

**FIRST THINGS FIRST
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, REGINA
September 2026**

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Our Session meeting took a little longer than usual this week! The reason was that we are a busy congregation gearing up for an exciting Fall season together in ministry and mission.

This September edition of *First Things First* includes a little bit of looking back at the summer season's activities, especially highlighting the ministries with children and youth that took place. But it's also packed with information about all the programs that are starting up again this month. There are opportunities for all ages to worship, serve, learn, grow in faith, reach out to others, and share fellowship together. I hope that you will participate!

But for my message this month, I want to share with you about a very important gathering that I was able to attend on September 4-5 as a representative of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. It was a reunion of students who attended the Birtle Indian Residential School, which was operated by the PCC from 1888 – 1970.



Together with Dr. Allyson Carr (Associate Secretary for Justice Ministries at the PCC), I attended the reunion in order to make the official apology of the church to the Survivors and Intergenerational Survivors who were gathered. You may already know that the church wrote a new apology in 2024 which is much more detailed and fulsome than the confession that the church made in 1994. (Read the full text of the apology here: <https://presbyterian.ca/justice/apology-colonization-schools/>)

We were also welcomed to participated in the reunion events, tours, and conversations, and to make ourselves available to Survivors and Intergenerational Survivors who wished to speak to us or ask any questions.

It was a deep privilege to be present to listen to Survivors, to learn about their experiences, to witness a part of their healing journeys, and to carry both the church's deep regret and our commitment to support Survivors in a better way going forward.

One remarkable part of the weekend happened when one of the Survivors began to share with me about his memories of participating in track-and-field events while attending the school. Running was part of his experience at Birtle that was actually positive, giving him a sense of freedom, joy, and pride.

As he spoke about it, I suddenly remembered a documentary that we had watched with our Youth Group in Saskatoon about 20 years ago. *Run as One: The Journey of the Front Runners* was a powerful film that told the story of some residential school runners and their participation in the opening of the 1967 Pan American Games. They were from Birtle, and two of the front runners were attending the reunion!

The film recounts a powerful and painful chapter in Canadian sports history and residential school history. In 1967, Winnipeg hosted the Pan American Games. Ten Indigenous teenage athletes from First Nations across Manitoba – including boys who were students at Birtle Indian Residential School – were selected to carry the torch from Minneapolis to Winnipeg. It was an 800km run, completed over several days, and the boys approached it with pride, discipline, and hope.

The documentary shows how meaningful the run was for them: a rare moment of recognition, teamwork, and accomplishment within the harsh realities of residential school life. But when they reached the stadium for the opening ceremonies, officials took the torch away and gave it to a non-Indigenous athlete to carry inside. The boys were sent to a nearby diner and watched the ceremony on television. Their achievement was erased from public view.

Fifty years later, the runners gathered again in Winnipeg. They shared memories of the run, the pride they felt, and the deep hurt of being excluded at the moment of celebration. Their reunion became an act of reclaiming their story – honouring those who ran, those who suffered in residential schools, and those who did not survive.

I was blessed to meet Charlie and Mervin and to hear about their experience as the front runners. I was also blessed to have many conversations with other Survivors about their memories and their hopes. Many of the Survivors expressed gratitude for the apology of the church and gracious openness to Allyson and me as we represented the church in their presence.

It is a long journey of truth, healing, and reconciliation. The church is called to stay faithful and to continue to work on the commitments that we made in our 2024 Apology. (See the text of the apology to read about those commitments.)

Rev. Amanda Currie

SESSION

This is a very busy month as everything gets up and running again! Be sure to read through the newsletter so you know all the things that are happening in the next couple of months!

We have an important congregational meeting this Sunday, Sept. 13 following worship, to make a decision about moving forward with the feasibility study. On Sunday, Sept. 20 there will be a Welcome Back potluck supper, so that's an event you won't want to miss! Please sign up either in the narthex or the gym, so we know how many to expect and can set up tables and chairs!

Jo Szostak
Clerk of Session

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

As we look back on our summer Youth and Family Ministry, we give thanks for the many ways God has been at work among us. This summer was filled with opportunities to worship, learn, serve, build relationships, and welcome people of all ages into our church community.

From the CVAF (Cathedral Village Arts Festival) Messy Church program to Youth & Young Adult Collective 2026, Youth Fun Day, community volunteering, and Vacation Bible School (VBS), our church family had many opportunities to gather, connect, and grow together.

Each of these experiences reminded us that ministry happens in many different places and in many different ways. Whether we are worshipping together, serving our neighbours, sharing a meal, or simply taking time to talk and connect, we are growing together as one church family.

As we begin a new ministry season, may we continue to grow in faith, build meaningful relationships, and serve together as God's people.

Youth Ministry — Collective Youth & Young Adult Conference 2026, Youth Fun Day and Youth Volunteering

One of the highlights of our summer was Collective 2026. Beginning with our Youth Hot-Dog Fundraiser and months of

preparation, it was wonderful to see our youth come together and take part in something meaningful. Eight participants from Regina joined youth and leaders from across Canada for several days of worship, learning, fellowship, and community in Ontario.

For our youth, Collective was an opportunity to experience the wider church and discover that they are part of something much larger than our own congregation. Through worship, conversations, activities, and new friendships, they were encouraged to reflect on their faith and consider how they might live it out in their daily lives.

We also enjoyed a Youth Fun Day at Wascana Pool, spending time together in a relaxed and joyful setting. It was also a special opportunity to spend time with David and Daniel before they left Canada. We are grateful for the friendship, laughter, and memories we shared together.

Our youth also had meaningful opportunities to serve in the community through volunteering. At Souls Harbour Rescue Mission, they served with enthusiasm and kindness. It was especially encouraging to hear people say, "Thank you," "You guys are awesome," and "I really appreciate what you're doing." These moments reminded us that even small acts of service can make a difference.

We hope to continue building on these summer experiences throughout the coming year, with a focus on faith, relationships, worship, and serving together. We are grateful for the energy, generosity, and caring hearts of our youth, and for everyone who supported them along the way.

VBS 2026 — Welcoming Children and Families

Our VBS 2026 was another joyful highlight of the summer. Children gathered at First Church for four mornings filled with Bible stories, music, games, crafts, activities, and friendship.

The week was made possible through the support of Synod of Saskatchewan, and I was grateful to share the leadership with

Rev. Devon Pattemore and our church volunteers. Volunteers helped prepare activities, welcome families, lead groups, serve food, and care for the children throughout the week.

We are grateful for everyone who shared their time, energy, and gifts. Through VBS, we had the opportunity not only to share the good news of God's love with children, but also to live out that love through welcome, kindness, patience, and connection with our neighbours and community.

Messy Church — CVAF Messy Church Program

On May 23, we were grateful to be part of the CVAF Messy Church program this year, connecting with families in our wider community through creativity, fellowship, and faith.

We were thankful for the many volunteers who helped make the event possible. One of the most encouraging parts of this outreach was seeing how one family who first connected with us through the CVAF Messy Church program later joined our VBS and came to Sunday worship on August 30. It was a wonderful reminder that small moments of connection can grow into deeper relationships with our church community.

We give thanks for the hard work of the Mission & Outreach Committee, the Messy Church team, and all the volunteers who helped make this ministry possible. We hope to continue building on these community connections and sharing God's welcome with our neighbours in the years ahead.

Looking Back Through Photos

There are so many wonderful photos from these activities and gatherings during the summer that I could not possibly include them all in this newsletter.

I look forward to sharing a photo collage in our next newsletter, celebrating the many moments of faith, friendship, laughter, and service that made this summer special at First Church.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

For any questions regarding the events listed below, please contact Sumi.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Children & Families

- September–October @ First Church

As we begin a new ministry season, our Sunday School will include a variety of engaging and faith-building activities for children and families. This fall, we will introduce Bible Adventure Sundays, including Bible quizzes, *Find It Fast*, Bible Book Challenges, team games, and Bible Bingo. Children will also have opportunities to participate in children's offering, birthday celebrations, and special activities connected with the Sunday lectionary. We look forward to learning, playing, and growing in faith together!

- **Welcome Back Sunday School:** Sept 13, first official Sunday School of the new year.
- **Orange Shirt Sunday:** Sept 27, National Day for Truth & Reconciliation focus.
- **Bible Adventure Launch:** Oct 4, Study Questions & Answer Sheets distributed; start of Bible quizzes, games, and fun challenges.
- **Thanksgiving Intergenerational Sunday:** Oct 11, No Sunday School (special schedule).
- **Christmas Pageant Practice Begins:** Oct 18, Children begin rehearsals for December's Pageant.
- **Costume & Pumpkin Carving Sunday:** Oct 25, Fall celebration with costumes and pumpkin carving.

YOUTH: Gr. 6 to Gr. 12

- September–October @ First Church

As we begin a new season, our Youth Ministry will create opportunities for youth to build friendships, grow in faith, have fun, and serve together.

Our monthly Youth Group will include lunch, art therapy, music, Bible discussions, games, and gym time. Throughout the fall, youth will

also have opportunities to gather for special activities, open gym days, and community service.

We look forward to welcoming our youth back and growing together in faith, friendship, and service!

- **Welcome Back Youth Gathering:** Sept 27, 12:15 – 3:30 pm Youth gather for lunch and fellowship at church, followed by an afternoon of welcome back gathering and adventure at District 3 Escape Rooms.
- **Youth Open Gym Day:** Oct 3, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. A relaxed afternoon of sports, games, and friendship. Youth in Grades 6–12 and young adults are welcome.
- **Monthly Youth Group:** Oct 25, 12:15 - 2:30 p.m. Lunch, art therapy, music, Bible discussion, and gym time in the Kennedy Room.
- **Youth Volunteering:** Oct 31, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Youth are invited to serve together at First Baptist Church and share their time and care with the wider community.

MESSY CHURCH

Fun & Faith for All Ages! Join us for Messy Church, a Christ-centred gathering for families and people of all ages, with crafts, activities, stories, singing, experiments, and lunch.

Saturdays: Sep. 26 • Oct. 24 • Nov. 28 | 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. | @ First Church Gymnasium

FREE • All are welcome | Come, create, explore, celebrate, and grow in faith together.

Volunteers Welcome: If you'd like to help with stations, hospitality, setup, or leadership, please let Sumi know anytime. We would love to serve together.

Youth and Family Ministry,
Rev. Sumi Jung



WORSHIP COMMITTEE



*"You crown the year with your bounty,
and your carts overflow with abundance."
- Psalm 65:11*

The Worship Committee met in late August to make plans for the Fall.

Wendy Prior, a valued member of our Worship Committee, is stepping down after 16 years. We are so grateful to Wendy for her dedication and stewardship over the years in scheduling greeters for Sunday Services. Blessings to you, Wendy!

Scripture readers are needed for the months of October, November and December. We are very fortunate to have many members of our church family who are willing to read on a regular basis. The reader carries in the Bible with Rev. Amanda at the beginning of the service and places it on the Stand while she lights the Christ Candle. Shirley Durell, our Office Manager, e-mails readings in advance to the reader participating for that week and a copy is left in the Narthex as well. Please call or text Marianne Woods at 306-541-9358 or e-mail mariannewoods1955@gmail.com if you are willing to participate. Thanks to those who have volunteered for September.

Marianne will be arranging for greeters for Sunday Services going forward. Wendy has arranged for greeters for September, and greeters have been arranged for the months of October and November. Two greeters are needed each week from 10:00 - 10:30 am, to welcome those attending and make them feel 'at home'. If you would be willing to participate in the future, please contact Marianne at the phone number and email listed above. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Ron Pugsley and his team of ushers - Alfred Ferozdin, Keith Prior, and Andrew Donovan - do a splendid job of assisting with the elevator and chair lift, supporting worshippers with mobility needs, and gathering the offering

during worship. If this is something that interests you, please contact Marianne or Ron to assist. There are times during the year when your help would be appreciated, and there is 'on the job' training!

We welcome Will Ireton back as our Choir Director! The first Choir rehearsal will be Thursday, September 10 from 7:00-8:00 pm in the Sanctuary. The choir will resume leading worship on Sunday, September 13. If you think you might enjoy singing with the choir, join us at a Thursday choir rehearsal or please contact Will at willireton@gmail.com

Wishing each of you a blessed autumn!

Marianne Woods,
Convener

MISSION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Camp Christopher: Thanks to all who contributed to the Camp Christopher appeal in June. We sent \$2020 to support camp programming for summer 2026!

Saturday Lunch Program: On October 31, First Presbyterian will host the Saturday Lunch Program at First Baptist. We always need help with making sandwiches, set up and take down, and serving lunch to the 100 people who typically come to this mission program. Sign up sheets will be up beginning Oct 1 or contact Mary Jesse.

Mary Jesse,
M&O Convener

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 18 at 5:30 pm for an evening of fun and fellowship! The Stewardship committee is



planning an intergenerational fundraising event called Tacos'n'Trivia. Supper will be delicious tacos, followed by a cooperative trivia game. Donations are encouraged - consider what you would spend on a night out with your family. Proceeds will go to the Youth and Family Ministry.

"THE CHOSEN" BIBLE STUDY

Season Two discussions begins Monday, September 14th from 7 pm - 8:30 pm.

Join us in the sanctuary every other Monday evening to watch and discuss the episodes of season two. (If you missed season one, you can catch up. Ask Rev. Amanda for the link to watch free online.) "The Chosen" is a television drama based on the life of Jesus Christ, created, directed and co-written by American filmmaker, Dallas Jenkins. The series portrays Jesus through the eyes of those who met him. We will watch together, discuss our responses, and connect the show to the biblical texts that inspired it. (Dates will be: Sep. 14, 28, Oct. 5, 19, Nov. 2, 16, 30, Dec. 14, 21.)

WELCOME BACK POTLUCK

The Fellowship Committee is hosting a

potluck supper on September 20, at 5:30pm. We are so excited to welcome everyone back and



we hope you will take this opportunity to come and visit, share food, and your summer activities and adventures with your Church family. Signup sheets are available in the Narthex and in the gym. Let us know how many in your family will be coming and we encourage you to invite your friends to join us! No need to say what you will be bringing – surprises are good! Don't miss out on this opportunity for a great feast, great friends, and great fellowship.

Church Membership Classes: Are you new to First Church or wanting to explore your faith and/or learn more about The Presbyterian Church in Canada? It's time for another church membership class, and Rev. Amanda would be very happy to have you participate. We'll be meeting on Tuesday evenings starting on September 29th from 7:00 – 8:30 pm to discuss and ponder church history, governance, the Bible, worship, sacraments, stewardship, mission, and more.

150th ANNIVERSARY OF MISTAWASIS MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

On July 26, 2026, Presbyterians from across Canada gathered on the Mistawasis reserve in Saskatchewan to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Mistawasis Memorial Presbyterian Church – the only Presbyterian church located on a First Nation in Canada.



Organized by the Rev. Stewart Folster and the Session of Mistawasis Presbyterian Church, special guests to this historic event included the Rev. Lara Scholey, Moderator of the 2026 General Assembly of the

Presbyterian Church in Canada, the Rev. Mary Fontaine, Chair of the National



Indigenous Ministry Council, the Rev. Amanda Currie, former Moderator of the PCC, Dylon Nippi, Executive Director of the Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry, the Rev. Margaret Mullin, Place of Hope Presbyterian Church (Winnipeg) and the Rev. Roberto DeSandoli, St. Andrews, Saskatoon.

This historic celebration began with a procession of vehicles from the Mistawasis Néhiyawak Family Centre to the church led by Elder Keith Head on horseback. Upon arrival, all in attendance were greeted with a Drum Song by the Rev. Folster. A full afternoon of song, prayer, and worship was led by the Rev. Folster, assisted by many visiting musicians

and church elders. A sermon entitled “New questions – Belonging” was delivered by the Rev. Scholey, followed by heartfelt and emotional testimonials of thanks for this sacred place by several of the Mistawasis Elders, including Keith Head, Norma Johnstone and Linda Johnston.

NEPAL FLOODING

The scale of the disaster in Nepal continues to grow. The PCC’s partner, United Mission to Nepal (UMN), reports that, according to the latest government figures today, 1,252 bodies have been recovered, 11,993 people rescued, and 4,216 people remain missing or unaccounted for. Homes, farmland, businesses, roads, bridges, schools, health facilities and water systems have been badly affected. UMN will be working with partners to respond to the disaster in Dhading and Nuwakot.



Since the onset of the flood in Nepal, PWS&D’s partner, INF Nepal, has been actively assessing needs and delivering immediate relief support. Initial response activities have focused on displaced families in Nuwakot, particularly in Bidur Municipality.

While the areas where PWS&D’s long-term development projects are implemented have not been impacted, PWS&D is able to respond through its networks and coalitions. Priorities include emergency shelter, food, clean water and sanitation, health and education.

Bibhu Singh (UMN) asks that people continue to pray for Nepal and expresses gratitude for the PCC’s support. “Thank you for continuing

to stand with Nepal. We are deeply grateful for your prayers, generosity and partnership as we seek to serve those most in need.”



Donations made through the church should be made out to First Presbyterian Church with “Nepal” in the memo line.

You can get more details here:

<https://presbyterian.ca/2026/09/03/update-flooding-in-nepal/>

WEST BANK VILLAGE STORY

Taybeh, the only remaining Christian village in the West Bank, includes Christian archaeology dating back to the Roman era and early Christianity. Located in the Ramallah area of the West Bank, the village’s population has dwindled to 1,200 people, all of them Christians. In the 1980s, the population was around 3,000.

The World Council of Churches (WCC), of which the PCC is a member, reports that the village,

which is surrounded by four settlements, has been repeatedly attacked by Israeli settlers through arson, shootings, and the destruction of trees, including damage to an ancient church. Video footage shows settlers riding through Christian families’ properties on all-terrain vehicles, shouting and harassing residents. Children are especially frightened during these scenes.

You can read the full story here.

<https://oikoumene.org/news/in-taybeh-the-only-remaining-christian-village-in-the-west-bank-children-live-in-fear?fbclid=IwY2xjawTrgKdwZG9mAWV4dG4>



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Wulout7Rsg](https://www.pcc.ca/2026/09/24/four-things-every-presbyterian-should-know-about-residential-schools-and-colonization-the-presbyterian-church-in-canada/)

GIFTING CEREMONY STORY

Principal Clerk attends Gifting Ceremony at National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation
As part of The Presbyterian Church in Canada's commitments to healing and reconciliation, the PCC contributed \$500,000 to the construction of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation's permanent home on the University of Manitoba campus. This contribution is part of a collaborative, multi-year \$1.5 million gift pledged along with the Anglican Church of Canada and the United Church of Canada. To mark this cooperation, the denominations were invited to attend a Gifting Ceremony in June. Vivian Ketchum, who is a Survivor of the Cecilia Jeffrey Residential School, one of 12 Residential Schools originally operated by the PCC, accompanied the Rev. Victor Kim, Principal Clerk of the General Assembly, to the ceremony.

At the Gifting Ceremony, representatives of the three churches received a beautiful, bronzed eagle feather from the NCTR, along with hand-woven sashes from the Manitoba Metis Federation.

The Rev. Kim noted, "We are grateful to the NCTR for hosting this important event and for the graciousness with which they recognized our role in constructing the permanent home for the NCTR. This permanent home will play a vitally important role in preserving the stories of Indigenous peoples, the impact of colonization and the Residential School System and in educating future generations in making more faithful choices in our relationships with all of God's creation."



FOUR THINGS PRESBYTERIANS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

As part of the PCC's ongoing work responding to the TRC's Call to Action #59, this presentation will look at the Doctrine of Discovery, The Presbyterian Church in Canada's role in operating residential schools, the ongoing effects of colonization and residential schools, and work the PCC is doing now to support reconciliation and reparation. Dr. Allyson Carr, Associate Secretary of Justice Ministries will lead the presentation and facilitate discussion.

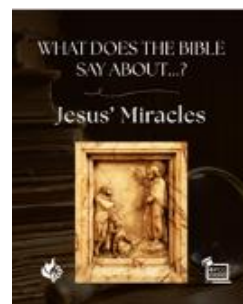
Date: September 24, 2026

Time: 2:00 p.m. (cst)

Register here: [Four Things Every Presbyterian Should Know about Residential Schools and Colonization - The Presbyterian Church in Canada](https://www.pcc.ca/2026/09/24/four-things-every-presbyterian-should-know-about-residential-schools-and-colonization-the-presbyterian-church-in-canada/)

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT MIRACLES?

What Does the Bible Say About...? is a new



series of short discussions on different topics of interest for today's church. The first in the series is *Jesus' Miracles*, which explores the remarkable activities of Jesus as reported in the four gospels, with attention to

the cultural context and impact of Jesus' actions. The webinar will allow for Q & A. A study sheet will be available following the webinar.

Date: September 23, 2026

Time: 2:00 p.m. (cst)

Register here:

<https://presbyterian.ca/webinars/what-does-the-bible-say-about-jesus-miracles/>

Coming up:

Oct. 7: What Does the Bible Say About...?

Satan/the devil

Oct. 21: What Does the Bible Say About...?

Hell and Heaven

Nov 4: What Does the Bible Say About...?

The Return of Jesus

September - October Calendar

Sep. 13	10:30 am	Presbyterians Sharing Sunday Sunday School
	11:45 am	Congregational
	Meeting Re:	Building Decisions
	12:15 pm	Coffee Hour
Sep. 14	7:00 pm	"The Chosen" Study
Sep. 15	11:30 am	Forever-In-Motion (Gym)
	12:00 pm	Lunch Bunch
Sep. 16	12:30 pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
	7:00 pm	Board of Managers (Zoom)
Sep. 17	6:20 pm	Band practice
	7:00 pm	Choir practice
Sep. 19	10:00 am	Presbytery meeting (NKP)
Sep. 20	10:30 am	Collective Youth Sunday Sunday School
	11:45 am	Coffee Hour
	5:30 pm	Welcome Back Potluck Supper
Sep. 22	11:30 am	Forever-In-Motion (Gym)
	12:00 pm	Lunch Bunch
Sep. 23		No Bible Study Today
Sep. 24	6:20 pm	Band practice
	7:00 pm	Choir practice
Sep. 26	10:30 am	Messy Church (Gym)
Sep. 27	10:30 am	Truth & Reconciliation Sunday Sunday School
	11:45 am	Coffee Hour
	12:15 pm	Youth Gathering (Kennedy)
Sep. 28	7:00 pm	"The Chosen" Study
Sep. 29	11:30 am	Forever-In-Motion (Gym)
	12:00 pm	Lunch Bunch
	7:00 pm	Membership Class (Morris)
Sep. 30	12:30 pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
	7:00 pm	Book Club (Zoom)
Oct. 1	6:20 pm	Band practice
	7:00 pm	Choir practice
Oct. 3	3:00 pm	Youth Gym Day

Oct. 4	10:30 am	World Communion Sunday Sunday School
	11:45 am	Coffee Hour
Oct. 5	7:00 pm	"The Chosen" Study
Oct. 6	11:30 am	Forever-In-Motion (Gym)
	12:00 pm	Lunch Bunch
	7:00 pm	Membership Class (Morris)
Oct. 7	10:30 am	Stewardship Cmt. (Zoom)
	12:30 pm	Bible Study (Zoom)
	7:00 pm	Session meeting (Zoom)
Oct. 8	6:20 pm	Band practice
	7:00 pm	Choir practice
Oct. 11	10:30 am	Thanksgiving Sunday Intergenerational Service
	11:45 am	Coffee Hour

SARCAN Donations for Youth

The church has set up a "drop 'n go" account so people can make donations for the First Church youth group at SARCAN without having to wait for bottles and cans to be counted. The church's code is **FC1925**. You need this code to make sure that the church gets credit for your donation.

- How to:
1. take donations to SARCAN
 2. enter through the "drop 'n go" door if there is one, or just go inside
 3. enter code FC1925 into computer and follow instructions - the printer will print out labels
 4. attach labels to bag of bottles/cans
 5. put donation in bin marked "drop 'n go" - done!



Please talk with Bette Kelly if you have any questions. If you would like to make arrangements for a pickup, please contact the church office.

June 18, 2026

Dr. Jo Szostak
Clerk of Session
First Presbyterian Church
2170 Albert Street
Regina SK S4P 2T9

Dear Dr. Szostak,

On behalf of the Vancouver School of Theology, thank you for your generous gift of \$500.00 to the General Scholarship and Bursary Fund, given in honour of the Rev. Amanda Currie on the occasion of receiving VST's Honorary Doctor of Divinity.

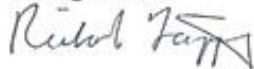
We were deeply touched to receive your letter and to learn how meaningful this moment is for First Presbyterian Church. It is a joy for VST to recognize Amanda's faithful ministry, her many gifts, and the rich contribution she has made through her years of service. We are grateful to know that this honour is shared with such gladness by the congregation that has walked alongside her and supported her ministry over these past nine years.

Your gift is a beautiful way to celebrate Amanda's accomplishment. It also reflects one of the commitments that you named so clearly: the support and formation of those preparing for ministry. Through this donation, Amanda's honour becomes a blessing extended to future students, helping them continue their studies and prepare for lives of faithful service, leadership, and care.

At VST, we know that the path to ministry is never walked alone. Your generosity is a tangible reminder to our students that the wider Church stands with them as they are formed for the work of the Gospel.

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for this thoughtful gift, and for the love and support you have shown to Rev. Amanda Currie. We are grateful to share in this meaningful occasion with you and with the congregation of First Presbyterian Church.

With gratitude,



Rev. Richard R. Topping.
President and Vice-Chancellor
Professor of Studies in the Reformed Tradition

Thank you for this generous
support for student scholarships.
We are delighted at the
occasion for it! Richard

P.S. You can continue to follow your impact and stay informed of what's happening at the school by signing up to receive VST's monthly At a Glance e-newsletter: vst.edu/ataglance

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