

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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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 BAPTISM OF JESUS THE 1ST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

8 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 the Rev. **John Zondag** for leading the service this morning.

The Reader today is **Philip Dunn**.

Scripture Readings - The readings for today's service are

- Isaiah 42.1-9
- Psalm 29
- Acts 10.34-48
- Matthew 3.13-17

This Week in First Church:

- Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible Study - by Zoom
- Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - Finance & Maintenance Committee meeting
- Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - Men's Breakfast

Recognition - We will have a recognition of retiring Soup Kitchen treasurer **Henry Riendeau** in our service, including coffee and cake following the service. Henry has been the treasurer of the Soup Kitchen since 2005.

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**
- **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.

Drought in Somalia - Donations in support of relief efforts for the drought in Somalia can be made to Presbyterian World Service and Development (PWS&D). Donations can be made either through our congregation, using your regular offering envelope (write "Somalia" and the amount you wish to donate in the blank line), or online, through PWS&D's website (www.WeRespond.ca), using your credit card. Click on the heading that says "Responding to Drought in Somalia" under "Latest News"; then scroll down to the bottom of the page, and click on the button that says "Donate Now". Updates on responses to the floods in Pakistan and the war in Ukraine also can be found under the heading "Latest News".

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.

Our Sympathy - We extend our sympathy to **Cheryl and Rob McPherson** in the recent death of **Cheryl's** sister, **Pat**.

Mission Moment

Adau Maduok Dut lives in South Sudan with her four children. Struggling to make ends meet after her husband left the family, **Adau's life improved after receiving assistance through a project, supported by Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) and Canadian Foodgrains Bank, that provides food packages to struggling families in South Sudan.** "I knew immediately that my children would not have to suffer again since we had food and were equipped with the seeds and tools to start a fresh life," Adau said.

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