

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 22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

6 November 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 coffee and fellowship, downstairs in the Church Hall, following the service.

The Greeters this month are **Bruce and Lisa Sneesby**.

The Reader today is **Ruth Buan**.

The Preacher today is **Keith Kelly**, and we thank him for taking part in leading the service. The rest of the service will be led by John.

Scripture Readings - The readings for today's service are
- Judges 6.33-35; 7.8b-12, 22-24 - Gideon defeats the Midianites
- Psalm 22 - "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"
- Revelation 20.7-15 - The final battle against the forces of evil
- Matthew 27.27-37 - Jesus is mocked and crucified

This Week in First Church:

- Today, 5:00 p.m. - Fall Supper
- Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. - Exit Visit (with the minister)
- Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - Exit Visit (with members of the Session) - Church Hall
- Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - F&M Committee meeting, by Zoom
- Thursday, 7:00 p.m. - Worship Committee meeting

Coming Up:

- Sunday, 13 November - Soup Kitchen Sunday
- Sunday, 27 November - First Sunday of Advent
- Sunday, 27 November - Deadline for submissions for the December Newsletter

Exit Visit - Representatives of the Presbytery will be conducting an Exit Visit with John and the members of the Session this Tuesday evening, the 8th. This is something that is normally done when a minister is leaving a congregation. The team doing the visiting will be Glenn Ball and Laura Hargrove (ministers), plus one elder from each of their congregations in Brandon. The Presbytery's purpose in conducting such a visit is to determine how things have been going in the congregation, and to ascertain what the congregation's needs are going forward. Three weeks ago, Raymond and John, along with Laura Hargrove, conducted an Exit Visit at St. Andrew's in Brandon, since Glenn, their minister, also will be retiring at the end of the year.

Next Sunday, we will have our annual **Soup Kitchen Sunday** service. Special **offering envelopes** for the Soup Kitchen are set out on the table behind the back pew. They can be used next Sunday, or at any time during the year.

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 know of someone else who may be 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.

Assessment Report - Highlights - The Session has made available to the congregation highlights of the Assessment Report written for us by the Rev. Mark Lewis in the fall of 2020, as part of the New Beginnings process for congregational renewal. A **nine-page document** has been sent out by e-mail, and a few hard copies are available on the table behind the back pew. The report as a whole is very *detailed* and very *lengthy* — 78 pages in all! The Highlights document includes the following: 1) a Summary of the report, 2) four possible "Future Scenarios" for our congregation, 3) Concluding Remarks by Mark Lewis, and 4) an appendix that lists Five Strategies for a "New Beginning" for a congregation. The four possible future scenarios are set in the year 2025, and assume that we have gone through the entire New Beginnings process, which, unfortunately, we have not been able to do. However, they are interesting, and worth reading. If we had been able to continue the New Beginnings process, we would've discussed the Assessment Report in a series of small-group meetings, and then decided how we as a congregation wished to proceed. If you would like to see the *entire* report, let John know, and he will e-mail it to you.

Gifts of Change - Copies of the 2022-23 "Gifts of Change" catalogue are now available, and have been set out on the table at the back of the sanctuary. The catalogue lists various ministries and projects toward which people can make direct donations, through the national church — such as "A Classroom for Every Child" on page 9, "Translate the Bible in Taiwan" on page 12, and "Grow Children's Ministries" on page 15. Each project/ministry description indicates what can be done with donations of various amounts. To make a donation, you can fill out the form on page 3, and mail it, along with your cheque, to Church Offices in Toronto, using the envelope enclosed in the catalogue. Alternatively, you can make your donation using your credit card, either by phone or online (details on the back cover).

Prayer Calendar - The Prayer Calendar for November has been sent out by e-mail, and a few printed copies have been set out on the table behind the back pew. We thank Margaret Dunn for putting the Prayer Calendar together every month.

Today - Copies of the November-December issue of the devotional guide *Today* are now available, and are set out on the table behind the back pew. They were late arriving this time; otherwise they would have been set out a week or two ago. Feel free to take one home, and use it for your daily devotional reading.

Hurricane Fiona - Donations toward the relief effort following Hurricane Fiona in the Atlantic Provinces can be made to PWS&D, either through our congregation, using a cheque, or through PWS&D's website (www.WeRespond.ca), using your credit card. You can check the PWS&D website also for other projects that PWS&D provides funding for.

Salvation Army Kettle - Our church is responsible for staffing the Salvation Army kettle at Walmart on Saturday, December 10. There are four shifts: 10:00 am to 12 noon; 12 noon to 2:00 pm; 2:00 pm to 4 pm and 4 pm to 6 pm. If you can help, please contact Margaret Dunn 204-239-1580.

Place of Hope is a part of Winnipeg Inner City Missions. The residents of Place of Hope participate in the First Steps to Employment Project. This helps them to develop wholesome and productive lifestyles and skills that lead to employment.

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 labeled "Place of Hope" can be found at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for your support!

The last day for bringing in items will be November 13

Mission Moment

The Presbyterian Church in Canada has a long history of mission in nursing and health care in India. For over 150 years, over 250 missionaries have served in this work. **Today, the PCC partners with the Graduate School for Nurses (GSN), which is part of the Christian Medical Association of India (CMAI).** GSN offers hands-on education for nursing students that promotes and contributes to clinical and professional excellence. Shimy Mathew, Secretary of the Nurses League of CMAI, has asked for prayers and "for wisdom to discern God's will for the institution" in light of the recent challenges the school is facing due to government regulations. We join Shimy in prayer and give thanks for her deep faith in Jesus and for her perseverance.