

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

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 2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

15 January 2023

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. We thank **Lisa Sneesby** for hosting today.

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

We thank **Raymond Reichelt** for leading the service this morning.

The Readers today are **Bruce and Lisa Sneesby**.

Scripture Readings - The readings for today's service are

- Isaiah 49.1-7
- Psalm 40.1-11
- 1 Corinthians 1.1-9
- John 1.29-42

This Week in First Church:

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

Coming Up:

- 25 January – Meal-in-a-Bowl

Tasks - John used to carry out a number of routine tasks that now need to be done by others, including the ones listed below. Thanks to those who have already volunteered to take on some of those tasks, as noted! Those still needing a volunteer are in bold print.

- *Day-to-day:*

- Checking the church's voicemail and e-mail, and responding to (or forwarding) messages, as needed - *Mardine*

- **Picking up the church's mail, and directing letters, bills, etc., to the appropriate people**

- **Keeping an eye on the thermostats, and making sure that the boiler and furnace are working properly**

- Keeping the congregational directory up to date (addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses) - *Lisa*

- **Being the person to call whenever something needs to be serviced (e.g. boiler, alarm system, plumbing, etc.)**

- **Being on the list of people that the alarm company (Telus) can call if there's an incident that causes the alarm to go off (ideally, two more people)**

- *Preparing for Sundays:*

- Lining up people to read the scripture readings - *Margaret D.*

- Preparing the PowerPoint slides for the service - *Lalaine*

- **Writing announcements for the weekly Announcements Sheet, and e-mailing them to Philip**

- Sending the Announcements Sheet out by e-mail on Saturday evenings (or other suitable time) - *Keith*

- *Sunday mornings:*

- Unlocking the doors and turning the lights and sound system on before the service; turning the lights and sound system off and locking the sanctuary doors after the service - *Margaret McN-R*

- **Locking the outside doors, and setting the alarm on Sundays, following Coffee Time**

- *Other:*

- **Writing material for the quarterly Newsletter, and e-mailing it to Lisa**

- Sending the Newsletter out by e-mail - *Lisa*

If you are interested in taking on any of these tasks, please speak to **Raymond**.

Tasks such as moderating Session meetings, arranging pulpit supply, responding to pastoral emergencies, and getting organized for the Annual Meeting will be the responsibility of our interim moderator, Laura Hargrove (hargrove@mymts.net).

Scripture readings and hymns will be chosen by those who provide pulpit supply each Sunday.

Interim Moderator - The Rev. **Laura Hargrove**, the minister of First Church, Brandon, is our interim moderator, as of today. "Moderator" refers to the fact that she is the moderator of the Session, in the absence of a called and inducted minister, who normally is the moderator of the Session. "Interim" refers to the fact that the position is temporary. Laura can be contacted by e-mail at hargrove@mymts.net or by phone at 1-204-727-5874 (church) or 1-204-573-4360 (cell).

Directory - We thank Lisa Sneesby for offering to keep the **congregational directory** up to date. Whenever there are any changes to your address, phone number, or e-mail address, please notify Lisa (bsneesby@mymts.net or 385-2847).

Moving Out - The Session has granted John a couple of weeks after the end of December to move his things out of the minister's office. After twelve years, there are a lot of things to sort through, to dispose of, and to pack, so you may see him around the church during the week yet, this week and next.

The Christian Year - We are now in the season of **After Epiphany**, a season of ordinary time (meaning that there is no particular emphasis). It is of variable length, comprising four to eight Sundays, depending on whether Easter Sunday is "early" or "late". This year, it includes seven Sundays, since Easter is relatively late. The final Sunday of the season is Transfiguration Sunday, which, this year, falls in February. The seasonal color is green.

Available - Copies of the Winter issue of *Presbyterian Connection*, our national church's quarterly newspaper have been set out on the table behind the back pew. Copies of the January-February issue of the daily devotional booklet *Today* are now available, as well.

Mission Moment

Although Taiwan has been governed independently since 1949, China views the island as a renegade province and has exercised political and military powers to isolate it internationally. In 2018, due to the rising geopolitical tensions, the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan established the Taiwan Ecumenical Forum (TEF) and invited ecumenical and church partners to journey with them in pursuit of justice and peace for the people of Taiwan and the Asia-Pacific. **The Rev. Linda Patton-Cowie, PCC representative on the TEF Steering Group, encourages members of the church to pray, learn and advocate for justice for Taiwan.** Through Presbyterians Sharing, the PCC stands in solidarity with Taiwan.

Meal-in-a-Bowl – Wednesday, 25 January (see announcement below)

Thank you!

We would just like to thank the Presbyterians for the lovely gift baskets we received at Christmas.

Miep Verhoeven & Pat Antoski

FINANCIAL REPORT, December 2022

	<u>Dec 1-31/22</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
FINANCES:		
INCOME RECEIVED:	5,575.26	97,333.52
EXPENSES PAID:	<u>11,469.38</u>	<u>102,422.17</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT):	<u>(5,894.12)</u>	<u>(5,088.65)</u>

Included in the above Y-T-D income is \$2,430.96 from the Canada Employment Wage Subsidy (CEWS) and \$25,000 from the Endowment Fund.

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

DONATIONS RECEIVED:	<u>190.00</u>	<u>3,280.00</u>
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FUNDRAISING:

INCOME:	960.00	9,100.00
EXPENSES:	<u>232.60</u>	<u>2,218.07</u>
SURPLUS (DEFICIT):	<u>727.40</u>	<u>6,881.93</u>

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

Spring Dinner	1,794.95
Fall Supper	1,668.76
Catering	1,154.24
Meal In A Bowl	2,514.50

Your support for our fundraising is appreciated

**“MEAL – IN – A – BOWL” SUPPER
WEDNESDAY: JANUARY 25**

**Meat, Potatoes & Veggies all in a bowl of
THICK HOMEMADE SOUP
Served With
Homemade Breads and Biscuits**

SOUPS:

**BEEF & BARLEY
or
CREAM OF CARROT**

DESSERTS:

**GINGERBREAD CAKE
or
PINEAPPLE ANGEL FOOD CAKE**

**\$10.00 AT THE DOOR
TAKE OUT or DELIVERY ONLY
PICK UP from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

**TO PLACE YOUR ORDER
PLEASE PHONE LISA SNEESBY
(204) 385-2847**

PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE

PLEASE ORDER BY JANUARY 23