

FIRST WITH THE NEWS

FEBRUARY 2018

SAVE THESE DATES

➤ **Annual Fundraising Dinner on Saturday, April 21, 2018!**

Our Congregation will hold its annual fundraising dinner on Saturday, April 21, 2018 at the University of Alberta Faculty Club. **Please plan to come, mark the date on your calendar, and tell others.**

➤ **THE ANNUAL MEETING of the congregation is February 25** after church. Expect to have lunch downstairs (elevator available).

➤ *Watch for fund-raising events for Canada Youth 2018 (CY2018) July 2-7 2018, Saint Catharines ON – FPC has several youth who are eligible to attend!*

<http://presbyterian.ca/canada-youth-2018/#event>



Our World Music Sunday on February 4 must have "shaken the rafters" at times... Too bad streets and roads were in such rough shape – many missed it. With guidance from music directors Marnie Giesbrecht

*and Joachim Segger, the choir (17 singers in all) led the congregation through hymns from our hymnal that easily qualified as world music. The choir introit was *Come, O Holy Spirit* #388 (from Nigeria). Then our congregation added our voices to hymns that originated in other languages and on four continents – North America, Africa, Asia and Europe – #514 (Shona), #447 (Nuxalk from BellaCoola, B.C.), #406 (Malawi), #430 (Nepal), #378 (African-American), #679 (Norwegian), and #639 (Xhosa). To augment or punctuate the organ and piano, Mark Segger played various percussion instruments and Eila Peterson played clarinet and flute. A lively anthem, *He Never Failed Me*, with Holly Parkis singing solo parts, was well received.*



Bagpiper David Trews, seen here, and organist Joachim Segger (not seen) blended their instruments perfectly on January 28, as the Edmonton Burns Club marked Robbie Burns' birthday with a church parade at First Church.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 10025 105 STREET, EDMONTON
SUNDAY SERVICE – 11:00 AM**



Please help if you can -- on the fourth Saturday of most months a free meal is served downstairs to all who come. **Many volunteers are needed!** You can come early and cook, come at dinner time and serve, or come later and clean up. Contact Ross Lepard rleopard@telus.net.



FOOD BANK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – Monday mornings (9:00-11:00) are “intake” at the church and Tuesday afternoons (1:30-2:30) are “outtake”. If you can help please contact Judy Strachan (strachan9@gmail.com or phone 780.451.3658). First Church is part of the Edmonton Food Bank and we operate the food bank out of the Newcombe Room (church office volunteers are usually in the church office).

➤ OTHER EVENTS TO ADD TO YOUR CALENDAR



- **Wednesday Bible Study has just begun for 2018** (but it is actually never too late to join this study group). The Book of Micah is the current focus and the guide books have arrived. Nick Knoppers leads the study.
- **Come to the social room for 6:30 p.m.** and bring your evening meal, if this is a stop on your way home – Rev. Currie often does that, joining Bible study briefly before he heads to choir practice in the sanctuary.



HOLD THE DATE: A Lenten Festival is set for Sunday, March 11. Sponsored by the Nurture Committee that is led by Ken Munro. The event will be held after the regular Service of Worship and light lunch is to be served.



THE LADIES AID BOOKSALE IS SUNDAY APRIL 8 DOWNSTAIRS 12:15–2PM (PLEASE NOTE: THE USUAL “COFFEE/TEA” WILL BE AVAILABLE DOWNSTAIRS). You might want to come with a list of favourite authors or books you’ve missed reading ... the LA plans to have books arranged, in boxes, alphabetically by author. The focus is on fiction – so do not expect electronics, tapes, CDs, LPs, etc.



July 2 – 8, 2018 – First Church’s History & Archives Volunteers will oversee our congregation’s participation in this event. Church tours are typically available. If you haven’t seen the attics, this might be your chance.

Watch for the booklet published by the Edmonton and District Historical Society for festival – it is expected to be available for download in June 2018. <http://www.historicedmonton.ca/what-we-do/historic-festival/overview/>

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