

First Baptist Church

June 2018

www.firstbaptistregina.ca



Photo courtesy of Merv Hepting

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Life Together

Emad and Almess Botros made the 10,000 km between Regina and Beirut disappear when we met over live video on May 27. They left Canada because they knew in their hearts that God had called them to the Middle East. Their students at the seminary regularly risk everything if they choose to follow Jesus. Those are stories of people who make choices with Jesus in mind.

“We live because you pray for us,” were Emad’s closing words to us. He was graciously inviting us to take part in something far bigger than our own lives: the story of God’s saving love for creation and humanity. Please do keep them in prayer. And let’s all ask what Jesus would have us do in the world.

With love, Pastor Joel

Prayer

Prayer Breakfast

We meet at 8 am Wednesday mornings in the library. Please join us.

Prayer Times at First Baptist

Morning Prayer 7:15 am, Monday to Friday

(Friday's prayers are chanted)

Wednesday 12:15 noon

Everyone is welcome. Each prayer time will include psalms, scripture reading, and prayer for our world, our church, and the people in our lives. "Where two or three are gathered," Jesus said. So, we would love company!

New Prayer Chain

Good morning, my name is Bryden Yeo and I am starting up a prayer email line for our church. It's something First Baptist Red Deer Church did and it really blessed my family and prayer life. A lot of the time I feel a bit disconnected by life, and things going on; I am not sure how I can pray for my church family. Well this is something that can help with that, and it can help to connect with your church family as well.

Here is how it works. If you have a prayer request for yourself or someone else, simply send the request (either specific, or simple, telling us you'd like us to pray for you or your loved ones) to <mailto:main_fbcregina@sasktel.net>. I will send them out to people from our church who would like to pray. I will only send the requests to people who have asked to be on the prayer line. And from there your prayer requests will be prayed for throughout the day as people

read them and make time to pray on their own time. All prayer requests will be held in confidence.

If you are interested in being a prayer warrior on our prayer list, please speak with me or with a pastor and I can add your name. I will not share your email addresses with anyone else and should you choose to leave the prayer group, just send me an email and I will be sure to remove you from the list as soon as I can.

TNT Summer Bible Study by Collin Carbno

A 3:16 Slice Journey through the Bible

When: Tuesdays, May to August: 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Where: FBC Library.

Topic: John 3:16 is one of the best-known verses of the Bible. This summer study will journey through the forty-nine (3:14-3:18) sections in the Bible. One might expect that most of these sections of the Bible would have nothing to do with John 3:16. However, I've found mysteriously deep connections to John 3:16 in these 49 sections that I would love to share with you. At three or four sections per week, we will easily fill the summer. The first two weeks of May will be used to complete the study of the Gospel of John (chapters 18- 21), which we began last summer.

Supper Option: In past summers, some of us met in Wascana Park, or in homes that people have offered for BYO picnic suppers from 5:00-6:30 pm. Plans for this summer will be discussed at the Bible Study.

Old Testament Small Group

You are invited to join a small group of us who are reading through the Old Testament and meeting for discussion, questions, and sharing once a week. We are very friendly and informal and we love these sessions. Jump in any time, and there's no need to make a long-term commitment. For more information contact Annabel Robinson, by phone at 306-761-1458, or by email at annabel.robinson@uregina.ca

Missions

Our Lunch for Lebanon -- Sunday, May 27

This was a time of God's blessing!

We enjoyed a wonderful meal provided by Bonnie Austring-Winter's hospitality group.

After lunch we had an Inspiring live chat with Emad & Almess Butros, our new mission partners at Arab Baptist Theological Seminary (ABTS) in Beirut. They expressed gratitude for our support, and a need for our prayers. (See their newsletter on foyer tables.) Can you think of other ways to support them? Write a letter, perhaps?

\$7,792.00 raised - more than matching our CBM budget of \$7500!

It's not too late to donate! Please make your cheque out to "Canadian Baptist Ministries" by **June 24**.

Two people have already expressed interest in going on our trip to Lebanon! (\$3500, tax deductible)

If you are interested or even curious, speak to Marilyn Phillips.

All Glory to God!!

Music@First

A Contemporary Music Note

Our First Baptist Church family has sung this stunning song “Holy Spirit” on a few occasions over the past few months.

We have recently sung it for our Reflective Moment on Pentecost Sunday. Kristin Getty comments on this inspirational song:

“Holy Spirit” is the first song Keith Getty wrote with Stuart Townend after the Getty's move to America. Keith and I perform it near the end of our concerts with Deborah Klemme's beautiful performance of the melody, “Gabriel's Oboe,” from the film, “The Mission.” We have also often used it as the underscore for reading the prayer of St. Patrick. The song is a prayer that the Holy Spirit will change us within, that the fruits of the Spirit would be seen outwardly, and that His church would go out from a service of worship to humbly represent the face of Christ in the world each day.”

Summer Musician Ministry

Over the past two months the Sanctuary Choir has been repeating some of the congregation's favorite anthems sung by our choir during 2017-2018. We are grateful for the opportunities to hear these beautiful pieces once again.

The choir, along with accompanist Christa Walsh and Dr. Mark Anderson, will soon be taking a well deserved summer break. On behalf of myself and our church congregation, I express our gratitude to these faithful and enthusiastic “ministers of music” who have enhanced our worship services week after week with their ministry of music. We look forward to their return in the fall.

During the summer months, Becky Findlay will be at the piano to lead us in worship, along with a number of musicians who will offer their gifts of music to enrich our worship time together.

Thank you as well to the JuBELLation Ringers for their notable gifts of music over this past year. Their unique gifts of music are so very much appreciated. Thank you as well to our many other musicians who have offered gifts of music through voice and other instruments.

Children and Youth

Children from 3 to 11 are invited to go downstairs most Sundays.

Nursery

If being part of this ministry is something that you are interested in, contact Lynette Wollbaum via email at lynjrussell@hotmail.com or at 306-520-4474. It's not a hard job, and it's well worth it!

Godly Play (ages 3-6)

Godly Play is a method of Christian education and spiritual direction offered by First Baptist Church. The goal of Godly Play is to teach children the art of using religious language, parable, sacred story, silence, and liturgical action to help them become more fully aware of the mystery of God's presence around them and in their lives.

We are in need of leaders and shepherds! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Esther Maeers at emaers@yahoo.ca.

Oasis (ages 7-11)

Oasis - students ages 7 - 11

Our students spend 3 to 4 weeks reading through one Bible story. Every Sunday is different: after reading from their bibles, the children explore the passage through painting, drama, quizzing

games, cooking, science experiments, and any other way we dream up.

This month the young people are reading the stories about Jesus calling the disciples.

Youth

June	
1st	Bible Study: Meet at FBC at 7:00 - 9:00
8 th	Hang out at Senger's for food and games - 6:30-9:00
15 th	Paintball - parents and youth are invited to come and play a game of paintball. Start time: 7:00; end time 9:00.
22 nd -23 rd	Wrap up camping weekend at Buffalo Pound
29 th	No youth meeting

Annual Church Picnic

Mark your calendars:

Annual Church Picnic

Willow Island, Sunday, June 10th, 3:30-6:30

Join us for a great afternoon of games, music, food, fun, and prizes!

Salad and dessert potluck.

Hamburgers, hotdogs, and beverages provided.

Bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets, plates and flatware.

Freewill offering to defray costs.

All ages welcome.

Wheelchair access available.

Please contact Pastor Joel for arrangements.

Sign up sheets will be in the foyer in mid-May.

VOICE

Voice will resume in September. Watch for the date.

Church Keys

To our friends who hold keys to the church:

In checking our keys and key loan registry, we have learned that a few keys have been identified as not in use or as possibly missing. If you have keys to the church which you no longer need, please return them to the church office. If you have keys that you are presently using, please inform Joel or John of this, so that this can be recorded. Your cooperation in this matter is most appreciated.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, June 23rd, at the home of Derrick Bellows, 3168 Hill Ave. Let Pastor Joel know if you plan on attending. Mark your calendars and invite someone to join you. All ages welcome. There is no cost, but a collection will be taken.

Learning for Life

Coming in the Fall...

- *Thinking Christianly, Aacting Faithfully in the World of Work*, led by Len Pauls and Derrick Bellows.
- *Basic Christianity - the basics of our faith*, for those who are curious, doubtful, unsure, confused, or just needing to review the basics. Led by Ron Phillips

A big thank you to Annabel Robinson for leading stimulating classes, entitled *Reading Backwards* and *Reading the Old Testament*, this winter and spring.

Katepwa Lake Camp

Summer camp dates are open for all ages.

Visit www.katepwalakecamp.com for dates and registration.

Sponsorships

This year, the camp is hoping to sponsor 100 young people who otherwise wouldn't be able to attend. Contact Tim and Shelly Keizer, Katepwa Lake directors, if you wish to help support this initiative: 306.332.4727.

Our KLC AGM on April 15 raised \$7K+ towards our septic tank project. We learned the Tuesday after the AGM, that CBWC forgave us an outstanding loan of \$6K, and gave us a \$6K grant. And with some help from a person at FBC, Social Services is now sending us a check for \$1K. With this money we have now purchased the needed septic tanks, and low-flush toilets. Also, we have a donor for the LED lighting, and we are in the process of ordering the needed new flooring for the lodge. Definitely a huge answer to prayer!

Thanks again FBC! Collin Carbno KLC board member.

First Baptist Church Fall Retreat

We have booked Katepwa Lake Camp in mid-September for an all-ages, church-wide weekend retreat. Previous weekends have included a mix of reflection sessions, free time, and gathered worship in the Qu'Appelle Valley. They have been great times for friendship, rest, and spiritual renewal. Anyone interested in attending or helping to plan this weekend, please speak with Pastor Joel as soon as possible.

Interview with Yvonne Ingram

by Esther Wiens

1. Tell us something of your place of birth, your childhood, and your early adult life.

I was born in Jamaica in the 1940's. We were a Christian home and attended a Baptist church. I was baptized at 11 or 12 years old.

After I had finished high school, I worked at the post office and then for 3 months as a stewardess on a cruise ship. Then I was accepted into a teachers' college and as an airline hostess on Air Jamaica, but I chose to travel instead.

2. Have you been back to Jamaica? What about it do you miss the most?

Yes I have been back but not for long: I attended a wedding and went back to take my mother's ashes home and attend her memorial service.



I miss the fresh fruit and vegetables but not the weather: it's too hot.

3. Tell us about your family.

My mother was a jack-of-all-trades: she was a seamstress, a tailor, a shoemaker, a handicrafter, and a Social Welfare Officer for the Jamaican government. My father was a farmer, a watch repairer, and a mechanic. In later life he worked at a sugar refinery as an excise guard.

My parents had three children of their own but raised 17 in total. This included relatives and strangers. At times there were 4 or 6 children besides the three of us in the home. Some were students who boarded with us while they went to high school. In some cases parents couldn't afford to raise their children. We could manage.

Your parents must have been incredibly kind people

My parents' philosophy was: if you had one loaf of bread, you could share it with other people. We had a garden, which helped, so we could manage. People had small gardens and would readily swap produce with neighbours. They shared whatever they had. My mother was inventive and resourceful; her sewing helped.

4. What brought you to Canada and Regina?

I lived in the Jamaican Islands as a young adult. As it was with many of our young people, I dreamed of traveling abroad. My opportunity came in 1969 when a tourist couple heard about my wishes and sponsored me to come to Canada. I stayed with them for a year and worked in their house. They had three nursing homes, and I later worked in their office.

In 1973 I married. In five years' time we moved to Regina.

5. What was your profession and how and where did you prepare for it?

While living in Ontario, I took Accounting I and II and worked in an office. I enjoyed the work, particularly meeting people and talking to them on the telephone.

6. Where in Regina did you work?

When I came here in 1974, I took a job at the Toronto Dominion Bank as a personal accountant. Then my husband and I started an electronics business, and I worked in the office. In 1980 I started working at the Bureau of Statistics with the provincial government.

7. What brought you to our church? What about it do you most appreciate? Is there something you would like to see changed?

As I stated before, I have been a Baptist from birth. One Sunday, when my husband and I were staying at the Hotel Saskatchewan, we met Orris and Marjorie Keehr at lunch. I asked them about a Baptist church and you can guess the answer.

I love the friendliness at this church and the feeling of being a family. I love the Bible preaching and of course the music, particularly the choir.

8. Have you held a position in the church?

I am on a list to help with funeral lunches and on another list to serve at communion services.

9. I believe you are presently retired. What do you miss about your career days?

I miss talking to people on the phone and helping them with their research.

10. How you do now fill your days?

I like to read and also like to spend my days with my family: I have four sons and love to have my seven grandchildren spend time with me. I also have two great grandchildren. I cook special Caribbean food for them. Sometimes we do some craft together, we read, or go to a movie, or a to a park.

I hope they know how blessed they are to have you as their grandmother. Thank you for sharing your interesting life with us.

Diaconate Report

There is general consensus on the Diaconate that we need to pursue some additional staffing, or we risk burning out our pastoral staff. A vision for FBC direction is also slowly developing, but again resources to implement it will depend on more volunteers and additional staff. A lot of thought has gone into what we need as a church in terms of a staffing skill set and what we can afford. The Diaconate worked in May on developing Expressions-of-Interests (EOIs). Let me briefly explain the diaconate's thinking behind this approach. Currently, there are a lot of openings for ministerial staff that aren't being filled across the prairies, some in small towns, but many in the larger centers. An EOI we hope will let us explore the market place for any potential candidates without promising job positions, and perhaps draw the attention of potential candidates. All of this is to say, our direction may well be dictated by God's leading of the right people to our congregation. Please pray that we receive some excellent applications. We also intend to do a lot of networking with seminaries, Bible schools, and universities. Personal contacts could also be fruitful in creating awareness of opportunities, and in

encouraging qualified candidates to consider us. The EOs include offering a music internship for the organ (with a general music component and a ministry component), which will help us capitalize on our music strengths. By offering Full-Time (FT) and Part-Time (PT) options, we hope to attract even more candidates. While we hope for quick responses, and some developments, we have been warned that finding staff may take a year or more. Should the EOs not attract the quality staff we are looking for, one option would be to continue posting regular job openings. We are in discussion to renew our contract with Chris Senger. On June 17th we will hold a question and answer time regarding future staffing following the morning service in the sanctuary open to everyone. The following EOs were developed, and will hopefully be released by the time this newsletter is distributed:

1. One-Year FT or PT Music Ministry/Pipe Organ Internship
 2. Associate Pastor FT
 3. Pastor of Discipleship PT
 4. Pastor of Young Adults PT or FT
 5. Children's Pastor - PT or FT
- Collin Carbno, Chair of Diaconate

Achievers

Achievers Bible Study

There are no Achiever's Bible Studies until September 12, 2018

Achievers' Luncheons 2018-2019

2017-2018 brings to a close another meaningful year of inspiring speakers, tantalizing menus, and fabulous fellowship. Achievers is not just a group for those people ages 60+ and up. This energetic and enthusiastic group of seniors reflects the true essence of the word JOY- Just Older Youth! What a privilege it continues to be for me to be involved in this vibrant area of ministry! Arranging for and confirming speakers for 2018-2019 is well underway.

Stay tuned for the occasional "subtle," exciting hint of, "Who's Coming to Lunch in 2018-2019?"

Congregational Care/Visitation Ministry Team

Carol Hepting, John Nelson, Martha Pauls, Ron Phillips, and Eleanor Russell

We have several people who visit members of our church family on a regular basis, but we could always use more volunteers. If you would like to offer friendship and brighten someone's day, please call John Nelson or Carol Hepting.

Bedding Plants

Thank you to Plant Ranch and Klaus Link for donating plants to the church. Also, a big thank you to Dean Gilchrist for planting them.

Help needed! Many Hands Make Light Work

Over the past few years, our congregation has seen a renewed commitment to help out where needed. By sharing the load, we hope people feel “this is our church.” We also hope it means that no one has to carry too much of the burden and that all have free time to see what opportunities God provides around your neighbourhood.

Over the past year new volunteers have

- started the first new usher team in over a decade
- doubled the number of tellers
- continued repainting the building interior
- reorganized years worth of church files and records
- handled office filing once every week or so
- chosen and set up new church software
- handled bill payments

If there is some way you would like to help once a week or once a month, behind the scenes, with children or singing, speak with one of the pastors or a deacon.

First Baptist Church Staff

Joel Russell-MacLean, Lead Pastor
 John Nelson, Associate Pastor
 George McKenzie, Caretaker

First Baptist Church Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 The church office is closed on Fridays, because it is a day off for staff.

Website: firstbaptistregina.ca
 Email: main_fbcregina@sasktel.net
 Phone: 306-359-1450

Financial Report

Our operating income was 7% below the prorated budget to the end of April, while our expenses were under budget by 16%. Continued good management of our spending will help relieve pressure on our finances through the summer months. Each month will have unique expenses that will cause deviations from the projected budgeted expenses, but this should average out over time.

The Restricted Reserve funds balance decreased slightly due to some expenses on the organ. We continue to allocate the payment of the contract for our organist from the Organ Fund.

Approved Operating Budget to end of April 2018: \$129,296 (prorated monthly)

Operating Revenue to end of April 2018:	\$ 119,818
Operating Expenses to end of April 2018:	\$ 108,604
Restricted Reserve Balance:	\$ 182,120
CBWC Loan Balance:	\$ 282,409

Also, be reminded that our church has an option for regular donations and tithing through a Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) function. Using PAR, your offering ensures regular monthly givings to help our church's ministry even when you are away. You will be providing a dependable flow of contributions, which increases the church's overall financial stability. If you are interested in "PAR-ticipating" let us know and someone from our Finance Committee will be in touch with you.

ChurchTrac

Our Church management software (ChMS) called ChurchTrac has been implemented over the past month to streamline common administrative tasks, track and manage resources, foster communication, and monitor growth of the congregation. The first efforts have been toward replacement of our teller database and membership directory, both of which are now being utilized on the new system.

There is a Congregation Access feature which allows members of our church to access their own profiles. Members can access their own contribution statements, member lists, and picture directories, and update their personal and family profile. Only those names that have been entered in the database **with an email address** will be able to access and use the Congregation Access feature. In order to view your personal profile, please use the following link:

https://churchtraconline.com/member_access.php?church=3063591450

When a person initially visits the Congregation Access link, they will be asked:

1. to provide their email address and access code. The member must enter their email address, and that address must match the email address which we have in the database.
2. You will then need to click on the link: “I do not know my Passcode, or I do not have a Passcode”
3. You will be sent a secure access code at that email address to complete the log-in process.
4. After you log in, you can change this access code to one that you can remember by clicking the “gear” link – 

Please note that it is very important that we are provided with current email addresses in order to utilize some of the more useful benefits of the system.

June at a Glance

June 10 th	3:30-6:30 Annual Church Picnic (Willow Island) (pg. 7)
June 17 th	Immediately following church service: question and answer time regarding future staffing
June 23 rd	Mens' Breakfast (pg.8)

Life Together

Sunday	9:30 am	Learning for Life
	11:00 am	Worship Service
Monday	7:15 am	Morning Prayers
Tuesday	7:15 am	Morning Prayers
	7:00 pm	Tuesday Nights Together Bible Study
Wednesday	7:15 am	Morning Prayers
	8:00 am	Prayer Breakfast
	12:15 pm	Noon Prayers
Thursday	7:15 am	Morning Prayers
Friday	7:15 am	Morning Prayers
	7:00 pm	Youth Event
