

# FIRST THINGS FIRST

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, REGINA

#### September 2011

#### MINISTER'S MESSAGE

It feels like a milestone . . . an anniversary.  
Maybe that's because it is!

On March 27<sup>th</sup> 2010 I sent a letter to the Rev. Ina Golaiy from our condo in Montreal inquiring about the vacancy at First Presbyterian Church in Regina. Following this we had several conversations about First and its people and mission until about three months had passed and I was informed that the church had invited someone to "preach for the call". I scratched it off my search list, "I guess that's out" I said. Surprisingly though this was not the end.

On June 20<sup>th</sup> Ina sent me an e-mail saying that call had not gone through and asked me a second time for my profile. It was only a few days after I officially received permission to send one from Presbyterian College. I interviewed the first time on June 28<sup>th</sup> 2010 and flew into Regina for a "face to face" on July 6<sup>th</sup>. It was fast and apparently this went well because on August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 the whole family boarded a plane and came out to "preach for the call". That was Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup>. It was a long process but seemed like it all happened in a three week span and we moved out of our place in Montreal on August 28<sup>th</sup>. We got on a plane once more and prepared to start a whole new life back in the prairies.

I remember getting off the plane Sunday morning; meeting Tom at the airport and "sneaking" into the worship service on Sunday (which did not go unnoticed). Wesley was glad to be back at "Ace's church" and Maddie had been singing "I love Be-gina, I love Be-gina" for days on end.

Moving was a bit wild. It rained for days on end and although our things arrived pretty much on time, the movers weren't planning on unpacking for two more weeks - so we did it ourselves

knowing full well that we couldn't claim any damages by doing so. Luckily there were only a few lost and broken items.

It took four adults two days to put two kids' beds together. Intelligent maybe but no one ever said we were a particularly "handy" bunch. Eventually we did get settled in. But... we basically felt right at home; right away.

It's been a year now... wow! We can hardly believe it. In that time we've lost loved ones, seen new additions to our family (both the church and our own little brood). We've laughed together and cried together. And this is just the beginning.

Thank you! Thank you, First Presbyterian Church for inviting us into this new family and may God continue to bless us with many more milestones and many more anniversaries!

Rev. Brad Childs

#### **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

Mark your calendar now for the *Welcome Back Potluck Dessert Party!* This event will be held on Sunday, September 25th right after church. Bring your favourite dessert to share and get to know other members of the congregation a little better. This event is sponsored by the Stewardship committee - instead of having an every-member visitation, we are focusing on connecting within our church community. It will be an opportunity to visit with others and enjoy some yummy desserts! You won't want to miss it!

Jo Szostak,  
Stewardship Committee



## **CLERK OF SESSION**

Welcome back to another year at First! I hope you've had a chance to relax and enjoy the summer and come back refreshed to a year of work and fun. As our committees get into gear again, there are many plans that will take shape and it promises to be a full and rewarding year.

It's hard to believe that Brad has now been our minister for a year! How quickly that year has gone by. Thanks, Brad, for all you've done this year - we have appreciated your ministry among us! It's been wonderful to welcome Tracy, Wesley and Maddie to our church family, and we are so excited to now have Cohen in our midst as well.

Jo Szostak,  
Clerk of Session

## **It's a Boy!**



**Cohen Christopher Childs**  
born August 24, 2011!

## **MUSIC AT FIRST**

*COME JOIN THE CHOIR THIS SEPTEMBER.* New members are always welcome in all sections of the choir. Previous experience in choral singing is an asset but more inexperienced choir members will be welcomed.

Please contact Music Director Jack Partridge by leaving a message at the church office by calling 522-9571.

The first choir practice is on THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22<sup>nd</sup>, in the sanctuary at 8 pm. Please enter through the south-east entrance. Choir practices are from 8:00 to 9:30. Join us and take part in learning exciting choral music for the fall season.

Thanks to the following soloists who performed at morning services this summer: Marianne Woods, soprano (June 26), David, Matthew and Patrick Lewicki (pianists) (July 3), Heather Gosse3lin, soprano (July 19), Graeme Mitchell, bass (July 17), Gabriel (piano) and Rodolfo (tenor) Omolida (July 24), Richard Burdick, French Horn (July 31), Glenn Wolfe, baritone (August 7), Graeme Mitchell, flute (August 14), Lynn Channing, soprano (August 21).

David Lewicki, Choir President, played the organ August 28 to September 18 while Jack Partridge was on holidays.

The Gloria Patri has been sung following the Psalm reading throughout the summer. Choral responses during the reading of the Psalms will resume in September.

Jack Partridge,  
Music Director

## **BILLETS NEEDED**

The Synod of Saskatchewan is being held October 20 - 21, 2011 at Norman Kennedy Presbyterian Church. We are looking for billets, if needed, for those attending the meeting from around the province. It would require you providing one night accommodation (on Friday Oct 20, 2011) and breakfast. If you are interested or require further information please contact Donna Wilkinson at 586-4026 or [donnaw@sasktel.net](mailto:donnaw@sasktel.net)

Donna Wilkinson

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Teacher volunteers are needed for all Sunday School classes. Class groupings this year are: Preschool to Kindergarten, Grades 1 to 3, Grades 4 to 6, and Grades 7/8. We would like to see the roster spaces filled up as soon as possible. If we have teachers signed up we will have kindergarten registration September 18 with games and activities for all ages. Classes would then commence September 25. Please sign up for a Sunday or two. The list is on the bulletin board between the washrooms.

Sunday school room preparation and clean-up will be Saturday morning September 10 from 9:30 to 12. Volunteers are welcome.

Advertising continues for a youth leader. If you know anyone who might be interested, encourage them to drop off a resume.

The children in the Grade 4, 5 & 6 Sunday school class would like you to know a little more about them. We hope to share more information about all the children in our Sunday School classes over the coming months.

*“Sarah was born in Regina and is 11 years old. Her favourite colour is orange and she loves perogies. Sarah does Highland dancing and rides her horse, Wrangler, every Friday. Her dream vacation was when she went to Disney World, Florida and she likes to watch Dr. Who. Her favourite animals are horses and she hopes to teach horseback riding when she grows up. She is also proud of herself for winning Provincial Championships for Highland Dance.”*  
~ By Lauren

*“Matthew is a lover of turtles and he was born on June 18. He is a 9 year old who loves the colours light blue and purple. His goal is to be on a CFL team. His favourite sport is football and he watches sports. His favourite restaurant is Chucky Cheese and his favourite food is pizza. His favourite hobby is soccer, football and his i-pod. He got first in heritage fair and his favourite subject is gym in school. He is under 12 not under 10 in soccer.”*  
~ By Gabe

Bette Kelly,  
Christian Education Convenor

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

June 24, 2011

Rev. Childs and Congregation:

On behalf of Regina Habitat for Humanity staff, volunteers, families and Board of Directors, thank you for your most generous donation of \$3,257.26. The funds raised during your “Raise the Roof” campaign will go directly to providing housing for families in need of affordable houses in our community. We are currently completing six houses with an additional ten scheduled for construction this year.

Beyond the donation of money the awareness you have brought to the need for housing and the needs of low income families is invaluable to our mission. We are also very grateful for the past support your congregation has provided by making lunches for volunteers, and hope and trust our ongoing relationship with your church will continue to offer assistance in promoting support for Habitat for Humanity Regina.

Yours sincerely,

Denise Coutts,  
Habitat for Humanity Regina Inc.  
Chief Executive Officer



## SEPTEMBER'S EVENTS

- 4<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am Holy Communion/Worship  
Sunday School**
- 7<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm Session Meeting
- 8<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Synod Meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am Worship**
- 13<sup>th</sup> 12 noon Freedom 55ers
- 14<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm Board of Managers Meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> 8:00 pm Choir
- 18<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am Worship  
Sunday School Registration**
- 20<sup>th</sup> 12 noon Freedom 55ers
- 22<sup>nd</sup> 8:00 pm Choir
- 24<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Worship Committee Meeting
- 25<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am Worship  
Sunday School  
Dessert Party after service**
- 27<sup>th</sup> 12 noon Freedom 55ers
- 29<sup>th</sup> 8:00 pm Choir

