

**FIRST THINGS FIRST
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, REGINA
OCTOBER 2024**

SESSION

As the summer turns to fall, our church year gets busier!

Our Canadian Trivia Night on Sept. 22 was a great success! It was a lot of fun and we raised almost \$1500 for our refugee sponsorship fund. Thanks to all who contributed!

This Sunday (Oct 6) will be a FundScrip order Sunday. Be sure to get your order in. You can pay by cheque or e-transfer. Orders placed this Sunday will be ready for pickup a week later. The next order Sunday will be November 9.

On Thanksgiving Sunday, we will be celebrating Communion, and we hope to hear from the group who attended the Uplift youth event in July. They had an amazing experience and are anxious to share it with us!

On Sunday, Nov. 3, following worship, we will have lunch and a discussion on the mission and values of our congregation. This work will feed into the work of the Directions Task Force, who are investigating future possibilities for our building. When we understand the focus of our mission as a congregation, it helps to determine our needs in a building. Mark your calendars and plan to be part of the conversation!

On Saturday, Nov. 9, we will be having the first of our monthly Messy Church gatherings. Part of a year-long trial, this gathering will be led by Rev. Devon Pattemore. The second event is planned for Dec. 14.

On Saturday, Nov. 30, at 3:00 pm we will be holding our Christmas concert. This is a fundraising activity with proceeds to the Joyful Worship Fund. Many talented singers and musicians from our congregation and beyond will be featured in the concert, so you don't want to miss it!

That will be an exciting weekend as on Sunday, Dec. 1, we will be enjoying the annual Advent party, with lunch and activities.

During December we will celebrate our usual Blue Christmas and Christmas Eve services. More information will be shared in the November newsletter.

Please look ahead to Saturday January 11. On that day we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of our congregation. There will be a birthday party with lots of fun activities. Part of the afternoon will include a talent show, so please think about a talent you have that you would like to share and let Sheila Wilson know.

Then on Sunday, January 12, our guest preacher for our anniversary service will be Rev. Brad Childs. Following worship, we will have a catered dinner in the gym. Tickets will go on sale in November.

So there are lots of exciting dates to mark on your calendar over the next few months!

Jo Szostak
Clerk of Session

MISSION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE



A big thanks to all who made sandwiches and worked at the Saturday Lunch Program on October 5. This ecumenical effort provides a nutritious bag lunch and a hot beverage for between 100 and 150 people each weekend. First Presbyterian hosted three times in 2024, and we hope to do the same in 2025. The program also offers toiletries and new socks and mitts to our guests. Drop off your donations in the blue bin in the narthex; we will deliver them periodically. Another helpful donation is any extra reusable bags that you might not need. Many of our guests are unhoused and are carrying possessions; the sturdy bags are quite handy.

Thanks also to those who have agreed to bring one or two loaves of pre-made sandwiches to church on Sunday morning, Oct 20. The food is delivered to Waterston House shelter. We would appreciate a few more volunteers - please sign up in the Narthex or contact Mary at maryciesse@gmail.com.

All of these efforts make a difference to neighbours who struggle to find enough food each day.

Mary Jesse
Mission & Outreach Convener

MISSION EXERCISE FOR THE WHOLE CONGREGATION

After worship on Sunday, November 3rd, plan to stay a little longer than a typical Coffee Hour. Lunch will be provided! Everyone will be invited to participate in a Mission Exercise to share ideas, priorities, and visions for First Church's mission going forward. We'll gather everyone's input and use the information to help guide us as we explore the future of our mission and ministry, including consideration of our church building.

YOUTH

On Sunday, October 20th, we will have our monthly youth gathering. We will meet after the service at 12:15 PM in the Kennedy Room. Join us for lunch and more. I hope you can join us!

First Presbyterian Church
A congregation of
The Presbyterian Church in Canada
2170 Albert Street, Regina, SK S4P 2T9

Monthly Youth Group GATHERING

Sunday, Oct. 20th, 2024
12:15 PM - 2:30 PM

FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, GAMES, SNACKS, DISCUSSIONS & MORE!

"The Zone" (The youth room at the church) will be open EVERY Sunday, during "coffee hour" from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. You can bring your drinks or cookies from downstairs and come to 'The Zone' room to sit on the couch, read a book, play games (board games, table games, etc.), colour or chat with friends. Feel

free to come for a fun and relaxing time together!

Youth & Young Adults Bowling Event on Sept. 29 We had so much fun at our last bowling and pizza event. There is always room for more participants, so bring a friend for the next event!



Sumi Jung
Youth Leader

SPY FALL GATHERING

(Saskatchewan Presbyterian Youth)

- ◆ October 25-27 *beginning at 7pm on Friday
- ◆ Meet at First Presbyterian Church
- ◆ \$50 registration fee to the program on Friday night. Cash, cheques, and e-transfers are accepted. Please make cheques payable to "Saskatchewan Presbyterian Youth".
Send completed forms via email to sasksynodyouth@gmail.com or email to RSVP and bring your completed form along with your registration fee.



- ◆ **Please RSVP by October 21st** so we can be sure to have enough billets, food, and supplies. All meals will be provided at the church (Friday evening snacks, Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner, and Sunday breakfast). No lunch will be provided on Sunday.

What to bring: clothes and toiletries for the weekend, including a pair of runners. Money for lunch on Sunday (if travelling from out of town).

If you have any questions about SPY, contact Rev. Devon at sasksynodyouth@gmail.com.

FUNDSCRIP

Each month, we will place an order on the first Sunday, so today is the day! When you buy FundScrip gift cards you don't pay any extra and a percentage comes back to the church. You can buy cards as gifts, or you can use them for your regular purchases of groceries, gas, restaurant meals, clothing, etc. It's a great way to help the church when you're buying things that you would buy anyway! Visit the FundScrip table in the gym following worship to place your order. We will order again on Nov. 3 and Dec. 1.

You can place your own order with FundScrip and have it mailed to your home address, as often as you want. There is no charge for the postage.

1. Go to the FundScrip website: fundscrip.com
2. Create your own account. Be sure to enter the Invitation code for First Church - 86MLRU
That way, First Church will get credit for your purchases.
3. Shop for the cards you wish to purchase. You need to order between \$200 and \$400, with no more than 4 cards.
4. When you go to Checkout it will show that First Presbyterian Church is the beneficiary. **Be Sure** to edit the Shipping (or your cards will be shipped to First Church!)
Click on Edit and choose Direct Shipping. Then enter your home address. Select Lettermail from the options.
5. Choose a payment method. The easiest and best is EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) where it will be transferred directly from your bank, like paying with debit! Click on the link to set up your EFT. It's easy to do - just log in to your own bank account. (You may have to click on Shop then back to Checkout for it to be an available choice).
6. Click on Checkout and you will have a chance to review your order, then click on Place Order. It will show you how much the church will receive for your order.

Thank you for your support!

GROW HOPE SASKATCHEWAN



The 2024 crop year is drawing to a close. The Synod of Saskatchewan has received enough donations to sponsor over 19 acres of crop. Donations are used to pay for fuel, seed and fertilizer. Out of 428 donated acres, about 310 have been sponsored so far. Proceeds from the sale of crops may be matched up to 4 times by Global Affairs Canada. So this project is a wonderful way to help the hunger crisis in our world. Our proceeds go to the Canadian FoodGrains Bank where they are used to fund PWS&D projects that battle world hunger. To donate you can send an e-transfer to SynodSaskGrowHope@gmail.com or send a cheque (made out to the Synod of Saskatchewan) to 1-2338 Assiniboine Ave E., Regina, S4V 2E9. Here is a link to the Presbyterian Church's newsletter *Connection*. You can find the article about Grow Hope Saskatchewan on page 33. https://presbyterian.ca/magazines/pc_Issue31_Fall2024/PC_Fall2024.html

COME TOGETHER THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

As the seasons change, let us be mindful of our Creator God who is never changing.

The next Come Together Zoom event will be on Wednesday October 9, 2024, 11:00 am (SK time) to 12:30 pm (ET). Please join us as we worship with our guest speaker, the Rev. Jennifer Geddes, writer of the Thanksgiving worship resource. We will give thanks through worship, prayer, and sharing.

Please contact Sarah Kim for the zoom link at skim@presbyterian.ca.

Sarah Kim, Executive Director,
Women's Missionary Society, The PCC

October Calendar

Oct 5		Saturday Lunch Program @ First Baptist
Oct 6	10:30 am	20th Sunday after Pentecost Sumi Jung Preaching (Sanctuary & Online) Sunday School 11:45 am Coffee Hour (Gym)
Oct 8	11:30 am	Forever-In-Motion Exercises 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch (Gym)
Oct 10	7:30 pm	Choir
Oct 13	10:30 am	Thanksgiving Sunday 11:45 am Coffee Hour (Gym)
Oct 15	11:30 am	Forever-In-Motion Exercises 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch (Gym)
Oct 16	7:00 pm	Board of Managers (Zoom)
Oct 17	7:30 pm	Choir
Oct 20	Sandwiches for Waterston House 10:30 am	22nd Sunday after Pentecost Sunday School 11:45 am Coffee Hour (Gym)
Oct 22	11:30 am	Forever-In-Motion Exercises 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch (Gym)
Oct 24	7:30 pm	Choir
Oct 27	10:30 am	23rd Sunday after Pentecost Sunday School 11:45 am Coffee Hour (Gym)
Oct 29	11:30 am	Forever-In-Motion Exercises 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch (Gym)
Oct. 30	7:00 pm	Book Club (Zoom)
Oct 31	7:30 pm	Choir
Nov 3	10:30 am	23rd Sunday after Pentecost Sunday School 11:45 am Mission Exercise
Nov 5	11:30 am	Forever-In-Motion Exercises 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch (Gym)
Nov 7	7:30 pm	Choir