

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 3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

22 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 **Margaret McNutt-Reichelt** for hosting today.

The Greeter this morning is **Brian Yeo**.

We thank the Rev. **Laura Hargrove** for leading the service this morning.

The Reader today is **Keith Kelly**.

Scripture Readings - The readings for today's service are

- Jeremiah 23.1-6
- Psalm 99
- Revelation 1.4b-8
- Mark 14.60-62; 15.16-19, 25-30, 37-39

This Week in First Church:

- Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible Study - by Zoom
- Wednesday, 5:00 p.m. - Meal-in-a-Bowl
- Thursday, 7:00 p.m. - Session Meeting - by Zoom

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 - *People hosting 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

In Nepal, 51-year-old Lahia Tharu was suffering from a numb left foot. Lahia first sought help from a traditional healer—a practice common in rural Nepal. When the condition of her foot did not improve, she went to a nearby hospital. Tests confirmed that Lahia had leprosy and referred her to the *Presbyterian World Service & Development*-supported Shining Hospital. There, she received medication and treatment and was sent home to recover. **Reflecting upon her experience, Lahia said that she is "thankful and happy for the treatment that was provided at Shining Hospital."**

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

Thank you!

Many thanks for your additional gifts on Sunday, 8 January — the photos and the cash! Your generosity is much appreciated. I have many pleasant memories of my twelve years at First Church, and it has been a pleasure knowing each of you. I will hang on to the money for the time being, and use it to buy something for my new home when I get settled in southern Ontario. My best wishes to all of you, both individually and as a congregation, in the months and years ahead! — John Zondag

**“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