First Baptist Regina Weekly News

For the Week of November 14th, 2021

Remembrance Day

Our family heads to the cenotaph in Victoria Park every November 11 and we pray for peace: that the sacrifices made would not be in vain. We remember once again the suffering and sacrifice brought on by nations declaring a state of total war.



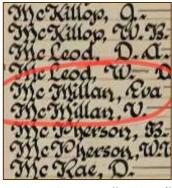
The author of Hebrews knew his church was suffering. Like many of the New

Testament authors, Hebrews exhorted believers to trust it would



not be in vain. Suffering, when influenced by grace,

leads to growth and maturity — we can learn from suffering. I imagine some of you remarking (deservedly), "At this rate, I must have earned at least a few PhD's." I don't know that heaven grants degrees but we are preparing



ourselves for eternity. God is getting us ready, as Hebrews puts it, every day that is a "today."

May Jesus meet you in the midst of your challenges.

With love,

Pastor Joel

M.M.)

November Congregational Meeting

When: Sunday, November 21st, following the morning worship service

Where: In the sanctuary and on Zoom

This is a very important meeting, so please make a point of attending, whether in person or over Zoom.

The proposed budget for 2022 and other related materials are



Sunday, October 31, 2021

available on the <u>church website</u>. Printed copies are available at the church. Please review these materials in preparation for the meeting.

For those who attend in person, masks will be mandatory during the meeting. No eating will be allowed in person, due to Covid-19. The meeting will be approximately an hour long. If this creates a problem for you, please participate in the meeting through Zoom from your home. You will be able to join the meeting by clicking on the "Join Worship Service" link in the *First This Week* email or on the church website.

Christmas Worship Concert

Date: December 19, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: First Baptist Church

First Baptist Church community and friends are invited to Christmas Worship 2021. The evening will be a special night of music and singing, featuring the First Baptist Sanctuary Choir, the First Baptist Handbell choir (JuBELLation), and much more. All are welcome. The concert will be in person and on Zoom.

Birth Announcement

David Wolfgang Pelzer ("Little D," for short) was welcomed by parents Daniel and Alicia on November 2, 2021, and weighed in at 8lb, 8oz. Congratulations to proud grandmother, Laurie McPherson. This is Daniel and Alicia's first child and Laurie's first grandchild.



Happy Birthday, Eva!

Eva McMillan celebrated her 99th birthday on Thursday, November 11th. (Remembrance Day) To our knowledge, Eva is the only surviving veteran of WWII at First Baptist.

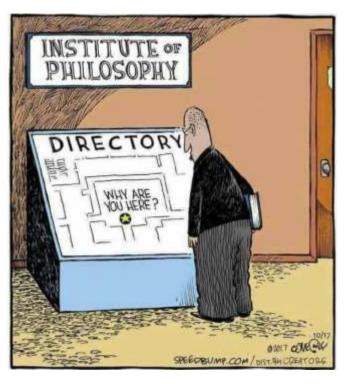
During the war, Eva worked in a clerical capacity. In the period following the war, she was involved in the discharging and repatriation of Canadian soldiers, spending time in both England and Germany while filling this role.

Thank you for your loving service, Eva, not just during the war, but in many other areas throughout your life, both here at First Baptist, and also in the wider community. Happy Birthday, and may God continue to bless you each day.



Communion Preparation Ministry

A team of is being formed for the new year to take turns preparing the communion elements. Brenda Ziolkowski has kindly offered to provide a demonstration of how it's done on Saturday, December 4th at 1:00 pm. She has also prepared a handy "To-Do List" for new volunteers to follow, which is super helpful! If you would like to serve our church family in this way once or twice in 2022, or just check out the list or the demonstration, please contact Marilyn Phillips at 306-515-1113 or by email.



A preacher's new car broke down just after his Sunday service. Monday morning he managed to drive the vehicle to the town's one garage for repairs. "I hope you'll go easy on the cost," he told the mechanic. "After all, I'm just a poor preacher."

"I know," came the reply. "I heard you preach yesterday."

My wife asked me to put ketchup on the shopping list. Now I can't read a single word!

I was sitting drinking coffee in my slippers this morning, when I thought to myself...I really need to wash some cups.

Thanks in Prayer: Psalm 100 (NIV) – A psalm for giving grateful praise.

1 Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.
2 Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.
3 Know that the LORD is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.
5 For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

I have a confession to make. There have been a few times in my life where my prayers to God were all about asking. Asking for money, asking for forgiveness, and asking for stupid things I didn't even really need, but still wanted enough to cry to God about anyway. I began to think about when I prayed, and was embarrassed to realize that it was mostly in hard times.

I made it a point that I was going to start beginning my nightly prayers with thank you. I wasn't sure how many things I'd have to say before I began to pray as I had before, but it felt important to try. Funny thing was, once I began listing all the things I was thankful for, I couldn't stop. More and more blessings, both asked and not asked, began to fill my head and come out my lips. Tears of thankfulness and love filled my eyes as the Lord brought all the things he had done, and is currently doing, with my life and my family's lives, to my attention. I remember not feeling sad or guilty but feeling so very thankful and loved. The Lord's Peace just filled my heart, and all the pointless junk I was praying about before, no longer felt important and I brushed them aside.

I think the problem in today's busy world is that we get far too busy and caught up with the unimportant things around us, and it pulls our attention away from God and all the work and blessings he is doing in our lives, and the lives of others around us. It's because of this that I feel we all need to just slow down. Instead of crying about not getting the raise you wanted at work, be grateful for the job you have. See the things God has given you in life, and say thank you. God will give you what you need, so don't cry to him about not getting what you want. I am not saying stop talking to God about things you need or asking for help, that's fine. I'm just saying instead of jumping right to "I need, I need" in prayer, we really need to say thank you first. We need to do this to show we are grateful for what we have, and not want what our friends and people around us have. Sound familiar? It should, since it's in God's commandments: Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or anything that is thy neighbour's. (See Exodus 20:17 KJV)

I just would like to encourage you to start prayer with thankfulness and praises to God. Not only when we are happy, we also need to thank God when we are sad, we need to thank God when we are scared. We need to be thankful to God at all times, before we go before him with our needs. God loves us very much, and we need to keep him first in our prayers and in our lives. It strengthens our faith and relationship with God, and He will bless us in our lives. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV) says: "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

What's happening at First?

Morning Prayer

Join us each morning, Monday to Thursday at 7:15 am to begin your day with scripture and prayer, via Zoom. Visit our website for the link.

Children's Ministry

There are now in-person classes for children up to Grade 6 – "Godly Play" for the younger children and "Oasis" for the older ones.

At present, our children are participating in an exciting "Heroes of the Faith" art project on Hebrews, that can be done in church or from home. For more information or for art supplies, please contact Pastor Kayely.

Adult Ministries

Learning for Life (L4L): On September 12, Dr. Kelvin Friebel began leading a new series: "Lament Psalms: Asking God the Hard Questions." This series is about learning to approach God in prayer during difficulty. This class is in person, but also available through Zoom. For more information, please go to <u>our website</u>.

Voice: A small group for women who like to read and enjoy lively conversation. The group meets every second Wednesday from 7 to 9 pm, using Zoom. For more information, send an email to Bonnie Austring-Winter or Laureen Snook, or visit our website.

Reading through the Old Testament: In this online reading group, participants are reading through the Old Testament chronologically. The group meets Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am, via Zoom. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact <u>Pastor Richard</u> or call the church at (306) 359-1450.

Gospel of John small group study: Pastor Richard is leading this small group. There are two groups meeting, via Zoom. The first group meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7 pm, and the second, on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month at 10 am. For more information, please contact <u>Pastor Richard</u>, or call the church at (306) 359-1450.

Dial-the-Sermon – (306) 992-1912



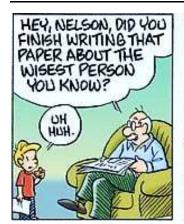
Know of someone with no computer and/or internet access and cannot come to church in person? Please let them know that there is an easy way to listen to a recent Sunday's sermon. Simply dial (306) 992-1912 (toll-free within the Regina area) on a landline phone or cell phone. This number takes you straight to the sermon recording.

Tithes and Offerings

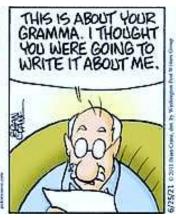
While many of you are coming to worship services in person now, there are also quite a number joining the service on Zoom or Facebook. Whether you are attending in person or online, there are several methods that you can use to give your tithes and donations to the church:

- 1. Mail your gifts to the church or call and leave a message at (306) 359-1450 to arrange for an in-person pick-up. Please place your cheque in your regular offering envelope (or any envelope marked "Offering"), and seal that inside another envelope addressed to: First Baptist Church, 2241 Victoria Ave, Regina, SK S4P 0S4.
- 2. Establish a **Pre-authorized Remittance (PAR) Plan**. This will automatically transfer funds from your account into the FBC Regina account on a regular basis. Please email the church or contact the Treasurer if you would like to set up PAR, or change your commitment.
- 3. Make an online donation:
 - Use Interac e-Transfer to donate from your phone or computer to FBCRegina@gmail.com (no fee or cost to the church)
 - Use a credit card with a PayPal account via the **PayPal Giving Fund** (no fee or cost to the church... 100% of your donation reaches us and contributes to our mission)
 - Use a credit card or PayPal via **CanadaHelps** (a fee of 4% is deducted from the donation)
 - Use a credit or debit card via **FBC ChurchTrac** (the church is charged a fee of approximately 3% for each donation)

PLEASE refer to our website at firstbaptistregina.ca for more specific information on these contribution methods. You may also contact the treasurer at (306) 775-1497 or email the church at main_fbcregina@sasktel.net for further details.









As a wheat farmer, I keep getting strange headaches. My doctor says it's my grains.

A sweater I bought was picking up static electricity, so I returned it to the store. They gave me another one, free of charge.