**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Est. 1786

208 MacLean St., New Glasgow

Nova Scotia B2H 4M9

 902-752-5691 first.church@ns.aliantzinc.ca

December 13, 2020

During COVID, the Order of Service will be on the screen at the front of the sanctuary. We are following all COVID 19 protocols, i.e. mandatory mask wearing, social distancing, sanitizing, etc. There is no singing, but we encourage you to hum along! If you are not ready to leave immediately following the service, we suggest you move toward the middle of your pew to allow people to pass safely then leave when you’re comfortable. The service is recorded and sent to those on the congregation email list. If you do not currently receive it but would like to, please contact the church office.

**A N N O U N C E M E N T S**

**READING AND LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY THIS THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT:**

Sara Fullerton and Brent MacQuarrie

**IN MEMORIAM:**

Memorial donations have been received in loving memory of Graham Fraser from Phoebe Fraser and Allan Fraser.

A memorial donation has been received in loving memory of Hugh Matheson from Catherine and family.

A memorial donation has been received in loving memory of parents Melda and Roy MacGregor from Janet and Brian Hiscott.

The poinsettia in the front of the sanctuary has been placed in loving memory of Marian MacIntosh by Russell, Joan, Jane, Ruth Anne and Glenn MacIntosh.

**2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES:**

The 2021 envelopes are available for pick up in the sanctuary or at the office (Tues. – Fri.- 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.). In keeping with COVID protocols, an attendant will be passing them out. If you see envelopes for anyone you could deliver to, please do so. Thank you!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

We extend a big thank you to Lois and Lynne Ann MacLellan for delivering Christmas cookie decorating kits and treats to the Sunday School children this week. Thank you very much!!

**CHRISTMAS MEMORY TREE:**

The Christmas Memory Tree has been well received again this year.Thank you to those who made donations in memory of loved ones. The Christmas Eve bulletin will list the names of those remembered along with the names of the donors.

**FAIR HEARTS – FRIENDS ASSISTING IRAQI REFUGEES:**

First Church is working with FAIR Hearts as sponsors of an Iraqi refugee family of 6 (2 adults, 4 children) who will be relocating to our community in Fall 2021. There is considerable work to be done to raise funds, secure clothing, furnishings and household goods for the family prior to their arrival.

Members of FAIR Hearts from First Church are: **Rev. Andrew MacDonald, (902-331-0322), Sharon Mason (902-752-0724), Sara Fullerton (902-754-2142), Brent MacQuarrie (902-616-7787).**

 • Refundables can be donated to FAIR Hearts at Golden Penny and Stewarts.

• Monetary donations are welcomed and needed to meet our goals. Cheques should be made payable to “First Presbyterian Church” for taxable receipts. **Please make a note in the “Memo” section** **that is for FAIR Hearts.**

• We are gathering furniture and household items for the family. **Winter clothing only** is needed, a list will be provided soon. Please contact a FAIR Hearts committee member if you have items to donate.

The FAIR Hearts committee would like to Thank everyone for your generosity, it is greatly appreciated.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

* There are no meetings scheduled for this week.
* At this time, there is no Session meeting planned for December. A meeting will be called if necessary.
* Rev. Andrew is asking for volunteers to read and light the candles for the Dec. 20th service and the 2 p.m. Christmas Eve service. He is also seeking scripture readers for both these services. If you are available, please let him know.
* Congregant and author, Clyde MacDonald, has published 2 new books entitled “**Pictonians at War**” and “**Still More Nova Scotians In and Out of Court**”. Due to COVID 19 there will be no formal book launch. The books are available to purchase on December 1st, cost $20.00 each (no tax). if you are interested in purchasing one or both books, please contact Clyde at 902-755-4738 or by email at clydefinlay@me.com. **All proceeds from the book sales go to Pictou County charities.**

**Minister**: Rev. Andrew MacDonald

**Organist**: Lloyd MacLean

**Rev. MacDonald’s office hours**: Tues. to Fri. - 10:00 am – 2:00 pm or by appointment

**Office hours**: Tues to Fri: 10am-1pm

**MISSION STATEMENT:** But he’s already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It’s quite simple. Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don’t take yourself too seriously – take God seriously. Micah 6: 8-The Message