

Here's what's up at Prairie Spirit

## Prairie Spirit United Church

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### Weekly Update – Friday 19 February 2021

#### Worship Service – Sunday 21 February 2021

*Join us for Sunday Service virtually:*

Feb 21 – Rev. Paul DuVal will lead us in worship.

Sharon McIntyre will be our Scripture Reader.

*All services available via YouTube.*



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#### Sunday After Worship Zoom Chat

Please join us anytime after the end of Worship until 12:30pm

[Join Zoom Meeting on Sun 21 Feb](#)

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#### COVID-19 Up Dates

##### Amendments to **Red** Restrictions

On February 09, the province of Manitoba announced amendments to the red restrictions that expired on February 12, 2021. There are several changes to the Public Health Orders that will most directly affect faith-based communities.

1. Faith-Based Communities are now allowed to gather together for worship with a limit of 10% of capacity or 50 people **which ever is less** while adhering to social distancing and all other related protocols. As the Orders encourage all people over 60 not to attend in-person worship, at this time PSUC will continue to offer worship on line only.
2. The new orders permit, ten people plus an officiant at funerals and ten people plus an officiant and a photographer at weddings held in our Sanctuary.
3. The self-help groups who use our building may hold group meetings in numbers no larger than 25% of room capacity or 15 people, whichever is less. We are working with our renters to begin meetings after February 22.

At Prairie Spirit all rules regarding sanitation, masking and physical distancing will be maintained. Everyone visiting the church must use the south door. Upon entering the building visitors must sign in with their contact information on the sign in sheet located just inside the door. Traffic in the office must be kept to a minimum to allow for social distancing.

Thank you for helping to keep Prairie Spirit a safe place for everyone.



**Coffee and Conversation on Feb. 24**  
Wednesday Morning at 10am

The Happy Gang is inviting YOU to join a Zoom Coffee Time on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 until 11:30 a.m. This will be an opportunity to catch up with old friends and have a discussion on a relevant topic for these COVID times. We hope you will be able to make a coffee or tea for yourself that morning and join us from the comforts of your home. The link to join the "Meeting" is below:

[Join Zoom Coffee and Conversation](#)

Look forward to seeing you on Zoom!

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**Lenten Study**

Due to a scheduling conflict, our Lenten Study Group is changed to Thursday mornings. Lenten Study will begin this week **Thursday, February 25th at 10:30 a.m.** The zoom link is below:

[Join PSUC Zoom Lenten Study on Thu 25 Feb](#)

We will be looking at the United Church Lenten devotional guide "**Faith on the Move**". Copies will be available through the church office.

Preregistration is not required, but if you have questions please contact Sherri or Paul.

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**Oversight Council Meeting**  
**Saturday 27 February 2021**  
**9:30am**





Have you ever wondered about the meaning of the parts of the worship service? How the parts are developed? What are the symbols used in the service? The Church year? ...

Our worship service is actually a complex series of intentional inclusions and exclusions based on the church year, scripture guidance through the Revised Common Lectionaries, Ministry, Music and Worship Team knowledge, experience, creativity, tradition and rituals.

Worship Team is starting a weekly question and response feature where you ask questions about Worship and the Ministry & Worship Team reply. Send your questions to the church office by phone or eMail and the Worship Team will respond to one question a week. If you wish further information on any questions asked, just let the Worship Team know and we will get back to you.

Let us learn together about this significant shared experience of our church life!!

Our first question:

### **How are the Scripture Readings chosen for worship?**

The term lectionary (from Latin referring to “book”) is commonly understood to mean a pattern of readings assigned to each Sunday.

In ancient Hebrew times there was a pattern of assigned readings of the “Torah” associated with special feasts and holy days supposedly originating with Moses.

In the early church, the Gospels and Paul’s letters were contemporary documents, read spontaneously, but as time progressed habits formed and specific passages were read on specific days according to the seasons and celebrations.

More recently, The Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Lutheran, Anglican, and even Methodist churches had particular patterns of readings, some on a one year cycle some two and some more.

Some of the other Reformation churches gave pastors and preachers freedom to choose their own Sunday readings, and often they would read sequentially through an entire Gospel or letter.

Today most of the United Church uses the Revised Common Lectionary, an ecumenical pattern on a three year cycle that has a Hebrew reading (Old Testament), a Psalm reading, a reading from the letters, and a reading from the Gospels. They are only partly sequential because they are oriented to the seasons of the church year. We are currently in year B which is the year of Mark,\* and entering the season of Lent which highlights Jesus’ experience as he moves toward greater conflict with the Temple and political leaders, and the story of Holy Week. Normally we only use one or two of the available readings.

This is not the only way that scripture readings can be organized, but this is a common one these days.

\*Year A is the year of Matthew; Year C is the year of Luke and the scripture of John is included throughout.

## Say Something Important with a Memory Stone



The sidewalk pavers on the west side of the church, leading from the parking lot to the main doors, have become a trip hazard and need to be repaired this spring. This restoration presents us with a unique opportunity.

Memory or Inspiration Stones will be installed in the new sidewalk. Memory Stones are a perfect way for your family to commemorate a loved one, an important memory, a short Bible passage or an inspirational quote or word, in a prominent location at Prairie Spirit United Church. An 8x8 inch, paver, engraved with your choice of lettering, will be available for a donation of \$150.00. Donations are eligible for a charitable tax receipt and would be added to your church givings in 2021.



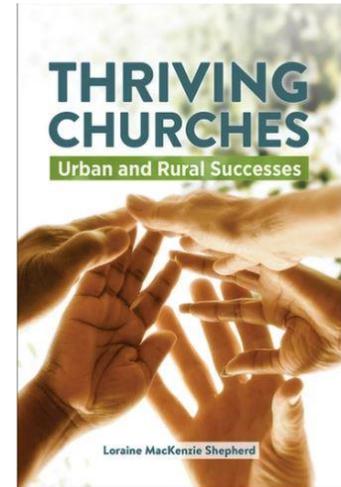
Contact the church office at [office@prairiespirituc.org](mailto:office@prairiespirituc.org) or (204) 832-1000 to express your interest in a donation towards your Memory Stone and to receive more information.

Take advantage of this unique opportunity to have your memory set in stone!

Please click [here](#) for a Memory Stone Order Form.  
Please click [here](#) to read Frequently Asked Questions.

**Online Book Launch: Thriving Churches**  
February 23, 7:30 p.m. EST, with authors  
Loraine MacKenzie Shepherd and Tammy Allan

Thriving Churches identifies characteristics shared by successful churches and common spiritual attributes that connect to the early churches, as described in scripture. Filled with concrete examples from congregations of various sizes, this book will inspire other churches. Also included is an eight-page study guide on spiritual attributes of thriving churches.



Please click [here](#) to register.



***Desperate NEED for Toques and More***

We've nearly run out of cold weather supplies (except for socks) and people are in need everyday! Please do a collection, donate today or start knitting!!! Details on where to drop off for St. Matthew's Maryland, Oak Table and West Broadway can be found [here](#). Or bring your articles to the PSUC and we can distribute them.

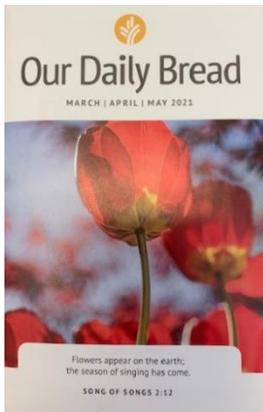


The Social Justice Team along with the UCW ladies delivered 150 freshly baked muffins to St Matthew Maryland Community Ministry last Thursday. A little Valentine treat to add to the daily bag lunches they supply to the community.

Their Emergency Cupboard always needs restocking. You can drop off non-perishables at the church.

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**Please submit Weekly Updates to the office by Wed.  
Deadline for the next Newsletter will be Feb 28<sup>th</sup>.**



Our Daily Bread March/April/May is available inside the South Entrance door during office hours, Tues-Fri 10am-2pm

If you would like to register for our Member Only area of the PSUC website, please email the office with your name and email address.

In the Member Only section you will have access to past Annual Reports, Governance Structure, Ministry Profile, Oversight and Executive Minutes, Newsletters and Weekly Updates.

