First Presbyterian Church

Trinity Sunday and Father's Day, June 15th, 2025

Minister: The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr

Director of Music: Kathleen Howard

Reader: Kathleen Howard

Welcome to worship! Thank you for joining us from wherever you are! Inperson services of worship continue, with online options available for those who are more comfortable worshipping from home.

Information for In-Person Worship

- * ACCESSIBLE WASHROOM FACILITIES for all people are available on the Sanctuary level. These washrooms are found through the doors behind the Choir Loft - right turn - straight ahead. Please feel free to use these washrooms whenever necessary!
- * CHILDREN'S MINISTRY The Children are invited to join Denise Kent, our C.E. Coordinator, and volunteers, in the Church School Room off the Church Hall, for a time of fun and faith-centered activities, at the beginning of the service. The children will rejoin their families in time for communion.
- * HEARING IN THE SANCTUARY First Church has available a system of FM RECEIVERS and HEADSETS. They are for use by those who find it difficult to hear in the Sanctuary. If you would like to use one this morning, visit our Sound Technician.
- * COFFEE HOUR You are invited to join us for coffee and fellowship in the Church Hall this morning following worship. To access the Hall, go through the doors behind the choir loft (or use the lift) and down the stairs. Just follow your nose to delicious treats, stimulating conversation and great fellowship. To volunteer to host, bake or bring food to any coffee hour sign the sheet in the Church Hall or call Tamara Chapman.

ASSISTING YOU THIS MORNING

TRINITY SUNDAY

Greeter: Pam Dewar Elevator: Lloyd Osmond Sound and Video Team - Quentin Robinson, Kade LeBrun Michel LaBonte and Mark Leslie

Our website and social media accounts: https://pccweb.ca/firstchurch-brockville/ https://www.facebook.com/Firstkirk/ www.instagram.com/firstpresbrockville/ https://twitter.com/firstkirk

NEED A RIDE? Call Executive Taxi!

A free service provided by your M.O.V.E. Committee





- YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/ @firstpresbyterianchurchbro482/streams
- Cogeco/Channel 10/700 Services every Sunday at 7 am. and 5:30 pm.
- For pastoral care or assistance, please call the Church Office at 613-345-5014 or 613-340-3310. You may also call or text Reverend Marianne at 613-449-5042.

the people of God gather....

The Organ Prelude

Fugue in C Major

Georg Friderich Handel

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship God

Minister: It is good to give God thanks, to sing praises to the Most High!

<u>All</u>: We will sing for joy to God who has made us glad.

Minister: Let us declare God's steadfast love in the morning,

All: and God's faithfulness by night.

Minister: So come to worship God with thankful, joyful hearts!

<u>All</u>: Let us praise God's holy name together.

Opening Hymn # 299:

Holy, holy, holy

Words & Music: Public domain

- 1. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty! early in the morning our song shall rise to thee. Holy, holy, merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!
- 2. Holy, holy! all the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea, cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, who wert and art and evermore shalt be.
- 3. Holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee, though our eyes in sinfulness thy glory may not see only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.
- 4. Holy, holy, Lord God almighty! all thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Prayer As We Approach God

Minister: God of Wind and Fire, we have experienced your love and grace. We have received peace deep within our beings.

All: We marvel at the mystery of hope while our world is full of despair.

Minister: Thank you for your dependable presence among us and through the universe.

<u>All</u>: During this hour, we give you our undivided attention as we sing and pray, listen and speak.

Prayer of Confession

Minister: Lover of our Souls, everyone and everything clamours for our attention! We long to quiet the noise and hear your clear voice.

<u>All</u>: We yearn for the Spirit's unmistakable presence. From your wholeness, make us whole. Reveal truth for our daily living. Manifest love and mercy through us. Create wisdom and harmony with the skills assembled in this place. Set us free from the past and empower us for today and tomorrow. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Minister: The good news for us today is that God hears our prayers and gives us new life in Christ. Receive this good news and be at peace with yourself and your neighbour. Amen.

Hymn # 333: I sing the almighty power of God Words & Music: Public domain

- 1. I sing the almighty power of God that made the mountains rise, that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; the moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.
- 2. I sing the goodness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food; God formed the creatures with a word and then pronounced them good. Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eyes, if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the skies!
- 3. There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known, and clouds arise and tempests blow by order from thy throne, while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care, and everywhere that I could be, thou, God, art present there.

to hear God's word....

Prayer for Insight and Understanding

Kathleen: God of patience and persistence, speak through the Scriptures, and inspire our growth and gratitude, so that we may be changed by what we hear. Open our minds and hearts to a fresh encounter with Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

Psalm 8 (read responsively)

Kathleen: O Lord, our God,

<u>People</u>: how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Kathleen: Your splendour is chanted above the heavens by the mouths of babes and infants.

<u>People</u>: You have set up a defense against your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger.

Kathleen: When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

People: what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for

them?

Kathleen: Yet you have made them a little lower than the angels,

<u>People</u>: and crowned them with glory and honour.

Kathleen: You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;

<u>People</u>: you have put all things under their feet,

Kathleen: all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field.

People: the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the

seas.

Kathleen: O Lord, our God,

People: how majestic is your name in all the earth!

The Scripture Lesson

Romans 5: 1 - 5

New International Version (NIV)

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Kathleen: Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith, into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Kathleen: For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God within us, and for the word of God around us.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Chancel Choir

Lord, I Stretch My Hands to You

Jay Althouse

The Meditation

Unfailing Hope

Biblical scholars believe that Paul wrote the letter to the Romans while he was in Corinth, likely around late 55/early 56 CE. Paul had not been to Rome, and some scholars think this letter was written to prepare the Roman churches for a visit from him. This passage is just a small excerpt from the letter, but several sermons could be written just from this text! One theme from Romans 5:1-5 that speaks to me in our current time is that of **hope**. For so many of us, hope is "optimism" – I hope it does not rain today! I hope I get that new job! I hope that I make some new friends! I hope I win the lottery!

It is hard to find much about which to be optimistic today in the face of all that is wrong and unjust in our world. The suffering experienced by so many of our fellow humans due to the burdens of global debt, ecological damage caused by global warming (including the wildfires that are currently raging in western and northern Canada), and the ongoing wars and conflicts in places like Gaza, Ukraine, Yemen, and Sudan, make it very difficult to find much about which to be optimistic. Not to mention our struggles and sorrows closer to home – in our own families, in our congregation, and in our community. But for Paul, hope – true Christian hope – is not based in ephemeral, human optimism.

In Romans 5:1–5, the Apostle Paul presents a striking picture of Christian hope - one that is not naive or easily shaken, but refined and resilient. This hope is not detached from suffering; in fact, it is *forged* in it. Paul invites us to look at hardship not as the end of the story but as a pathway to something greater. We may not feel like we can do much to address the pain that is being felt by others and by our world. Often, we feel despair and hopelessness when we see the suffering of so many. What can I do in the face of all these crises? I am just one person!! We are just a small congregation!! But Paul encouraged the Roman church, and encourages us, not rely only on our own resources and strength to make a difference, but to depend on a sure and steady hope — one that is not based on wishful thinking, but on the steadfast love and presence of God.

This is the key: our hope is secure because it is grounded in **God's love**, not in our efforts alone, or in perfect circumstances. The Holy Spirit makes this love real and tangible within us. When everything around us shakes, and when it seems like all around us is pain and suffering, God's love holds firm. Because of this, Christian hope *does not* disappoint. Romans 5:1-5 reminds us that God's call to serve, and our efforts in response to that call, (including the suffering that may accompany that call) are not in vain, because they are built in the hope that we know in Jesus Christ.

Sometimes, experiencing suffering allows a new way of understanding ourselves: we glimpse our limitations; we become more fully aware of how precious, how fragile life is; we see the blessings of our lives in ways we have never seen them before. Sometimes, experiencing suffering gives us a new way of understanding others: tough times often produce new friendships or deepen old friendships; we learn what friends are for; we gain a sense of

how important our relationships are, what a source of strength they can be for us. Sometimes, experiencing suffering gives us a new way of understanding God. God's presence becomes more real to us; faith deepens; praise increases.

None of these things are immediately obvious to us when we are in the middle of suffering. But later, after a while, we can get some perspective on just what has happened to us. We can see the changes, the improvements. And, sometimes, somehow, through the grace of God, we can be sustained by the hope that we have in Christ.

This Sunday is Trinity Sunday on the liturgical calendar, a day when we are called to reflect on the God who is one God in three persons, God the Parent, Son, and Holy Spirit. Instead of piling on the theoretical, esoteric descriptions of the Trinity, let us simply affirm what counts about this doctrine: In Jesus, suffering has been taken into God's very being. For in Jesus, God was on the cross, aching, bleeding, crying out in pain.

I know this past week has been a difficult one for many of us. I personally have felt grief and sorrow in the loss of some wonderful saints of the church. I am sure many of you are suffering and enduring struggles that you may not have shared with church family or your friends. But Romans 5:1-5 reminds us that, in the midst of our afflictions, we are not alone – God is there, has been there, and will always be there with us. Knowing that can give us reassurance and encourage us to rely on the sure and certain hope we have in Christ.

We remember Jesus' agony and death today as we celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. In the Lord's Supper, we are called to remember not only Jesus' death, but that he will come again! When we say God is there in our suffering, it is not a hollow phrase. God has been there in our past, and God is with us now. In facing the day-to-day challenges of life, we may not feel the "optimism" of human hope, but we **do** have the hope that never fails us – the hope we can only find in God, Parent, Son and Spirit! Amen.

Blessing the Word in our Lives

Minister: Loving, parenting God, grant us the courage to say "yes" to your call, heard in your Word read and proclaimed, and the strength to claim our place with Christ in the new creation you are cultivating. Amen.

Hymn # 677:

My faith looks up to thee

Words & Music: Public domain

1. My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Saviour divine: now hear me when I pray; take all my guilt away; oh let me from this day be wholly thine.

2. May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart; my zeal inspire;

as thou hast died for me, oh may my love to thee pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire.

- 3. While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide; bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away, nor let me ever stray from thee aside.
- 4. When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold sullen stream shall o'er me roll, blest Saviour, then, in love, fear and distrust remove; oh bear me safe above, a ransomed soul.

Responding in love with thanksgiving

Prayers of the People, the Lord's Prayer and Choral Amen

Minister: Holy One, we have gathered in this place again, to enjoy you and one another. Thank you for your Word and your love. Thank you for the wholeness you demonstrate for us and offer us - Mind, Body, and Spirit.

<u>People</u>: Three-in-one God, hear our prayer.

Minister: Creating God, we imagine that you grieve as you look at creation and see how it is being mutilated and destroyed by human carelessness and apathy. Show us how to care for your beautiful earth, and how we can reduce our own use of the earth's resources.

People: Three-in-one God, hear our prayer.

Minister: Like so many before us, we pray for peace in our homes, in our country, and in all the world. We hold before you and one another the reality of war and its destruction. Today, we urgently pray for diplomacy to alleviate conflict and threat among nations, praying especially for a just and lasting peace in Ukraine, Gaza, Yemen, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar and Haiti.

People: Three-in-one God, hear our prayer.

Minister: Healing God, we name before you in the silence of our hearts those who seek your healing and sustaining touch (silence). Grant them fresh awareness of your blessing. For all of us as we move from the cradle to the grave, keep us in your care, faithful and thankful all our days.

<u>People</u>: Three-in-one God, hear our prayer.

Minister: On this National Indigenous People's Sunday, we pray for the work of our church and our government in pursuing truth and reconciliation with Canada's indigenous peoples. We pray for indigenous communities which lack clean water to drink and health care close

at hand, and for all those mourning the loss of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls. Guide decision makers to act with timely courage and compassion for justice to be done. Awaken understanding in those who feel no empathy for the struggles of others. Plant seeds of your kingdom in our midst, O God.

<u>People</u>: Three-in-one God, hear our prayer.

Minister: On this day that celebrates fathers and those who have been like fathers in our lives, we pray for fathers and families who face financial hardship and worry for the well-being of their children. And we pray for any who feel empty or lonely on this day, who fear the future or mourn the past. As summer holidays draw closer, guide families to find meaningful opportunities to enjoy each other and the world on their doorsteps. Plant seeds of your kingdom in our midst, O God.

People: Three-in-one God, hear our prayer.

Minister: Gracious God, you hold all things in your hand, including us. Be with all those who carry on despite loss or grief, and with those who face pain or uncertainty about their future. Keep us open to your Spirit's leading. In all that we do with and for each other, help us embody the love of our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying,

<u>All</u>: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The People's Offering for the Work of Christ's Church

Invitation to the Offering

Minister: God of great gifts, we give you these gifts today knowing that you are the Father of gifts. You mother us constantly providing for us, caring for us. We now return a portion of those gifts to you for the work of your kingdom on earth.

You can give.....

- * by pre-authorized remittance (**P.A.R.**) (https://presbyterian.ca/plannedgiving/pre-authorized-remittance-par-program/). Contact the Church Office.
- * by e-transfer to firstkirk@truespeed.ca
- * by mail to First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 885, 10 Church Street, Brockville, Ont., K6V 5W1

Offering Praise Song

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him, all creatures here below.

Praise him above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication

Minister: As we have been abundantly provided for, we now give abundantly to the work that you give us to do, the work of the church, the care for those who are most in need, to reflect your love to all the world. Accept these gifts in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Minister: Here is the table of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are gathered at his invitation to join him for this meal, a foretaste of things eternal. Come all of you, taste and see that the Lord is good.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

<u>People</u>: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right, our duty and our joy, to give you thanks and praise, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. In the beginning, your Spirit moved over the face of the waters; you formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we wandered from your ways, your love remained steadfast. Your Spirit came upon prophets and teachers, who called your people to return to your ways of faithfulness. In every age, your Spirit inspired us to seek after you. Therefore, with your people from all places and times, and with the whole creation, we proclaim your greatness and sing your praises:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Minister: Holy God, blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ. At his baptism in the Jordan, your Spirit descended upon him, declaring him your Beloved. With your Spirit upon him, he turned away from temptation. You anointed him to preach good news to the poor and announced that the time had come when you would save your people. Through his suffering, death and resurrection, you gave birth to your Church and welcomed us in by water and the Spirit. When Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always. Remembering your history with us throughout all generations, we take this bread and this cup, and proclaim the mystery of faith:

<u>All</u>: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine. May they be for us the communion in the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Receiving them in faith, may we be made one with him and he with us. Nourish us with his love, so that we may proclaim your goodness and serve you faithfully. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Minister: Spirit of God, blow through this world and our lives like the wind, to surround us with your presence and give us the energy to go where you need us to be. Push us to move like the wind and make a difference in the lives we touch. Spirit of God, surround all your people with love and courage to face tomorrow, and make us good friends in Christ, offering our support to each other in Jesus' name. Amen.

Sending Hymn # 670:

Amazing grace

Words & Music: Public domain

- 1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
- 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.
- 3. Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come; 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace shall lead me home.
- 4. The Lord has promised good to me: this word my hope secures; God will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.
- 5. What thanks I owe you, and what love a boundless, endless store shall echo through the realms above when time shall be no more.
- 6. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

The Benediction and Choral Amen

Minister: Go now and live before God in openness and integrity. Set your minds on the ways of our triune God, not clinging to your own life, but taking up your cross and following Jesus. And may God give you a share in the eternal covenant; May Christ Jesus be proud of you when he comes in glory; And may the Holy Spirit make you grow strong in faith and lead you in the ways of righteousness. We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, in the name of Christ. Amen.





We extend our love and sympathy to Cathy, Kim and Eric on the death of their father MAX CEDRIC FARRELLY, on Saturday, June 7th, 2025, in the Brockville General Hospital Palliative Care Unit. The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr conducted the funeral service for Max Farrelly in the Sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church on Thursday, June 12th at 1 pm. A reception followed in the Church Hall. Arrangements are entrusted to Barclay Funeral Home & Chapel. Please remember Cathy Splane (Tim), Kim Baumann (Leo), Eric Farrelly (joelinda), their children and their families, and the extended Farrelly family in your prayers.



No one is a refugee by choice. Refugees and internally displaced people are forced to abandon their homes out of fear for their lives and liberty—often fleeing due to well-founded fear of persecution based on their race, religion, nationality, political opinion or because they belong to a particular social group. PWS&D's refugee ministry is a response to Christ's call to serve and defend those who are persecuted. Each year, churches continue to show their support by sponsoring refugee families, helping them rebuild their lives in safety and dignity. This ministry is not just about providing hope but about living out the biblical call to love and serve others, demonstrating Christ's love to those who are suffering. A Mission Moment from The PCC

Available this morning on the tables at the rear of the Sanctuary

Copies of

"Our Daily Bread"
June, July and August

Copies of the
Summer Edition of the
PRESBYTERIAN CONNECTION

Look especially at pages 20-23 & 34 for pictures of events in the life of our congregation! Thanks to Reverend Marianne for sending the pictures and articles to the Connection.

You are welcome to take either or both with you – no charge!

First Presbyterian Church IUNE CALENDAR

LOAVES & FISHES SUNDAY

~ 1st Sunday of each month

CRAFT & CHAT – on summer break

FPC HAND BELL CHOIR - on summer break

FPC CHANCEL CHOIR - Sun. Mornings - 9:30 am. - Choir Rm

SUNDAY SUPPER MINISTRY - 4th Sunday of each month

ONGOING PROJECTS: Grocery Bags, Egg Cartons, Pop Cans (Maintenance), Breakfast Bags (Food Bank), Sunday Supper Ministry.

Happy Birthday to: (June 15th to June 21st)

BARBARA BARBOUR – June 19th SCARLETT DUNCAN – June 20th

Happy Anniversary to:

ANDREW & LAURA VILLENEUVE – June 16th
CLIFF & DOROTHY LEAN – June 19th
ANDREW & KIM DUNCAN – June 21st



COMMUNITY GROUPS using the Church Building:

EMBERS/GUIDES- Monday Evenings 6 pm. in the Hall

DSLG Cooking Class - Thursday am & pm

DSLG Cricut Group - Tuesday afternoons

BGH DAY HOSPICE – Wednesday Mornings & Afternoons in the Parlour and Church Hall.

June 15 MORNING WORSHIP - Trinity Sunday with Communion - Fathers' Day

11 am. in the Sanctuary - Coffee Hour follows worship (Church Hall)

June 19 WORSHIP COMMITTEE meets in the Vestry at 11:30 am.

WEBSITE COMMITTEE meets via Zoom at 7:30 pm.

June 22 MORNING WORSHIP - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

11 am. in the Sanctuary - No Coffee Hour - Sunday Supper Ministry

Reverend Marianne leads afternoon worship at the Wedgewood.

June 23 Reverend Marianne leads worship at Rosedale and Sherwood Park Manor.

June 24 CRAFT & CHAT POTLUCK LUNCH at the home of Brenda Fisk.

June 25 The **SESSION** meets at the home of Brenda Fisk

June 29 MORNING WORSHIP - 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Reverend Marianne leads afternoon worship at Half Moon Bay in the afternoon.



The summer issue of the **CHALLENGE** is almost right around the corner! Distribution date: June 22nd! It is time to finish those stories about church life, find

poems of inspiration, dream (in writing) about summer plans, find jokes and humorous articles and stories. Stories and pictures about recent travels Office Hours – June 16th to 20th

Monday, June 16th – 10 am. to 11:30 & 1 pm. to 4:30 pm. Tuesday, June 17th – 10 am. to 11:45 & 1 pm. to 4:30 Wednesday, June 18th – 10 am. to 12:45 pm.

Thursday, June $19^{th} - 10$ am to 11:25 & 1 pm. to 4:30 pm. Friday, June $20^{th} - 10$ am. to 1:30 pm.

would be really interesting! Please send your submissions to firstkirk@truespeed.ca or leave them at the Church Office.

SERVICES of WORSHIP in the Summer Months

Sundays, July 6th, 13th ,20th, 27th

Minister: The Reverend John Wilderspin First Baptist Church

at First Baptist Church - 10 am.

Sundays, August 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

Minister: The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr First Presbyterian Church

at First Presbyterian Church - 11 am.

Rally Sunday, September 7th at St. Lawrence Park - 11 am.

Minister: The Reverend Marianne Emig Carr

During the month of July, the congregations of First Baptist Church and First Presbyterian Church will come together to worship at First Baptist Church at 10 am. For this month, First Baptist will produce the order of service each Sunday morning, as well as provide music and musical guests, readers and greeters. This provides the many volunteers from First Church, who provide this support each Sunday morning during the year, with the opportunity to have a break and worship with their families. In August, First Church will provide the volunteers and produce the bulletin, outreach deliveries, and the prayer calendar. During July, you are encouraged to pray for the health and safety of friends and family and for the care and well-being of all those in need in our community and around the world. A note about givings: During July, envelopes from First Church folks should be placed on the offering plates each Sunday morning. The envelopes will be

collected at the end of each service and brought back to First Church for banking. The loose collection at services in July will remain with First Baptist Church. The loose collection in August will remain with First Presbyterian Church. Etransfers will be available as usual, and envelopes can be left at the church office during the week.



Lisa Sizeland and Marie Mujahid are excited to share the news that their son Jasper Ross graduated on June 8th from the University of Ottawa Law School. After growing up in Cornwall, he attended McGill university and developed a commitment to Social Justice which he is pursing by beginning work with a legal services organization this summer after completing his bar exams. His passion and enthusiasm for making a positive difference in the world inspires us and we ask for your prayers as he begins this next chapter in service of others.



The annual **Community Celebration of Life** organized by the Brockville General Palliative Care Program will be held Thursday, June 19th starting at 7 p.m. at Hardy Park. The event is open for anyone to attend, regardless of whether someone close was in the palliative care service. It is an opportunity for people who have lost

someone over the past year to come and reflect. The event is scheduled to last roughly 40 minutes, with local musicians slated to play, as well as spoken-word performances or poems to be read. The celebration of life will be non-denominational. People are asked to bring their own lawn chairs. In the event of inclement weather, the gathering will take place at First Presbyterian Church.



Capital Project Update

Many thanks to Lyn Lodge Order 284 IOOF for a donation in the amount of \$2,000 towards the Capital Project and many thanks to all the people in our congregation who continue to show their support for the Capital Project through their generous donations.



The **Big Give** 2025 was a great success! 89 churches across Canada (and Australia) participated along with hundreds of volunteers who made their events happen. The Big Give's collective success has once again renewed a passion to grow this ministry and continue to reach the communities

around our churches with the unconditional love of Jesus through this national movement of



generosity. Many thanks to all those from First Church who donated - items and cookies - and worked hard on Friday and Saturday to make the event happen!

Twin Flames is not just a band - Chelsey and Jaaji have become a force of nature. This unstoppable husband-and-wife duo from Canada weaves music that transcends time, genre, and culture, leaving audiences spellbound and forever changed. With a staggering 50 music awards and nominations, including the honour of being four-time Canadian Folk Music Award winners and 2022 Vocal Group of the Year, they have solidified their place as one of the most compelling and internationally acclaimed acts in Folk music. With the power to heal, inspire, and unite, Twin Flames creates art that does not just entertain - it awakens something deep within.

Everyone is invited to Wall Street United Church to celebrate **National Indigenous Peoples Day** on June 21st. WSUC is hosting the concert by TWIN FLAMES at 8 pm. Tickets: \$17:00 - purchased from the Brockville Arts Centre.



National Indigenous Peoples Day takes place on the summer solstice, the longest day of the year. The summer solstice holds deep spiritual and cultural significance for many Indigenous Peoples, marking a time of renewal, connection, and celebration. National Indigenous History Month is an opportunity to focus on and celebrate the cultures, stories, achievements and resilience of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people. Indigenous nations each have unique cultures and practices; learning about Indigenous nations and their histories affirms the importance of Indigenous identity and the rich diversity of Indigenous governments, economies, legal systems, spiritualities, languages, cultures and traditions that Indigenous people have practiced for thousands of years. Marking National Indigenous History Month is also one way to uphold the church's reconciliation commitments to speak and hear truth, and to seek healing and justice. The most appropriate and best way to learn about Indigenous cultures is to learn from Indigenous people, both within the church and outside it, through things such as conversations, courses, books, or attending events. Doing so helps build common memory and celebrates the gifts, resilience and identities of Indigenous people. You can participate by:

- Attending National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations on or around June 21st.
- Engaging with books, films and art created by Indigenous people.
- Learning more about Indigenous nations in your area; whose traditional land you reside and work on; and what, if any, treaties shape the relationship with the land and between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

You can share images for National Indigenous History Month at https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1100100013251/1534874002459 including National Indigenous Peoples Day, and stay connected on social media with the hashtag #NIHM2025 and #NIPD2025.

Background

- * In 1996, Governor General Roméo LeBlanc <u>declared</u> June 21 of each year as "National Aboriginal Day." This was the result of consultations and statements of support for such a day made by various Indigenous groups:
- * in 1982, the National Indian Brotherhood, now the Assembly of First Nations, called for the creation of National Aboriginal Solidarity Day
- * in 1995, the Sacred Assembly, a national conference of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people chaired by Elijah Harper, called for a national holiday to celebrate the contributions of Indigenous Peoples
- * in 1995, the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples recommended the designation of a National First Peoples Day. And on June 21st, 2017, the Prime Minister issued a statement announcing the intention to rename this day "National Indigenous Peoples Day."

Today, National Indigenous Peoples Day is part of the Celebrate Canada program which includes other cultural summer celebrations taking place across the country.



LAST CALL TO ORDER CHEESE before the summer!

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Caintown is taking final orders for cheese from the Wilton Cheese Factory and ending this fundraiser for this year. Traditional cheese, variety cheeses, shredded cheese, cheese balls, specialty cheeses and gift boxes are available. Order forms are available in the church office this morning. Forms should be returned to Shannon Morrison at shannonmorrison1976@gmail.com a.s.a.p.