



P.S. NEWS Lent 2023

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Please send emails to the office at
PrairieSpiritUC@Shaw.ca

Worship on Sunday, February 19, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

This Sunday's worship service will be led by Rev. Dr. Jim Christie.

Our scripture reader is Judy Lawrence.

Scripture reading is: Matthew 17:1-13



Prairie Spirit United Church

207 Thompson Drive Winnipeg, MB R3J 3E2

PrairieSpiritUC@Shaw.ca • 204-832-1000

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday • 10 am - 2 pm

prairiespirituc.org

[facebook.com/ PrairieSpiritUC](https://facebook.com/PrairieSpiritUC)

[instagram.com/ PrairieSpiritUC](https://instagram.com/PrairieSpiritUC)

[twitter.com/ PrairieSpiritUC](https://twitter.com/PrairieSpiritUC)

OVERSIGHT COUNCIL

Oversight Council Members

Val Goodridge (Chair)

Joycelyn Fournier-Gawryluk
(Past Chair)

Dennis Bitton (Property)

Heather Friesen (RegionalRep)

Donna Little (UCW)

Heather MacMillan
(CongregationalLife)

Mike Hill (Treasurer)

Linda Uhrich

(Social Justice)

Rotating Worship Chair



Lent is a significant season in the year for Christians. It is a time of self-reflection, fasting and giving in preparation for the celebration of Christ's Death and Resurrection at Easter. Lasting for forty days, from Ash Wednesday to the Saturday before Easter, the season draws us towards the light of Christ.

Lent ends with Holy Week. During this sacred week, Christians mark the events leading to Jesus's death on the cross. On Palm Sunday we joyfully wave palms as we remember Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The solemnity of Good Friday, the day of Jesus's crucifixion, encourages us to remember that Jesus sacrificed himself on the cross for us. On Easter Sunday we will celebrate the miraculous resurrection of Jesus after his death on the cross.

Everyone is invited to join together at Prairie Spirit as we journey through Lent and Holy Week this year.



Are you called to serve?

Rev. Trisha Gerhard led our worship service a couple of weeks ago. She spoke about how she was called to ministry when she had had a very different idea about her future. It is important to always keep our minds and heart open to new opportunities. How will you be called to serve in new ways this year?

Prairie Spirit United Church, as all others, has suffered set backs over the past couple of years due COVID and other matters. It is important to say though how resilient we have been and our future as a community of faith has potential. We have fulfilled many of the expectations required by the Prairie to Pine Region with the completion of our Governance Document, with viable a Board of Trustees and Ministry and Personnel Team. This new energy is very healthy. We do still need to fulfill one expectation though, and that is to have an Oversight Council with all Standing Teams being operational and the Executive filled. You have been asked before, but we ask you to discern once again whether you see yourself **as Vice-Chairperson, as Treasurer or as Chairperson of the Oversight Council**. These positions **MUST** be filled by the time of our Annual Meeting or our existence as a faith community will be in jeopardy. Sound important! It sure is!

Think about this seriously and talk with others to determine if you are called even though at one point in time you did not see yourself in one of these roles.

Joycelyn Fournier-Gawryluk,
Chair of Nominations

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Congregational Life Team Members

Heather MacMillan (Chair)

Lois Bilesky

Marj Evason

Fran Ferguson

Sharon Fielding

Shirley Hill

Donna Little

Gwenda Matieshin

Naomi McLeod

Marianne Palmer

Judy Restall

Martha Smith

Mark your calendars now!!!!

The Congregational Life and Pastoral Care team would like to invite you
to join us for an “Irish Stew” lunch
on Sunday March 12,
following church
cost \$5.00 per person.

Wear your “favorite green” and join us.



Daylight savings starts that day, so make sure to double check your alarm, so you don't miss out.

The numbers staying after Church are growing weekly as we enjoy fellowship to say nothing about the lovely baking and tea and coffee we all enjoy. If you would like to help out, please sign up.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Social Justice Team Members

Linda Uhrich (Chair)

Heather Friesen

Val Goodridge

Marsha Jones

Betty Rogers

Sharon Thom

Chris Urban



Earthquake Relief

As you know, a devastating earthquake hit Turkey and Syria recently. The United Church of Canada and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank are raising funds to support the people of this region. Donations can be given Sunday morning or through the office by writing Earthquake Relief on the memo line of your cheque. The Social Justice and Outreach Team kicked this off with a \$200 donation to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

SPRING IS COMING!!! REALLY !!

And to help you get into the spring feeling, and beat the winter blues ... you can start by planning your spring garden... with the help of our Social Justice Annual Plant Fundraiser..... ON NOW!!!!

Online ordering is now live. Check out the colored newsletter about how.

Below are some important dates to keep in mind!



TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT, DON'T DELAY....SOME ITEMS SELL OUT AS WE GET CLOSER TO THE CLOSING DATE.

Now – online ordering is open

February 25th - paper orders and forms will be available at the church. A very small number of these will be available. We would ask that you use the website for ordering if you are able.

April 2nd - paper orders are due

Apr 15th – 11:59 pm is the **absolute deadline** for online orders

May 24th – plants can be picked up at Prairie Spirit United Church

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES

[GLENLEA Newsletter for PSUC Spring Fundraiser](#)

WHEN THE CUPBOARD IS BARE: EXPLORING FOOD INSECURITY



Save The Date:
March 19, 2023
2:00 - 3:30 P.M.
Prairie Spirit United
Church
207 Thompson Dr.
<http://prairiespirituc.org>

Guest Speakers From:

- 1JustCity
- St. James-Assiniboia Food
Security Network
- Canadian Foodgrains
Bank

WORSHIP AND FAITH FORMATION

Worship and Faith Formation Team Members

	Thomas Ormonde	Pat Rothney
Rotating Chair	Judy Restall	Darlene McPherson (Ideas advisor)

Plus a long list of volunteers who make our initiatives come to life!

You will notice a change in our name. This recognizes our new governance that has the Christian Education and Faith Formation mandate within this combined team active since January of 2023.

Lent is soon upon us with Mardi Gras – Shrove Tuesday – on Tuesday February 21st, 2023 when traditionally pancakes are served! Some prefer crêpes! But the toppings truly personalize the experience.



“Why is it called Shrove Tuesday?”

It comes from the word ‘shrive’, which means to give absolution after hearing confession. So Shrove Tuesday is the day when people went to confession to prepare themselves for Lent, which begins on the following day, Ash Wednesday.

Why do we eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday?

It was the last chance for a spot of indulgence before 40 days of fasting, and also an opportunity to use up food that couldn’t be eaten during Lent. This included eggs, fat and milk, which were made into pancakes and eaten on that day.



The earliest known English recipe dates from the 15th century, although pancakes had been eaten in other countries for centuries

before that. In the French-speaking world, the day is known as ‘Mardi Gras’ or ‘Fat Tuesday’.

Accessed 15-Feb-23 from: <https://www.historyextra.com/period/medieval/history-shrove-tuesday-pancake-day-tradition-why-we-eat-pancakes-lent-fasting/>

Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent and derives its name from a reference in the book of Daniel

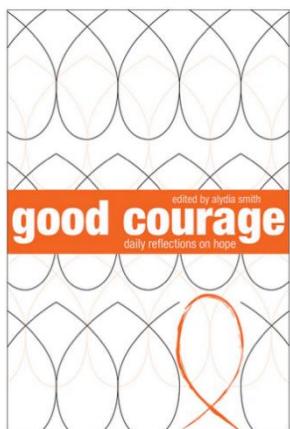
“The practice of Ash Wednesday dates back to the 11th Century,” says Lauren F. Winner, a priest and assistant professor at Duke Divinity School. “You see that in the book Daniel in the nine(th) chapter there’s a line about associating fasting with ashes, so ashes are associated with penance, which is the dominant theme of Lent.”

Accessed 15-Feb-23 from: <https://time.com/4210001/ash-wednesday-ash-forehead/>

Lent is not only a time of penance – interpreted and practiced in many different ways – but of reflection and learning in preparation for the risen Christ.

The Worship and Faith Formation Team are hosting a Lenten Bible Study where we explore the theme of HOPE.

It begins on Ash Wednesday – February the 22nd, 2023 and will be held each Wednesday until April 5th.



Time: 10:30am -1200 Noon

Place: The Kirkfield Park Meeting Room at Prairie Spirit United Church

Cost: \$20 a copy with 6 copies
available in the church office for purchase.

Register: by contacting the church office and leaving your name
Bring your coffee or tea and join us to explore and share dialogue on
Hope!

The worship service leadership for Lent and Easter is as follows:

Feb 26th: Rev. Tricia Gerhard – 1st Lent and Communion

March 5th: Rev. Ken DeLisle

March 12th: Rev. Barbara Roberts

March 19th: Rev. Dr. James Christie

March 26th: Worship and Faith Formation Team

April 2nd: Rev. Barbara Roberts – Palm Sunday

April 7th: Rev. Tricia Gerhard – Good Friday

April 9th: Rev. Barbara Roberts – Easter Sunday

Exciting News

We are putting together a four part series on Prayer for the Month of May, with Worship Led by Rev. Tricia Gerhard. It is our exciting first use of a new Worship resource that we subscribed to last November – The Worship Design Studio. We will rediscover and explore prayer together with interactive and sensory elements to support our journey.



Stay tuned as more information will follow our Easter celebrations!

Churches and businesses across Canada are developing respectful workplace policies. The Oversight Council believes that it is important to provide a respectful, welcoming environment for everyone working and worshipping at Prairie Spirit. To that end we have developed a Respectful Community of Faith Policy. A copy of the full policy is available in the church office.

Below is the foundational statement for Prairie Spirit's Policy. Framed copies of this statement have been posted in public areas around the church.

RESPECTFUL COMMUNITY OF FAITH POLICY

Prairie Spirit United Church (PSUC) believes that everyone is entitled to be free from
HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION and VIOLENCE

and is committed to providing a safe and respectful environment for its ministry personnel,
employees, congregants, renters and visitors so far as is reasonably practicable.

No one, whether they are ministry personnel, employee, congregant, volunteer, renter or visitor
should be subjected to discrimination, harassment, disrespectful or violent behaviour for any
reason at any time. No one has the right to discriminate against, harass, show disrespect or
violence toward anyone else, while in the building or in any situation related to the activities of
Prairie Spirit United Church.

Source:

Government of Manitoba Labour and Immigration

Workplace Safety and Health Division Regulation # M.R. 217/2006

Effective February 1, 2001