**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Est. 1786

208 MacLean St., New Glasgow

Nova Scotia B2H 4M9

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

March 14, 2021

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.

**WINTER CANCELLATION POLICY:** Cancellations will be posted on FaceBook, ECFM 94.1 and the church voicemail.

**MUSIC:**

* + - 34 God is love: come heaven, adoring
		- 189 As when the Hebrew prophet raised
		- 754 From the slave pens of the delta (tune:769)
		- 651 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

**SCRIPTURE READER THIS MORNING:** - Clarice Campbell

* + - Numbers 21:4-9
		- Ephesians 2:1-10

If you are interested in reading on Sundays, please contact Jane in the office at 902-752-5691.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent:**

On this fourth Sunday of Lent, Jesus reminds us to prepare ourselves for the coming of his kingdom. He calls us to be faithful in continuing his work on earth: to proclaim good news to the poor, freedom for the captives, and release from darkness; to bind up the brokenhearted and comfort those who mourn. We commit ourselves to this work, confident in our hope for Christ’s return.

Hear these words from Hebrews 12:

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

**Responsive Refrain:**

ONE: Lord Jesus, as we walk with you through these forty days, let your light shine into our hearts.
**ALL: Brighten the darkness of our lives, and show us where we need to repent.**
ONE: In our thoughts, words, and actions, teach us to rely on you.
**ALL: Renew us as your people, that we may carry your light to the world.**

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**UPCOMING CHURCH AND COMMUNITY EVENTS:**

**Virtual Memorial Hymn Sing:** Information for the upcoming Hymn Sing is being distributed to persons in our congregation and beyond. This is looking to be an exciting musical experience as well as a timely event to raise funds for our church. This information will explain how you and friends can participate in this event. In the interim, mark the following dates on your calendar:  **April 9** the date your donation form must be received by the church and **April 18** the date the Hymn Sing will be shown. Stay Tuned!



* We are having another **Take Out Chilli Dinner on March 20/21. Homemade Chili and a roll, $8.00** . Pick up at the James St Entrance between 2-4 pm (delivery available if requested). Please contact one of the FAIR Hearts members to order.

Fundraising continues by the members of F.A.I.R. Hearts; donations may be made at the church office.

Donations are sought for the following items: bedroom dressers, nightstands/bedside tables, twin bed sheets and twin quilts/comforters, new pillows.

These items can be picked up by contacting a F.A.I.R. Hearts member.  Financial donations are also needed at this time and can also be made at the church office.

Members of F.A.I.R. Hearts from First Church are:  Rev. Andrew MacDonald (902-331-0322), Sharon Mason (902-752-0724), Sara Fullerton (902-754-2142), and Brent MacQuarrie (902) 616-7787).  Sincere thanks to all who have donated funds and items thus far.

**Benevolent Envelope Collection:**

* Due to the COVID lockdown and regulations, we were unable to hold the Benefit Breakfast for Scott Grant as planned last year. Session has made the decision to offer our assistance through a Benevolent Envelope Collection.  Special Envelopes have been provided for this collection and will be collected over the next couple of weeks.  If you are making your donation by cheque, please make it out to First Presbyterian Church (include “Grant Family” in the memo line) and include your name and envelope number on the front of the special envelopes. Thank you for your support.

**Assistance With Tax Returns:**

* For 25 years, Larry Ingham has been providing his services in preparing tax returns for low income people with the CVITP at no charge. You can contact Mr. Ingham at 902-752-1639. **COVID rules apply**.

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS:**



 Celebrating a very special birthday this week are twin sisters Marie Withers and Marion Hayden. Happy Birthday Ladies!!

**NOTE**: Last week, marked the milestone birthday of Wilfred Marshall who turned 106 on March 11th. His mailing address was included for anyone wishing to send him a birthday card. By mistake, the postal code was wrong in the bulletin. It has been revised and the Pictou Post Office has been notified. They have assured me that any cards for Wilfred will be delivered. My apologies, Jane. Here is the address with corrected postal code:

 Shiretown Town Nursing Home

 Hector Landing One

 Room 307

 PO Box 250

 Pictou, NS B0K 1H0

**MEETINGS THIS WEEK:**

* To date, there are no meetings scheduled for this week.

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**MINISTER**: Rev. Andrew MacDonald

**ORGANIST**: Lloyd MacLean

**Change re Rev. MacDonald’s office hours**: Tues. to Thurs. - 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

**MESSAGES FROM PICTOU COUNTY COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

**Pictou County Fuel Fund:**

***“Spread the word…..to spread the warmth…..to ensure that “No Child Should Go Cold in Pictou County”***

The Pictou County Council of Churches has an opportunity for a lay person to represent them on the Board of the Pictou County Fuel Fund. This individual would liaison with Council Churches as well as other local churches in the county, promoting the work of and why the Fuel Fund exists which is to help those in our community who require urgent fuel assistance throughout the winter months. This position offers a very rewarding and humbling experience for those wishing to make a difference by helping those in need. Anyone who is interested in taking on this important role will receive assistance and guidance to ensure a smooth transitioning to the Fuel Fund Board. For those considering this opportunity to serve and would like more information please call Shirley MacKay (lay member of Pictou County Council of Churches) at 902-396-3401or Rev. Donna Tourneur, 902-752-4475 (o)/902 759-1808(c).

**Roots For Youth: - Message From Executive Director**

Without sounding too corny, I just want to recognize that life has seasons. The feeling has been growing in me that my season at PC Roots for Youth may be coming to an end. It's been my privilege over the past 6 years to see Roots grow into something of which I do feel proud. I've really enjoyed representing Roots within the community, working with our wonderful staff and volunteers, developing new programs and initiatives, working towards some measure of financial stability, telling our story to all who would listen, and perhaps most importantly, seeing progress in the lives of the youth whom we serve. I think that we've built something really special.

I'm at a point where I feel that I've taken Roots as far as I can take it, and it's time for another leader to build on this foundation. But I didn't want to leave without thanking you for the opportunity to work with you. Some of you are partners, some are funders, some are stakeholders or colleagues in the non-profit space. But all of you have contributed to our work here, and to me personally. So from the bottom of my heart, thank you.

I haven't made any decisions about what is next for me professionally, but if you'd like to keep in touch, my personal email address is stacey@youngable.com .

All the best,

Stacey Dlamini

Executive Director

PC Roots for Youth

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