

First Baptist Regina News

For the Weeks of April 16, 23, & 30, 2023

We have just been blessed with several weeks of meaningful events.

Our Easter concert blended readings from scripture with beautiful songs to tell the story of Jesus' life. The service was a well-planned and powerful reflection. The choir and musicians led us well.



(Photos courtesy of Carmen Pauls Orthner)

Several of us set aside time during the week before Easter to listen and pray through the story of Jesus' last days, meeting every morning and evening. Thursday evening, Pastor Cheryl led us in a foot washing service and communion. On Friday, we joined our sister churches in a Good Friday service, where we commemorated the suffering and death of our Lord, brother, and friend, Jesus.

A number of folks came out on Saturday to serve meals to a long line of folks who glean their meals and groceries from charities across our city.

Then it was finally time to celebrate.

Jesus' resurrection was celebrated by over 50 at the sunrise service, followed by a warm and joyful meal in the church building.

We entered into our Master's joy again together at our 11:00 am service, with great singing, communion, and the Hallelujah chorus.



We opened the church building to the whole church on Easter Wednesday, with plenty of food and lots of games for those interested. Over 30 came out, including children, teens, parents and grandparents.

Perhaps it isn't always obvious what these events accomplish. As I listen to us talk about them, we name some things easily. We know some need to hear about Jesus for the first time. Sometimes, we receive energy from them, and feel renewed or encouraged. Other times, we have been comforted.

There is something about an intentional effort on our part to mark anniversaries that changes us. I'm married every day but observing anniversaries impacts my affection and gratitude. It can lead to self-reflection, apologies, and resolve to change. I'm a father every day but observing birthdays renews my awe for the men and the woman that are growing up before my eyes. Friends and families have many other repeating events they rely on to maintain and deepen relationships.

Every day of our life is marked by Jesus' death and resurrection. Every day, it is true that, "we have died in Christ and we no longer live but Christ lives in us" and that, "we are a new creation; the life we live in the body, we live by faith in Jesus." However, our repeating, annual journey from our longing of advent, through Jesus' birth at Christmas, his Epiphany on earth, the Lenten road to his suffering and death, the resurrection of Easter, to his ascension into Heaven, and the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost; all these anniversaries are an invitation, to anyone willing to join together in scripture and prayer, in service and fellowship, and find love deepened and renewed, grief and discouragement comforted, and sin and death confronted. Intentionally taking part in these events is a means by which God speaks to us and changes us as we journey toward home, toward the renewal of all things through Jesus.

I'm convinced that the coming generations need churches now that pass on a whole way of life, a way of living together, by living it out now, including the observing of this profound series of anniversaries focused on God.

Happy Easter to you today and everyday: Jesus Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

With love,

Pastor Joel

Children's Ministry Update

During March, the children learned about the Exodus story through art, games, and the Seder meal. On March 12, Brenda Ziolkowski helped us to create a quilt with fabric squares donated by Shirley Carbno. Each square has been stamped by the children with one of the plagues of Egypt. The quilt is hanging in the basement. From the lower hall, take the door to the right (west) of the kitchen into the hallway, and you will see the quilt on your right hand side, just before you get to the library. I hope you will take a moment to go see the children's fabric art!



In April, the children are learning about the events after the resurrection. In Godly Play (ages 3-6), our children are learning about Jesus' appearances after he rose from the dead. In Oasis (ages 6-12), they are learning about the "Road to Emmaus" story from Luke 24:13-35 through cooking, music and art. For more information, please contact Pastor Cheryl [by email](#) or by calling (306) 359-1450.

Congregational News

Jack Glen, the son of Tom Glen, is currently representing Canada in the world championship of university hockey taking place in Romania, April 14-19. Congratulations and all the best, Jack!

Saturday Lunch Program – A Note of Thanks from a Volunteer

Dear Friends in Christ at First Baptist Church,

Thank you for answering the call to serve the poor. Also thank you for including other churches to participate in this important work of mercy and love.

I heard there was a need for toiletries, so we put the word out to our Catholic Women's League (CWL) group for help and they generously responded.

When we were helping serve, there were also people asking for bags, so there are some extra cloth bags as well.

We share in faith and celebrate the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, our Saviour and Lord!

Love in Christ,

Marg Engel, for the Resurrection CWL Ladies

Voice – Women’s Novel Study

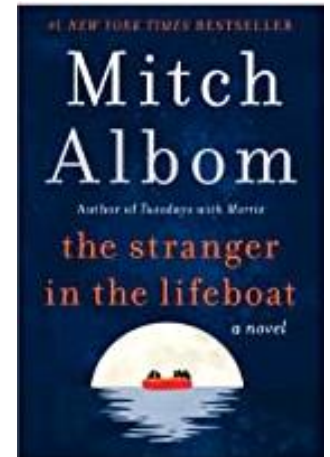
When: April 22, 10:00 am

Where: Home of Julie Rich

Food: Brunch potluck; beverages will be provided

The novel chosen for the April 22nd study is “The Stranger in the Lifeboat,” by Mitch Albom. In this book, “Albom’s gift for plucking heartstrings and finding meaning in life which has endeared him to millions, is on full display.”

For more information, or to RSVP, contact Julie Rich or Laureen Snook, call the church at (306) 359-1450, or visit [our website](#).



Steve Bell Concert

Date: April 29, 2023

Time: 7:30 pm

Place: Westhill Park Baptist Church, 8025 Sherwood Drive



For those who have not been to one of Steve’s concerts, he is a fine performer, and a very thoughtful person with lots of good stories to tell.

The concert will be an evening of story and song, featuring music from Steve’s latest album, “Wouldn’t You Love to Know,” as well as Steve Bell classics and favourites. Tickets are available through Westhill Park Church (306-775-1616).

Or to purchase online, click here: [Steve Bell Concert](#). Tickets will also be available at the door on concert night.

Learning for Life – New Series Begins April 30th

Topic: “Reflections on the Theology of Food”

Leader: Pastor Kayely

Time: Sunday mornings, 9:30 to 10:30 am, April 30 – June 18 (no class May 21st)

Location: In person in the church library or on Zoom

Food. A single word that represents so much. On the one level, so mundane. After all, we eat pretty much daily and often multiple times a day. On another level, food plays a significant role throughout the biblical narrative. Come join us as we reflect together on these biblical themes and what they mean for our daily lives today. For more information, please contact Pastor Kayely [by email](#) or by calling the church office at (306) 359-1450.

Vivace Concert – May 6th

The Vivace Choral Ensemble will present “A Spring Song” on May 6th, at 7:00 pm, in our sanctuary, with director John Nelson and accompanist Christa Walsh. Guest musicians are Gillian Engen, Julia Grant, Fred Foerster, Alaina Majewski, and Rob Nelson. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased at Traditions Handcraft Gallery, Vintage Vinyl, or online on the [Vivace website](#).

“Glory to God Alone” – In Thanksgiving for Mark Anderson’s Years of Service

When: Sunday, May 7th, 11:00 am

What: A special Sunday morning service with Mark Anderson preaching, guests, prayers, and communion, followed by a farewell meal and program in the lower hall.

We are all aware of Mark’s contribution to our worship services and concerts. Every Sunday for over three decades he has help direct our attention toward God. Many would also know and appreciate his humility, his great sense of humour and way with words, and his years of teaching Learning for Life. Mark has also frequently made himself available to support and advise the staff and board throughout his time. Outside our congregation, Mark has been the means of blessing many generations of young people and staff at Luther High School, including many of our own youth who attended there on scholarships thanks to Mark’s support.

Last fall, Mark and Roxanne announced their respective retirements here in Regina. This summer they will move to BC to a home in the mountains, closer to their sons and to the outdoor hikes and climbing that Mark enjoys. Please join us as we give thanks for all the ways God has ministered to us through Mark and to wish him and Roxanne well on this new time in their lives.

A love offering will be collected. For anyone wishing to contribute, gifts must be cash only. Please note that we are not able to issue receipts for income tax purposes. You may leave your gift in the offering basket at the church on Sunday morning, give it to a staff member, or bring it to the church before April 28th. Be sure to mark your envelope clearly with “Love offering for Mark and Roxanne Anderson.”

A Sure Sign of Spring...

Despite the mixed messages we’ve been getting from the weather, this lamb proves that spring is here! This is the first lamb born this year on Mark and Cheryl Johnston’s farm. Cheryl reports that Mom and baby are doing well. Eleven more births are expected in the next few days, most of which will likely yield twins.





RSVP: (306) 332-4727

KLC WORK DAY!
MAY 6. 10AM - 3PM
LUNCH PROVIDED!



Joint Conference for Christians on Creation Care

From June 9 to 11 of this year, A Rocha Manitoba and St. Margaret's Anglican Church of Winnipeg are partnering to present two events converging in a conference on creation care:

"Consider the Lilies" – A Rocha Manitoba's first annual conference for Christians and church leaders who want to learn about, discuss, and commit to creation care.

"Be Not Afraid: A Theological Consultation on Climate Change" – presented by St. Margaret's Anglican Church. For more information, go to: [Creation Care Conference](#).



Photo Directory Update

For those who have not had a chance to have their photo taken for the directory, we will have two more photo sessions on April 23rd and 30th. For more information, contact Esther Gurnsey [by email](#) or at (306) 359-1450, Ext. 225.



While at a convention, Bill, Jim, and Scott shared a hotel suite on the 75th floor. After a long day of meetings, they were dismayed to find that the hotel elevators were broken and that they'd have to climb all the way up to their room.

"I have a way to break the monotony," said Bill. "I'll tell jokes for 25 flights, Jim can sing songs for the next 25, and Scott can tell sad stories the rest of the way."

As they started walking up, Bill told his first joke. At the 26th floor, Jim began to sing. At the 51st floor, it was Scott's turn. "I will tell my saddest story first," he said. "Once there was a man who left the room key in the car."

What's happening at First?

Children's Ministry

We have two classes that take place during the Sunday morning worship service, for children aged 3 to grade 6—Godly Play for the younger ones and Oasis for the older group. We also provide nursery supervision for babies and toddlers. For more information, please contact Pastor Cheryl [by email](#) or by calling (306) 359-1450.

Youth Ministry

The youth meet weekly for various activities. For more information about our youth program, please contact [Pastor Chris](#).

Adult Ministries

Morning Prayer: Join us Monday to Thursday at 7:15 am to begin your day with scripture and prayer, via Zoom. For more information, visit [our website](#). [Join morning prayer](#).

Reading through the Bible: This group, facilitated by Norma Holtslander, is presently reading through the Gospels. The group meets every Wednesday, on Zoom, at 10:00 am. For more information, contact Norma, call the church at (306) 359-1450, or [email the church](#). [Join Reading Through the Bible](#).

Noon Prayer: Join others every Wednesday at 12:30 pm for a short time of scripture and prayer. In person, in the main office, or over Zoom. If coming in person, please use the Lorne Street entryway. For more information, visit [our website](#), or contact [Pastor Joel](#). [Join Wednesday noon prayer](#).

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 Astring-Winter or Laureen Snook, visit [our website](#), [email the church](#), or call the church at (306) 359-1450.

Learning for Life: This group meets Sunday Mornings, 9:30-10:30 am. Annabel Robinson is leading a class on the Gospel of Luke. This class is in person and on Zoom. For more information, contact Annabel, email [Pastor Kayely](#), go to [our website](#), or call the church at (306) 359-1450. [Join "Gospel of Luke"](#). *Please note that the Sunday, April 23rd class will be the last class in this series. See page 4 for information on the new series.*

Dial-the-Sermon – (306) 992-1912

Know of someone with no computer and/or internet access and who cannot come to church in person? Please let them know they can listen to a recent Sunday's sermon by dialing (306) 992-1912. (Toll-free within the Regina area.)

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 (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. (*Donor's contribution to the processing fees is voluntary. Suggested donation: 3%*)
 - 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 3.5% 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. For further details, you may also email the church at main_fbcregina@sasktel.net or contact the treasurer at (306) 775-1497.



LAUNDRY SCHEDULE

Wash - 40 minutes

Dry - 60 minutes

Put Away - 7 to 10 business days

Person 1: I had to quit my job in construction because I wasn't strong enough.

Person 2: Did you give them your too weak notice?

Today I bought a turntable—just for the record.