

First Baptist Regina Weekly News

For the Week of June 26, 2022

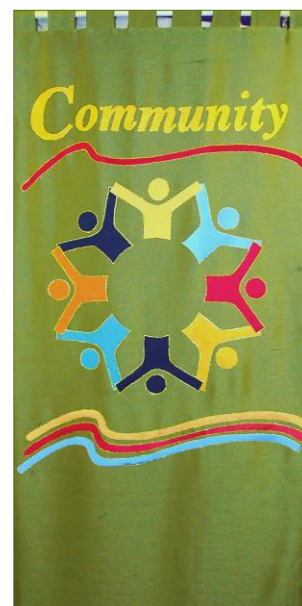
This spring I found myself intrigued with one of the many beautiful banners created by Vic and Irene Sotropa, displayed in our sanctuary. It featured the word “koinonia.” (See photos.) I began thinking about the meaning of this word, and asked myself if it is an appropriate description of our church family. Both that banner and the matching one also present the word visually: a group of people holding hands and forming a circle.



The word “koinonia” is mentioned 19 times in the Greek New Testament and is frequently used in the English Bible, depending on the translation. It is often translated “fellowship,” referring to the fellowship of believers in Christ.

According to one definition, “koinonia” is a “shared community that involves deep, close-knit participation among its people;” The redeemed, pastors, and lay people, are on one footing with each other before God. The church is our spiritual home.

In his sermon given earlier this month, Eric Warren said that the congregation does not create community; it is God, Father, Son, and



Holy Spirit, who creates it. As the redeemed, we are invited into fellowship with God and with one another. It is a gift we are given.

This doesn't mean that we are without responsibility within this family. It is ours to maintain and nurture what has been given. In Philippians 1:27, we learn one way of doing this: Paul speaks to the church about “standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel.” We stand with one heart and mind with every member, regardless of differences in age, culture, and colour. We are blessed with a splendid diversity of ethnicity in our church.

Koinonia calls for ongoing care. We must be alert to those with special needs: the sick, the lonely, those in financial distress, etcetera. And in that process, we must not allow ourselves to become ingrown. As we stand “side by side,” we are called to welcome strangers to our fellowship. We should not be so engaged in meeting friends and family that we ignore the newcomer. Some time ago, members of our sister church, Argyle Road Baptist, were urged by leadership to practice a five minute rule: it was to resist speaking to those they knew well for the first five minutes after the close of the service, and, in that time, to speak to someone they didn't know well. This is something we at First Baptist could also do. When we meet for fellowship and a cold drink after morning worship this summer, let's make a habit of greeting newcomers and those who stand alone. In this way “alone” could become “side by side,” and this is true koinonia.

—Esther Wiens

Summer Schedule for Sunday Worship Services

As of July 3rd, Sunday worship services will begin at 10 am. This schedule will be in effect from July 3rd to September 4th, after which we will resume our 11 am starting time.

First Baptist Church Picnic 2022

After almost three years of not being able to meet for a time of fellowship over a meal, it was a joy to gather once again for our annual church picnic on Willow Island.



Send a Kid to Camp

Over the years, those involved in the ministry of Katepwa Lake Camp (KLC) have seen how the lives of many children have been impacted by going to camp, where the goal is to minister to the whole person. Unfortunately, however, some children who need it the most, are not able to pay the fees because of limited financial resources. KLC treasurer, Rosemary Ward, reports: "This year we have more applications than we have donations to fund sponsorships, so the 'Camp Matters' fund could really use a boost right now!"

If you would like to make a donation to help children get to camp, you can give in the following ways:

1. Through the KLC website at katepwalakecamp.com. (Specify "Camp Matters" as the program you wish to support.)
2. Through the church: Make cheque out to First Baptist Church and mark clearly on the envelope: "KLC – Camp Matters."



An Opportunity for Fellowship

As we seek opportunities to fellowship together, we have decided to reinstate an activity from a few years ago. Starting on July 3rd, and throughout the summer months, we will provide a cold beverage in front of the church, immediately following the morning worship service. We encourage you to take this opportunity to connect with others in your church family.

Spring Financial Update

Thank you to each and every one of you who kindly gives to First Baptist Church! We seek to provide you with periodic updates as to how the church finances are doing. As of the end of May 2022, we are running a deficit of \$10.7K. We are grateful that we have been able to use savings to cover this difference. Overall, spending has been on budget. As is often the case at this time of year, year-to-date giving is under the budgeted amount. However, it is also worth noting that giving to the end of May is lower than it was at this time last year.

We recognize that costs are rising these days and pray for God's provision personally and corporately. We thank you in advance for the gifts you are able to make as we head into these summer months. Your ongoing contributions are helpful to us in planning, as we are hoping to hire more pastoral staff soon.

Covid Measures

Just a quick reminder that masks are now optional in the church, including during the Sunday morning worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact [Pastor Kayely](#), Ron Phillips (board chair), or the church office [by email](#) or at (306) 359-1450.



After giving a woman a full medical examination, the doctor explained his prescription as he wrote it out. "Take the green pill with a glass of water when you get up. Take the blue pill with a glass of water after lunch. Then just before going to bed, take the red pill with another glass of water."

"Exactly what is my problem, Doctor?" the woman asked.

"You're not drinking enough water."

"Doctor," the man said to his ophthalmologist, "I was looking in the mirror this morning, and I noticed that one of my eyes is different form the other!"

"Oh?" replied the doctor. "Which one?"

Backyard Barbecues and Patio Parties

We have heard a number of folks express their desire to gather socially around food and fellowship. If you would be willing to host either a barbecue or patio party this summer, or for more information on what is involved, please contact Pastor Kayely [by email](#) or by phone at (306) 359-1450, ext. 224.

Hosting a patio party means that you would provide a dessert and beverages. For a backyard barbecue, you would provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and beverages. For any barbecues held, a free will offering will be taken to help cover expenses.



The number of barbecues and/or patio parties planned will depend on the number of people able to host an event.

Donations for the Al Hussein Family

We have received a number of donations for the family—thank you to everyone who has dropped off items at the church. There are a few significant items that are still needed. Please ensure that they are in good condition so that they can withstand the normal wear and tear of family life over the coming years while the family works to build up their own resources:



- Queen sized bed (frame and mattress)
- Dressers

If you have one of these items, please call the church at (306) 359-1450 before you come, to make sure someone will be here to let you in. As well, please let Barb Ziolkowski know what you are donating so that she can update the list.

The family will have also other needs that will require money. If you would like to make a financial donation, please make your cheque out to the church, and mark “Refugee Fund” clearly on the envelope.

For more information, or to see the full list of the family’s needs, send an email for the church or call the church at (306) 359-1450.

Links in the Newsletter

A recent comment has brought it to my attention that more clarity is needed as to how the links work in this newsletter. Anytime you see blue-coloured text, it indicates that that text contains a link, either to an email address, or a website page. Just click on the blue text to activate the link. If you have any trouble using these links, please contact me at the [church email](#), or at (306) 359-1450, Ext. 226. I apologize for this oversight.

—Esther Gurnsey

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

The Godly Play and Oasis classes will be wrapping up for the year at the end of June. During the summer months, all kids are invited to attend a class on the Books of the Bible during the worship service. For more information, please contact [Pastor Kayely](#).

Youth Ministry

On Friday, June 17th, the youth were able to gather at the Russell-MacLean home for a year-end barbecue and a time to visit and hang out with each other. We were grateful for the hospitality, and spent much of the evening talking to each other and enjoying good food. Following the barbecue, we walked over to The Milky Way for some ice cream.

Our time together was a good end to a year in which there have been a lot of unknowns. But something that we have always been able to count on is that, when we get together, we enjoy our time and are very grateful to God to have the opportunity to be together as a group and as a community. I trust that each of our youth will have a great summer, and I'm already looking forward to the fall when we will gather again!

Yours in Christ,

Chris Senger

For more information about our youth program, please contact [Pastor Chris](#).

Adult Ministries

Adult classes will resume in the fall.

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.



While conducting a routine inspection, the colonel arrived at the mess hall door where he met two KPs with a large soup kettle.

"Let me taste that," the colonel snapped.

One of the men fetched a big spoon and handed it respectfully to the CO, who plunged the ladle into the pot and took a large mouthful of the steaming liquid, smacking his lips critically.

Then he let out a roar that could be heard back at headquarters. "Do you call that soup?" he bellowed.

"No sir," explained one of the KPs. "It's dishwater we were just throwing out."