

First Baptist Regina Weekly News

For the Week of March 20, 2022

The great depression was the end for many people. Everything had led up to that point and now the world was ending. There was famine and rumours of another terrible war simmering in Europe. Today, we recognize these years had multiple causes, for example, financial practices and policies, farming practices, weather, human cupidity (an inordinate desire for wealth) and political weakness. We also talk about all the changes that came about as a result of those years of ruin and hardship.

Every disaster, every cataclysmic war, is to the people affected, for all intents and purposes, the end. Things will never be the same again. It is natural for people to think of the events of “today” as the point to which everything was moving. In some Christian circles, during periods of heightened fear and uncertainty, this tendency manifests itself in heightened talk of “end times.”



Once an event is long past, we begin to talk about how it was connected to many other things going on in the world, and how it led to something new.

Once there is some distance between those events and ourselves, we might think of them as a spasm, or in Jesus’ words, “birth pangs”: “You will hear of wars and rumours of wars; see that you are not alarmed; for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places: all this is but the beginning of the birth pangs.” (Matthew 24:6-8)

Paul repeats and develops Jesus’ teaching in his letter to the Romans “the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.” (Romans 8:20-23)

Perhaps we tend to imagine that Jesus was speaking something like a fortune teller. I think it is just as possible to read this as an astute and far-sighted assessment of politics, as well as human deceit, greed and violence.

It is gut wrenching to see what millions are suffering in our world today with little sign that they will soon be free, and with little we can do to help. We can pray that the long hoped for day of redemption will come and that Jesus will return. Come Lord, Jesus.

While you wait and pray, may Jesus be near you and all those undergoing terrible suffering.

Yours in prayer,

Pastor Joel

Celebration of Easter Praise

Date: April 10, 2022

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: First Baptist Church Regina

You are invited to an evening of concert and praise, celebrating the life of Jesus Christ! Arranged by our Interim Minister of Music, Maria Fuller, the evening will feature Mark Anderson on the organ, Mark Ancheta on the piano, the Sanctuary Choir, the JuBELLation Ringers, and guest performances, both vocal and instrumental, by local musicians.

The concert will also be live streamed over Zoom and FaceBook. Invite your friends to join you, as we meet to hear the Easter story told in a meaningful and inspiring way. A freewill offering will be taken. See [our website](#) for more information.



AGM 2022



Our Annual General Meeting (AGM), will be held next Sunday, March 27, 2022, following the morning worship service. It will be on Zoom as well as in person, in the church sanctuary. For more information, call the church at (306) 359-1450 or send an email to [the church](#).

Be sure to attend: We have much to celebrate and much to discuss! The 2021 Annual Report and other related information may be found on [our website](#). There are also be hard copies available in the church foyer. Please read the report ahead of time in preparation for the meeting.

Our Condolences

Our condolences go out to the friends and family of Javonne Miller, who passed away on Monday, March 14, 2022. She was 94. A memorial tea will be held at a later date to celebrate Javonne's life.

Javonne and her daughter, Donalyn Price, attended First Baptist for many decades. To read Javonne's obituary, please click here: [Javonne Miller Obituary](#).



COVID Measures

It appears that we will be easing out of COVID measures shortly. Over the coming weeks of March, we ask that you continue to wear masks when we gather in larger groups. We will decide week by week.

We are also considering removing the screen from the sanctuary. We will continue to live stream our service. Please contact anyone from the board or church staff with questions, concerns, or to share your preference.



This past Thursday was St. Patrick's Day. Did you know that...

St. Patrick, patron saint of Ireland, was born in Roman Britain in the late 4th century. At the age of 16, he was kidnapped and taken to Ireland as a slave. He escaped, but returned to Ireland around 432 to convert the Irish to Christianity. By the time of his death on March 17, 461, he had established monasteries, churches, and schools throughout Ireland.

We want to wish our favourite Irishman, Rob Stafford-Lai, a Happy St. Patrick's Day, and thank him for all he does, week by week, to keep things running smoothly here at First Baptist Regina.

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 is an in-person class for children up to Grade 6. The children are currently learning about the stories of Jesus' ministry. For more information, please contact [Pastor Kayely](#).

Youth Ministry

The youth have been meeting for a video study on creation. The series looks at our understanding of what God as Creator means, and how that affects how we can look at our world and ourselves as creative beings. For more information, contact [Pastor Chris](#).

Adult Ministries

Learning for Life (L4L): Annabel Robinson is leading the series: "The Gospel of John." This whole Gospel is centred on Jesus and who he is. The class will encourage each person to ask themselves, "Who, in my experience, is Jesus?" This class is in person, and also on Zoom. For more information, please contact Annabel [by email](#) or at (306) 761-1458, or go to [our website](#). [Join Learning for Life](#).

Learning for Life between Sundays: In this class, facilitated by Joel Russell-MacLean, we will read and reflect on the powerful stories and personal presentation of Jesus in the Gospel according to John. Whether Sunday mornings at 9:30 don't work for you, or if there's something you want to follow up on after Sunday's sermon or L4L class, all are welcome. The class is both in person and on Zoom. For more information, visit [our website](#) or contact [Pastor Joel](#). [Join Weekday L4L](#).

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, contact [Bonnie Austring-Winter](#) or [Lauren Snook](#) or visit [our website](#).

Reading through the Pauline Epistles: This group, facilitated by Norma Holtslander, meets every Wednesday, on Zoom, at 10:30 am. For more information, contact [Norma](#) or call the church at (306) 359-1450. [Join Reading the Pauline Epistles](#).

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

Whether you are attending Sunday services 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 a credit or debit card to make a donation from our website. (*The church is charged a small processing fee for each 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*)
 - Use a credit card or PayPal via **CanadaHelps** (*a 4% fee 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.



Looking down at his patient, the doctor decided to tell him the truth: "I feel I should tell you that you are a very sick man. The situation is complex and confusing, and things don't look too promising. Now, is there anyone you would like to see?" Bending down toward the man, the doctor heard a feeble yes.

"Who is it?" asked the doctor.

In a slightly stronger tone, the sufferer said, "Another doctor."

Golfer: "What's your handicap?"

Second golfer: "Honesty."