

First Baptist Regina Weekly News

For the Week of March 27, 2022

Grocery Lists and Prayer

“If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.” *John 14*

“Ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.” *John 15*

“Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.” *John 16*

In John’s account of the night that Jesus was betrayed, Jesus insisted three times to his disciples that they ask for things in his name, and it would be done.



Some people have built their ministry on guarantees of answered prayer: Ask in faith and God will give you whatever you want! When I read the above verses, I am also drawn to the promise of answered prayer – except that I want to figure out what else Jesus could have meant, since clearly, we don’t just get whatever we ask for, no matter how noble or good the cause. There are plenty of times I’ve prayed and not seen what I asked for – and I know I’m not alone. It isn’t clear at all how what Jesus said could be true.

What is clear is that Jesus commanded us to ask. Jesus didn’t explain how prayer would be answered, nor why it would seem that our prayers often go unanswered. It is easy to focus on the promise of receiving. But Jesus just kept circling back to that instruction: Ask.

People rightly observe that we err when we reduce prayer to always, only asking, and asking in an impersonal way that treats God like a greengrocer being given a list. There is more to prayer than “ask”: There is listen, give thanks, repent, praise, rest, contemplate, and more.

That being said, we might keep in mind that we do need groceries to live. The grocer provides us with life. During Lent we intentionally remember it is God we depend upon, even for our groceries. All we have has been given to us. Everything comes from God. A human being is vulnerable, needy and dependent upon God. Jesus is our Good Shepherd, the one who leads us, even through death, to water and food. To ask God for things is to practice the proper order of life.

May God provide your every need and watch over you in all you do.

With love,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. M. L.' with a stylized flourish at the end.

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.

Invite your friends to join you, as we hear the Easter story presented in a meaningful and inspiring way. Those attending in person will be required to wear a mask. The concert will also be live streamed over Zoom and Facebook. See [our website](#) for the links. A basket will be available at the entrance for a freewill offering.



A Note of Thanks...

Thank you to Barb Ziolkowski and Eleanor Russell who recently cleaned out the banner room, making it *much* easier to find things in there. Also to Marvin Fuller who is often seen around the church, changing light bulbs and doing many other small (and some not so small) jobs that are necessary to maintain a building.

Our Condolences

Our condolences go out to the friends and family of Eileen Hutton, who passed away on Saturday, March 19, 2022. She was 94. To read Eileen's obituary, please click here: [Eileen Hutton 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.

A New Way to Give...

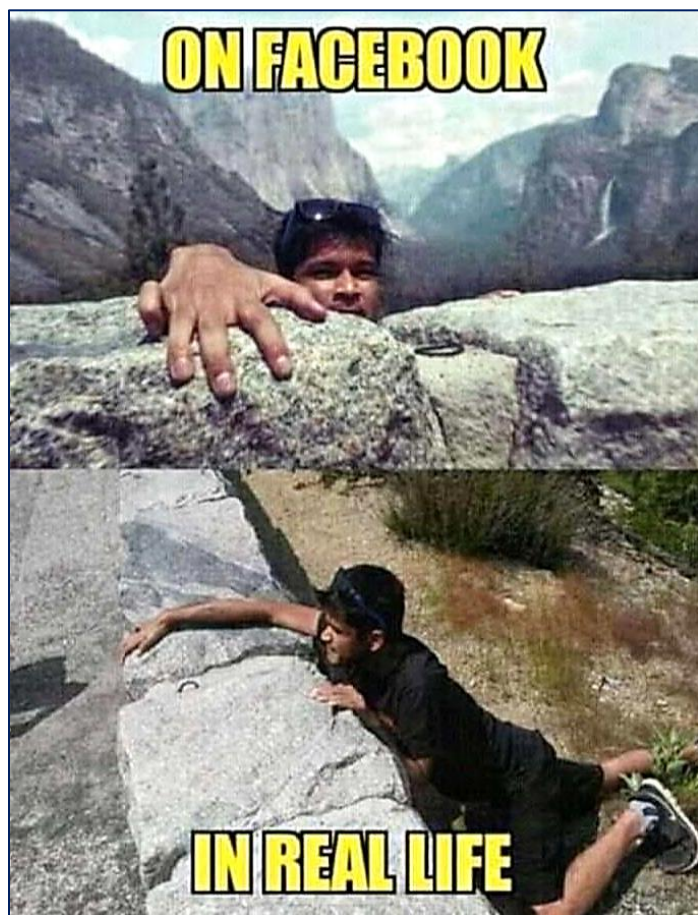
For those who prefer to give their offering using their credit card, it is now possible to do that directly from our website without using other options such as PayPal. To check it out, please visit the [donations page](#) on our website.

Website

Just a quick reminder that the [church website](#) is a valuable source of information that can help keep you connected and up to date with the various programs that are available—especially now that we are seeing more in-person activities being resumed.

One easy way to keep on top of upcoming events is to click on the calendar icon in the top right hand corner of each page on the website, or the larger icon on our home page. Each entry on the calendar provides a link to information about various events, such as prayer times, small group studies, and special events.

Also on our website are links to our Facebook page and YouTube channel, where you will find video reflections, devotions, and studies by a number of our members and pastors.



While attending a convention, three psychiatrists take a walk. “People are always coming to us with their guilt and fears,” one says, “but we have no one to go to with our problems.”

“Since we’re all professionals,” another suggests, “why don’t we hear each other out right now?” They agree this is a good idea.

The first psychiatrist confesses, “I’m a compulsive shopper and deeply in debt, so I overbill patients as often as I can.”

The second admits, “I have a drug problem that is out of control, and I frequently pressure my patients into buying illegal drugs from me.”

The third psychiatrist says, “I know it’s wrong, but no matter how hard I try, I just can’t keep a secret.”

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, email [the church](#), 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 A-W or Lauren S, call (306) 359-1450, email [the church](#), 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.



In a courtroom, the judge interrogates the defendant, "So you declare that you suffer from a disease that affects your memory."

"That's right," answers the defendant.

"And how does this disease affect you?"

"It makes me forget things."

"So, could you give us an example of something you've forgotten?"

I just read a great novel on my Kindle. It was a real button-presser.