 18 September. 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.

Office Hours - Since Monday is a holiday, John will not be back in the church office this week until Wednesday morning. If a pastoral need should arise before then, please call him at home (239-6719).

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.

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.

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.

Mission Moment

Vanea is 15 years old and lives in Malawi with her parents and four siblings. When Vanea finished primary school, she wrote an entrance exam for secondary school and was selected to attend the Neno Girls School, supported by *Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D)*. Sadly, Vanea's parents couldn't afford the school fees and she was forced to withdraw. *PWS&D* recognizes the importance of education for young girls to achieve their dreams and gain self-confidence. ***PWS&D provides scholarships for orphans and vulnerable girls in Malawi to attend the Neno Girls School, who otherwise could not afford to due to financial constraints.*** Vanea was one of the students selected for this scholarship and is now completing her high school education.

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!