

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

17 Royal Rd. S., Portage la Prairie, MB. R1N 1T8  
Office Phone: 204-857-4351 email [firstpc@mymts.net](mailto:firstpc@mymts.net)  
[www.firstpcportage.com](http://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 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

**5 February 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 Greeters this morning are **Philip and Margaret Dunn**.

The Reader today is **Lalaine Buan**.

**Scripture Readings** - The readings for today's service are

- Isaiah 58.1-12 - The kind of fasting that pleases God
- Psalm 112.1-10 - "Happy is the person who honours the LORD"
- I Corinthians 2.1-16 - "A message of wisdom"
- Matthew 5.13-20 - Sermon on the Mount: Salt, light and the law

**This Week in First Church:**

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

**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) – **Raymond and Brian**

- *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](mailto: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. "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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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

**Annual Report** - we have begun preparing the 2022 Annual Report. This forms a legal document recording the life of our congregation. If you are a person on a committee responsible for reporting, NOW is the time to begin working on the reports. Reports should be sent to Lisa Sneesby. Deadline is Feb. 12, 2023. Thank you for your care in recording the work we do together in Jesus' name.

**Annual Congregational General Meeting** - Will be held Feb 26, 2023. There will be a potluck lunch following worship on Feb 26, 2023. The AGM will be held after lunch. Please read your Annual Report in preparation for this meeting.

**Congregations in Transition** - John Zondag sent out a document on Dec 29, 2022 regarding congregational transitions. Please find and read this document. It will be discussed at the Annual Meeting.

### **Mission Moment**

**For over 75 years, *Presbyterian World Service & Development* has faithfully responded to serve those in need around the world.** Together with our partners, we are making a positive difference. We are working together to care for the poor, sick and vulnerable, helping restore human dignity, ease the pain of want and promote community cooperation that benefits all. As people of faith, we are responding to Christ's call to walk with the distressed and marginalized, and work towards equality, human dignity, peace and care for God's creation. United, we are working towards a world that is sustainable, compassionate and just.