

First Baptist Regina Weekly News

For the Week of June 20th, 2021

Happy Indigenous Day, June 21st

I remember sitting on a patio next to a city square in Rotterdam, Netherlands, while a summer festival was underway. A number of acts came and went. The largest and most enthusiastic audience gathered for a group of Indigenous people from the plains of North America. They danced and sang in full regalia, with drums, jingles, and ribbon skirts.

A second memory that comes to mind is from Mexico City's Bellas Artes theatre. I was there for a celebration of the peoples of Mexico: a variety of Spanish, Indigenous, and Mexican dances and songs. It was beautiful.



*Dancers at Bellas Artes Theatre,
Mexico City, Mexico*

On the one hand, this is a vision of what humanity can be – diverse people who delight in each other's differences of language, values, and culture. On the other hand, the dancing and music can too easily cover over the pain and the ongoing suffering. I couldn't help but think of Psalm 137:

By the rivers of Babylon—

there we sat down and there we wept
when we remembered Zion.

On the willows there

we hung up our harps.

For there our captors

asked us for songs,

and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying,

“Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”

There is grief and trauma, sometimes visible, sometimes just below the surface. Every Indigenous person I've been with these past few weeks, eventually let words pour out about how recent news had affected them.

And yet, the Truth and Reconciliation commission was an open hand to the rest of Canada. It was a generous request to listen, to weep, to repent, and to seek to make things right where we all could. It is my own inward sense that the Holy Spirit is especially active whenever we move in that direction.



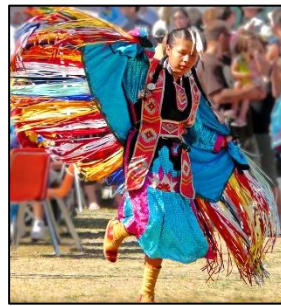
*Children celebrate
Indigenous Day in
Winnipeg, MB in 2018*

This Indigenous day, if you are fortunate to see or hear celebrations, or even take part somewhere, consider that the dancing and the music could have been lost, or could have been withheld. Instead, the Indigenous people who

have lived here since long before the rest of us got here, continue to work for the healing of Canada. Maybe we can glimpse a vision of Jesus' Kingdom come, of the celebration feast, the healing of the nations, and the day of restoration of all that was thought to have been lost. Come, Lord Jesus.



Grass dancers at the 2007 National Pow Wow



*Indigenous dancer in
Toronto, ON*



*Pow wow dance teacher,
Winnipeg, MB, 2021*

In hope,

Pastor Joel

Summer Schedule for Sunday Worship Services

As of July 4th, Sunday worship services will begin at 10 am. This schedule will be in effect for July and August.

First Baptist Place Chapel Services Have Resumed!

Chapel services at First Baptist Place (FBP) resumed on June 2nd. Norma Holtslander, chaplain of FBP, reports that those who have been attending are delighted to be able to gather together in person again. The services are on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. Health guidelines are being followed. What a blessing to see some of the things that we enjoyed before the pandemic starting up again!

Thank You, Christa!

On Sunday, June 13th, we expressed our gratitude to Christa Walsh for 13 years of faithful service to First Baptist as soloist, pianist and accompanist for the Sanctuary Choir, Sunday worship services, and gifts of music. We have come to appreciate Christa in many ways as she has shared her considerable talents with us. We have known that she would always show up—on time—and come well prepared. But



beyond that, we have also come to know her as a woman of faith who is dedicated, giving, and always gracious—no matter how short the notice she was given (by a certain music minister whom we won't name 😊) on what the choir was singing that morning.

Following some words of appreciation by pastoral staff members and the presentation of a few small tokens of our appreciation, the congregation showed their heartfelt appreciation for Christa by giving her a standing ovation. A few tears may have been shed!

Our Condolences...

We extend our condolences and prayers to the family and friends of Donna Veldhuis, who passed away on Saturday, June 12, 2021. Donna and her late husband, Harry, were faithful members of First Baptist for many years.

Kathleen Smith, the youngest sister of Eva Basky, passed away recently. Our prayers and condolences go to Al and Eva Basky, along with other friends and family.

We were also saddened to hear of the passing of Rob Sentis' parents, Barbara and Randall Sentis, on June 1, 2021. Our condolences and prayers go to Rob and his family, and other friends and family.

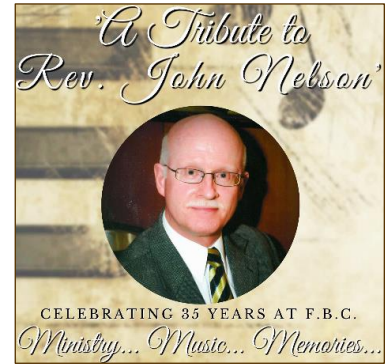
Voice Novel Study – Summer Edition

[Voice](#) is holding a novel study on Saturday, August 21, 2021, at 10 am. For more information, visit [our website](#), contact Lauren S or call the church at (306) 359-1450.

Notable Words & Music: A Tribute to John Nelson

On May 30th, we enjoyed a fitting tribute to Pastor John, in gratitude for 35 years of faithful ministry to First Baptist Church, the Regina community, and beyond. If you were not able to tune in to the service on the 30th, you may go to [our website](#) to watch it.

If you would like a copy of the program, it is available on [our website](#). Or, if you would prefer a printed copy, please contact Esther G in person or by [email](#), or call the church at (306) 359-1450.



We will continue to accept contributions towards a love offering for John for the month of June. The offering will be presented to him on June 27th – his last Sunday in his official capacity as Music Minister.

For anyone wishing to contribute, gifts must be cash only. Please note that we are not able to issue receipts for income tax purposes. If you are attending a Sunday worship service, you may leave your gift in the offering basket, or give it to any staff member (except John, of course!) *Be sure to mark your envelope clearly with "Love offering for John Nelson."* If you plan to come by the church with your gift, please call ahead to make sure someone will be there. *Please do not leave cash in the mailbox.*

Furnished Apartment for Rent

A member of Argyle Road Baptist Church has a furnished basement apartment for rent in a quiet neighbourhood near Regina Avenue and Pasqua Street. One bedroom and rec room, private bathroom and shower, all amenities, outside car plug-in and private entrance. No pets, no smoking inside. \$700 a month, available July 1, 2021. If you are interested or know of anyone who might be, please call (306) 584-8143.



Ready for a few more puns? (Actually, you're getting them anyway, ready or not! 😊)...

I once worked at a cheap pizza shop to get by. I kneaded the dough.

What do you call a pig with laryngitis? Disgruntled.

How much did the pirate pay to get his ears pierced? A buccaneer.

I lost my girlfriend's audiobook, and now I'll never hear the end of it.

Writing my name in cursive is my signature move.

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

Online children's programming is taking a break for the summer. We invite families to...

- Enjoy the activity packs provided for those attending in person on Sundays. It's so nice to have families in the worship service as we work towards rebuilding our volunteer base.
- Sign up for Katepwa Lake Camp (day camps, overnight camps, family camps)
- Send a note to [Pastor Kayely](#) sharing what your kids have done this past year so we can celebrate their accomplishments and events throughout the year. What have your kids done to survive and thrive throughout this odd year?

For more information, please contact [Pastor Kayely](#).

Youth

Since health guidelines have been relaxed in regards to outdoor gatherings, the youth are now able to meet in person. Their first face-to-face meeting was on June 4th in Pastor Chris' backyard. The excellent turnout gave evidence of how happy they were to be able to meet in person again. For more information, contact [Pastor Chris](#).

Adults

Learning for Life: Pastor Richard will conclude the series: "Christ's Letters to the Church" this Sunday, June 27th. This course has been looking at the letters of Christ to the seven churches in the book of Revelation, chapters 2 and 3. For more information, see our website or For more information, see [our website](#) or contact [Pastor Richard](#).

Reading through the Old Testament: In this online reading group, participants are reading through the Old Testament chronologically. The group meets every Thursday at 10:30 am, via Zoom. **Please note:** Following this week's meeting, the group will be taking a break for July and August. For more information, please call the church at (306) 359-1450, visit our website, or contact [Pastor Richard](#).

Gospel of John small group study: Pastor Richard is leading a small group online that is looking at the Gospel of John. There are two groups meeting, via Zoom. The first group meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7 pm, and the second, on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month at 10 am. **Please note:** Following this week's meetings, the groups will be taking a break for July and August. For more information, please visit [our website](#), contact [Pastor Richard](#), or call the church at (306) 359-1450.

Increasing Capacity at Sunday Worship Services

As the maximum gathering size allowed for places of worship was increased on May 30th, we have increased our capacity level for Sunday worship services.

As you are probably aware, we are all at different places regarding our comfort level in joining a public gathering. Some are already very comfortable being out in public. On the other hand, some have hardly ventured out of their homes for quite some time. In light of this, we can care for each other by being patient and gentle with those whose comfort level is different than ours.

While progress is being made in our goal of returning to a more normal way of life, the pandemic is not over yet. In order to keep each other safe, we will continue to follow all health guidelines for public gatherings. As a reminder, here are the main ones:

1. Everyone is required to wear a mask that covers their mouth and nose for the entire time they are at the church.
2. Everyone is required to wash their hands with sanitizer when they enter the building.
3. Everyone is required to follow the arrows on the floor. The ushers are there to help you. Please look to them for guidance.
4. A distance of 6 feet/2 metres is required between households.

For a complete list of the Worship Service Guidelines, please visit [our website](#).

Please note that, now that the weather is milder, you are asked to *head straight outside to visit*, rather than using the foyer or aisles for that purpose.

Also note that Zoom participants will continue to be fully included as part of Sunday morning worship at 11 am.

For information about children and youth programming, please see page 5.

Dial-the-Sermon – (306) 992-1912

Just a reminder to those of you who do not have access to a computer and/or the internet and are unable to attend the worship service in person, there is an easy way to listen to the previous Sunday's sermon. Simply dial (306) 992-1912 (toll-free within the Regina area) on your landline phone or cell phone. This number takes you straight to the sermon recording. If you know someone who might like to use this service, please pass this information on to them.



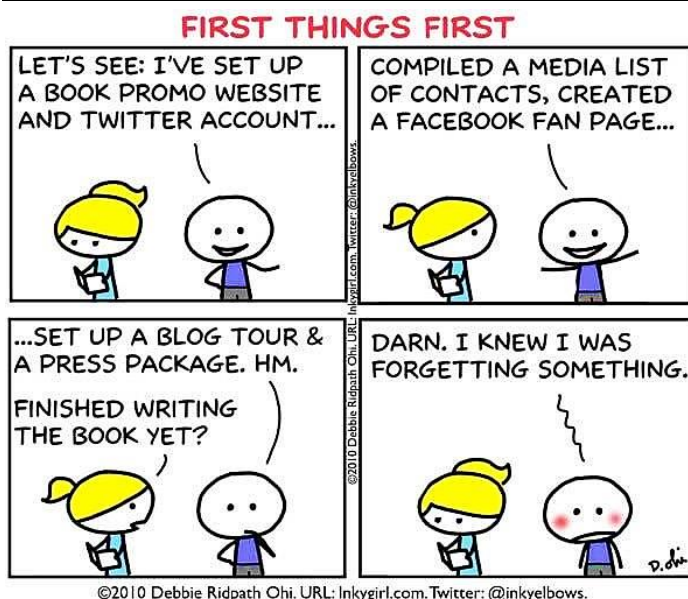
Tithing during the pandemic

With the COVID-19 crisis limiting contact with others and restricting meetings of groups, please do not neglect the financial needs of our church.

We have several ways to provide your regular 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.



Don't you just hate it when you see an old person and then realize you went to high school together?

I may not have lost all my marbles just yet. But there is definitely a small hole in the bag somewhere.

A turtle was crossing the road when he's mugged by two snails. When the police show up, they ask him what happened. The shaken turtle replies, "I don't know. It all happened so fast."