



January 7, 2021

As we begin 2021, be encouraged by these words from Psalm 118:

*This is the day the Lord has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
Please, Lord, please save us.
Please, Lord, please give us success.
Bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord.
The Lord is God, shining upon us.
You are my God, and I will praise you!
You are my God, and I will exalt you!
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!
His faithful love endures forever.*

Let's praise and exult our great God and Saviour! Let's give thanks to Him, for He is good and His faithful loves is with us always!

Services

- **In-person services are Sundays at 11 a.m.**
- **Online services continue at <https://firstb.net/services/>**
- For the New Year we're looking at Jesus' parables. We'll reflect on how we can live with and for Jesus in 2021. This week, the parable of the good Samaritan, [Luke 10:25-37](#).

Hindsight 2020

2020 was ROUGH! BUT there was still much to be grateful for. Even in the midst of isolation, loss and restriction, God was still at work. Why not share a picture and/or a sentence of what you were grateful for in 2020? Time with immediate family? Local sights you visited? Unexpected blessings? Send your God-sightings to mark@firstb.net by Thursday January 21. Pictures and statements shared will be made into a video presentation.

Kids' Kingdom

This week from Kids Kingdom:

1. **Videos** – there are weekly videos that can be accessed from the church website: <https://firstb.net/kidskingdom/>
2. **Hands on Activities** – supplies that will be picked up at the church to participate in some hands on activities explained in the videos. Material pick-ups will occur 1x each month. If you have not already contacted me about materials for the hands on portion of our online Sunday School program and would like some please email: angela@firstb.net

- 3. Zoom Sessions** – We meet once each month on zoom to connect with our regular teachers and classmates. If you would like to participate, please email angela@firstb.net for the link.
- 4. God Sightings** – each week I am asking kids to send in the ways they see God in their lives and the world around them. I have had some great submissions so far and look forward to seeing more.

Small Groups

Small groups meeting using Zoom. You are welcome. Contact Mark: 403-332-1919 or mark@firstb.net

Sunday Morning Prayer and Adult Sunday School

1. **Prayer** with Troy from **9:00 am-9:20 am**. [Zoom link here](#).
2. **9:30 am class** on the Book of Colossians with Gord Hunt. [Zoom link here](#)
3. **9:30 am class**, on "Jesus" with Marv Wirzba. [Zoom link here](#).

Here are a few other groups available this week:

1. **Tuesday Evening Bible Study**. Contact troy@firstb.net for the link.
2. **Wednesday Evening Bible Study**. Contact troy@firstb.net for the link.
3. **Men's Thursday Morning Study**. Contact mark@firstb.net for details.

Check-In and Chat

Tuesday afternoon from 2-3 pm. Bruce hosts a time to visit with others. It's an informal time to encourage and connect one another.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84728867520?pwd=cVVzK1BaT20zQzc2SEIrSVE1WCszQT09>

Password: **chat**

YETI Youth

Youth group currently meets online Wednesday nights from 7-9 p.m. Check out the [youth newsletter](#) for all the details!

Young Adults

We meet at the church on Mondays at 7 p.m. Please be sure to review [First B's Covid protocols](#) before attending.

Daily Devotionals

Every day, Bruce prepares a new devotional reading, reflection, and prayer. If you would like the direct email version, sign up on www.firstb.net or email info@firstb.net. Prefer paper? They are just inside the East Door of the Church in a box, Monday-Thursday, 7:30-2:30. Or phone and we'll drop one in your mailbox or mail it to you. **A January guide, "What Does the Lord Require of You?" is available, at the church and [online](#).**

Prayer Requests

Need prayer? Contact any of our staff (bruce@firstb.net, mark@firstb.net, troy@firstb.net, kyle@firstb.net, angela@firstb.net)

Worship Playlist & Opportunities

We always welcome singers, instrumentalists, and other artists to participate in our online worship services. Contact matt@firstb.net or visit [Community Worship Video Project](#) for more information.

We have a playlist on the First B YouTube account where you can listen to ALL the worship videos our musicians have produced. There are 100+ videos! Now you can listen to the Community Worship Video Project any time, any place! [Just click here.](#)

There is also an library of all our community worship videos on our website where you can look up individual songs: <https://firstb.net/music-videos/>

Refugee Sponsorship

We have been accepted as a sponsor for Naw May Hnin San and N'Hpan Doi Hla, Karen refugees in Indonesia. We are waiting for them to be processed through the Canadian government offices in Singapore. It will be 18 to 24 months before their arrival in Lethbridge. This gives us time to raise the budget of \$25,000. One benefactor has already pledged U.S.\$4500. Our Thank Offering gives us another \$5000. Several people have already donated specifically toward our refugee fund. You are welcome to do so as well.

Financial Update

- God is good! Thanks to generous contributions from our local congregation and several substantial contributions from our out-of-town, on-line congregation, we achieved our budget goal for 2020. THANK YOU for your faithful and generous support of FBC.
- The finance committee is in the process of year end entries and adjustments in preparation for the accounting review.
- Tax receipts will be emailed in early February. ***If you have not already provided your email address to the church, please send it to info@firstb.net.***

Offering Envelopes

2021 Offering Envelopes are now available. They are on a cart just inside the East door. Contact us if you would like them delivered (403-327-2082 or info@firstb.net)

Giving to First B

Thank you for your faithful generosity. Even if you are not able to join us on Sundays, please help us have a global impact, help people in need, pay bills, and care for our staff. We CAN bless our community through your gifts. Call or email the church and we will help: **403-327-2082 or info@firstb.net.**

- Donate at www.firstb.net ("DONATE" button in right hand column)

- Sign up for automatic withdrawal (**403-327-2082 or info@firstb.net**)
- Give through e-transfer (**giving@firstb.net**, no password required. Please remember to have your first and last name in the email)
- Mail in cheques
- Drop cheques through the mail slot (in the Steeple Door)
- Use the debit machine – gloves and disinfectant will be available.
- Bring your offering to our in-person service Sunday morning

We know some of us are going through difficult financial times: we don't want to add to your stress. Those of us who have stable incomes may be able to give more generously at this time. If you do have a stable income, would you consider increasing your giving (even temporarily)? Many of us won't be spending money on travel, vacations, eating out, etc. for a while: could we make some that money available to help out? Thank you.

Office

Kathryn is in the Office Monday to Thursday. **Phone 403-327-2082 OR email info@firstb.net**. Please phone before dropping by.

Ways you can make a difference:

Check out the [Volunteer Lethbridge website](#) for volunteer opportunities.

Check out the [Lethbridge COVID-19 Community Support Circle](#) on Facebook for other opportunities to make a difference.

Both the [Lethbridge Food Bank](#) and [Interfaith Food Bank](#) are looking for volunteers. They follow provincial guidelines to ensure safety and physical distancing.