**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Est. 1786

208 MacLean St., New Glasgow

Nova Scotia B2H 4M9

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

December 6, 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**

**SPECIAL MUSIC THIS MORNING:**

Music will be provided by Doris Hiltz and Allister Fraser this morning. The Anthem will be "I Will Sing of Thy Great Mercies" (Felix Mendelssohn)

**READING AND LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE THIS SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT:**

Kevin Reid

**DONATION:**

A very generous donation has been received by the Circle of Friends team and has been turned over to the First Church General Fund. Our thanks and appreciation are extended to the VanVeld family!

**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. A lot of people have not yet returned to church because of COVID, if you see envelopes for anyone you could deliver to, please do so. Thank you!

**CHRISTMAS MEMORY TREE:**

The Christmas Memory Tree has been a popular fundraiser and will be brought back again this year.The yellow insert will be with the announcements from now until December 13. If you would like to donate a ball(s), simply fill out the form and leave it, along with the donation, in the collection baskets. The Christmas Eve bulletin will list the names of those remembered and 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:**

* The Catherine Mair AMS group will meet Mon., Dec. 7th at 2:00 p.m. **Please bring cards and stamps**.
* At the moment, 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.
* Today’s service is being taped and will be broadcast on Eastlink tv.
* 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