



First Pentecostal Church

Honoring our Heritage, Inspiring our Future

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever

-Psalm 100:5

*Celebrating 100 years of God's
Faithfulness*

1925

2025



Greetings from the General Superintendent

It is my privilege, on behalf of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland and Labrador to congratulate the Pastors and the congregation of the First Pentecostal Church on the occasion of your centennial (100th) anniversary.

The theme for your celebrations is “Honouring Our Past and Inspiring Our Future.” This is indeed a fitting phrase in describing the faithfulness of the Lord in your assembly over the past 100 years. We rejoice that you have kept the Faith, and that Hope is still alive. Thankful that the Spirit of God is being poured out upon the church globally and locally in your assembly.

First Pentecostal Church has a very rich heritage. There have been many changes since its inception. Nevertheless: the message of Gospel continues to be preached, souls saved, miracles taking place, believers filled with the Holy Spirit and the name of JESUS is worshipped and exalted. The amazing truth is the God of the past is the God of the present and who will also prove to be the God of your future. He is the unchangeable one in an ever-changing world!

We rejoice with you as you celebrate these one hundred years of the Lord's blessing and faithfulness to you as a congregation. The Scriptures declare, 'Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say Rejoice!' Philippians 4:4. It is fitting that we celebrate God's goodness and pay tribute to the faithful saints, whose obedience to the faith and dedication to Christ have brought you to this historic moment.

Your history reflects you that you have kept the vision and focus of missions alive. Continue to seek the Lord of the harvest to call new laborers to work with and for Him.

Congratulations on this milestone in the life of your church. Enjoy the celebrations. Renew old acquaintances. Share stories about the early years and make memories of your celebrations and continue to give all the Glory and honor to God.

This is the Church's finest hour. Our best days are ahead, days that will climax in the return of Christ!

Until then, let us celebrate the faithfulness of God!

-Terry W. Snow

Current Pastoral Team



**Pastor Lindsey &
Pastor Kimberley Foster**

Lead Pastor



Pastor Caitlin Locke

Next Gen Pastor



Pastor Micah Penney

**Post-Secondary
Campus Director**

West Coast

Pastoral Letter of Congratulations



Dear Beloved Church Family,

With hearts overflowing with gratitude, we joyfully congratulate you on the celebration of our 100th Anniversary—a powerful testimony to God’s enduring faithfulness and the steadfastness of His people. “The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy” (Psalm 126:3).

A century ago in Humbermouth, a small group of believers gathered with a vision to see the gospel proclaimed on Newfoundland’s west coast. From their zeal and obedience, this assembly was born—rightly called “the mother church of the west coast.” Through the years, it has birthed ministries, inspired leaders, and shone as a lighthouse of hope for countless souls.

Today, we honour the pastors, leaders, and saints whose prayers and sacrifices built the foundation we now stand on. As Hebrews reminds us, “Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses... let us run with perseverance... fixing our eyes on Jesus” (Hebrews 12:1-2).

Our centennial theme, “Honouring Our Past, Inspiring Our Future,” captures this sacred moment. We rejoice in all God has done while looking ahead with faith and anticipation. His Spirit is moving—raising passionate young leaders, blessing our ministries, and filling our worship with His presence.

As your pastors, we are filled with gratitude and vision for what’s ahead. The same Spirit who has sustained us for a century will lead us forward as we continue to proclaim Jesus—our Saviour, Healer, Baptizer, and Soon-Coming King. Let us press on boldly as a sending, worshipping, welcoming, and Spirit-filled church reflecting Christ to Corner Brook and beyond.

With love and thanksgiving,

Pastor Lindsey & Pastor Kim Foster
Lead Pastors, First Pentecostal Church, Corner Brook, NL

Pastor Caitlin Locke

Next Gen Pastor



“100 years for FPC! It is a privilege to be a part of a church that has been so influential in spreading the gospel across Newfoundland and Labrador in the past and still continuing the work today! God has been so good! As a church we've seen ups and downs, we've seen change and we've seen growth! Through it all God has done a great work in Corner Brook! We are where we are today because one generation experienced the work of the Holy Spirit and passed it on to another generation, who passed it onto the next. We are so excited to see what God will continue to do in this generation and the next! Greater things are yet to come! To God be the Glory!”

Pastor Caitlin Locke

Pastor Micah Penney

Post-Secondary Campus Director
West Coast



“First Pentecostal Church is a special community. Being part of FPC’s story for three years has been a wonderful privilege. I’m perpetually encouraged and inspired by the passionate heartbeat of this Church for the next generation, both locally and globally. First Pentecostal Church has evolved immensely over the last three years, and I’m excited to see where the Lord brings us. As Pastor Soper would say, it just gets gooder and gooder.”

Pastor Micah Penney

A letter from the Church Board Secretary



It is with heartfelt gratitude and joy that I congratulate our congregation on reaching our 100th anniversary—a remarkable milestone marking a century of God’s faithfulness, grace, and provision.

This celebration is deeply personal to me. On October 19, 1925, my grandfather, William Gillett, gave his heart to the Lord and soon entered full-time ministry, helping spread the gospel across Newfoundland and Labrador. For five generations, my family—like many others—has called FPC home. Truly, this church is not just a building but part of our family’s story, woven together with yours in Christ.

As the psalmist declares, “Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations” (Psalm 90:1). For a century, FPC has been a dwelling place of worship, prayer, and community—a beacon of light in our town and beyond. Through God’s faithfulness, new churches have been pioneered, and many of our own have entered full-time ministry. We stand today on the shoulders of those who prayed, served, and sacrificed so faithfully.

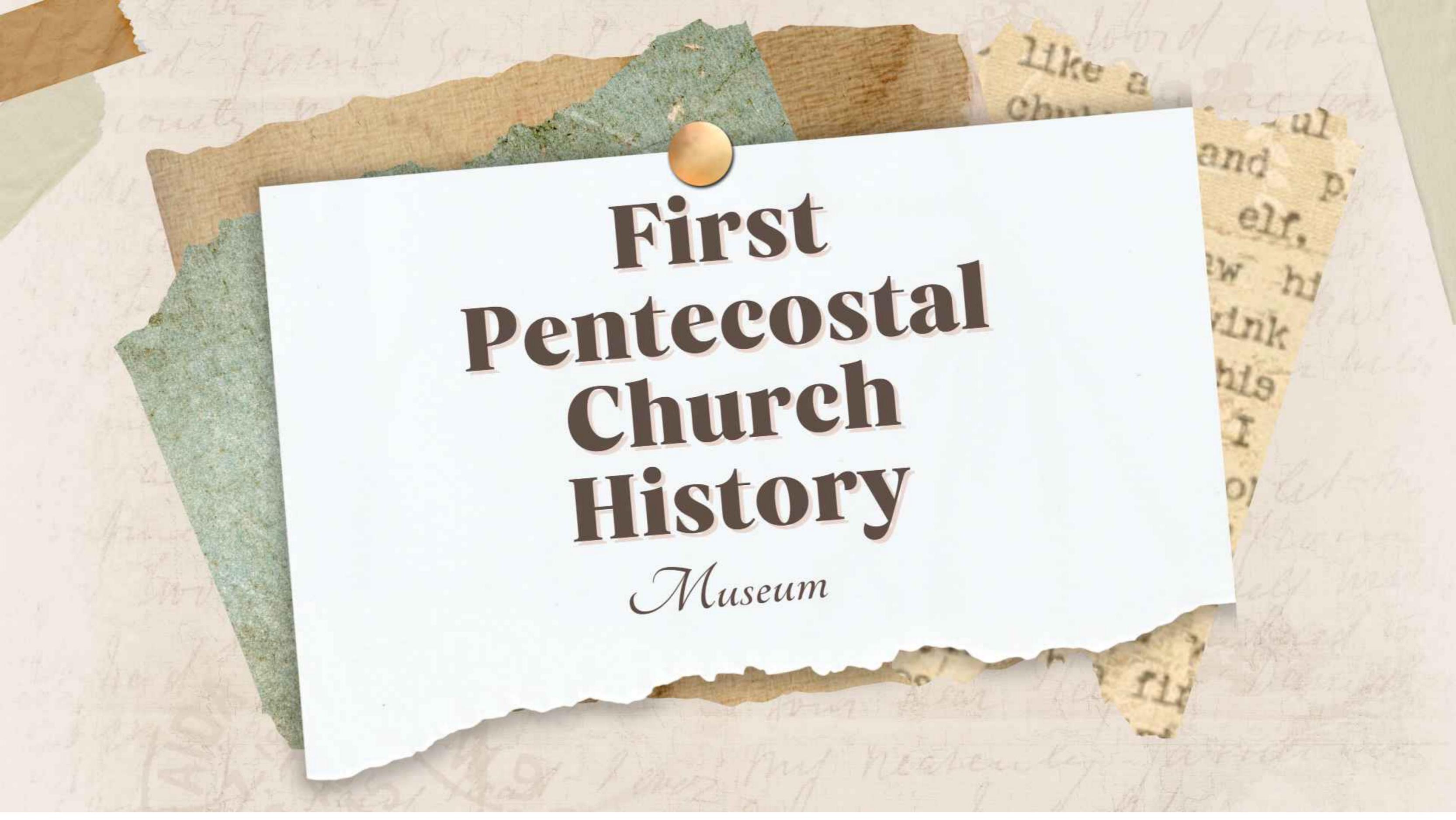
Anniversaries are not only for looking back but also for looking forward. The same God who sustained us will lead us into the next century. It’s inspiring to see so many young families and youth ready to carry this mission forward. I believe our best days are still ahead, for “He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion” (Philippians 1:6).

As we celebrate, let us also recommit ourselves to building lives rooted in Christ, bridges to our community, and hope for future generations. May those who come after us say we were faithful in our time, as others were in theirs.

On behalf of the church board, I extend heartfelt thanks for your love, prayers, and commitment. Together, let us move forward with vision, faith, and joy—trusting God for the next hundred years.

With gratitude and expectation,

Elmer Gillett
Church Board Secretary



**First
Pentecostal
Church
History**

Museum

The Beginning: A Vision in St. John's (1910–1925)

In December 1910, Alice Belle Garrigus, a school teacher from the U.S.A., arrived in St. John's with a Bible in her hand and a call from God in her heart. By Easter 1911, she founded Bethesda Mission, Newfoundland's first Pentecostal lighthouse. From that small mission room on New Gower Street, the Pentecostal message began to spread across the island and into Labrador.





The Beginning: A Vision in St. John's (1910–1925)

Among those influenced by the Bethesda revival were Charles L. March and Herbert Eddy, businessmen who felt compelled to bring the Pentecostal message to Newfoundland's west coast. Responding to this divine call, they left their businesses in St. John's and Arnold's Cove, moving to Humbermouth (now Corner Brook) in 1923—a time when the area was booming due to the construction of the paper mill.

With resources pooled and lumber transported from Come-by-Chance, they built a large three-story building that became the first Pentecostal Mission west of North Harbour. It included living quarters, stores, and a top-floor auditorium that served as the first church. The inaugural service was held on September 6, 1925, marking the official birth of the Pentecostal witness in Corner Brook.

The Early Years: The Ark and the Mother Assembly (1925–1937)



The building soon became affectionately known as “The Ark”—a refuge for many who found salvation and transformation there. Early converts such as William Gillett and Arthur Winsor were powerfully impacted and later became ministers themselves, helping establish churches in Deer Lake, Springdale, Hant’s Harbour, and beyond. This gave First Pentecostal the title “Mother Assembly of the West Coast.”

After the passing of pioneer Charles March in 1932, the congregation continued under the leadership of dedicated families such as the Gilletts and Winsors, who helped construct a new church on Humber Road. The Full Gospel Assembly, as it was called, was completed and dedicated on Christmas Day in 1937.

Growth and Expansion (1937–1964)



Pastors including Jessie Mercer (later Belbin), Margaret Evans, Thomas Mitchell, and Ivan White guided the growing congregation through decades of faith and service. By the late 1950s, under Pastor Ivan White, the church purchased land on Premier Drive to build a larger facility. The first service in the new church took place on November 19, 1961, and it was officially dedicated in 1964, when the congregation adopted the name First Pentecostal Church, Corner Brook East.

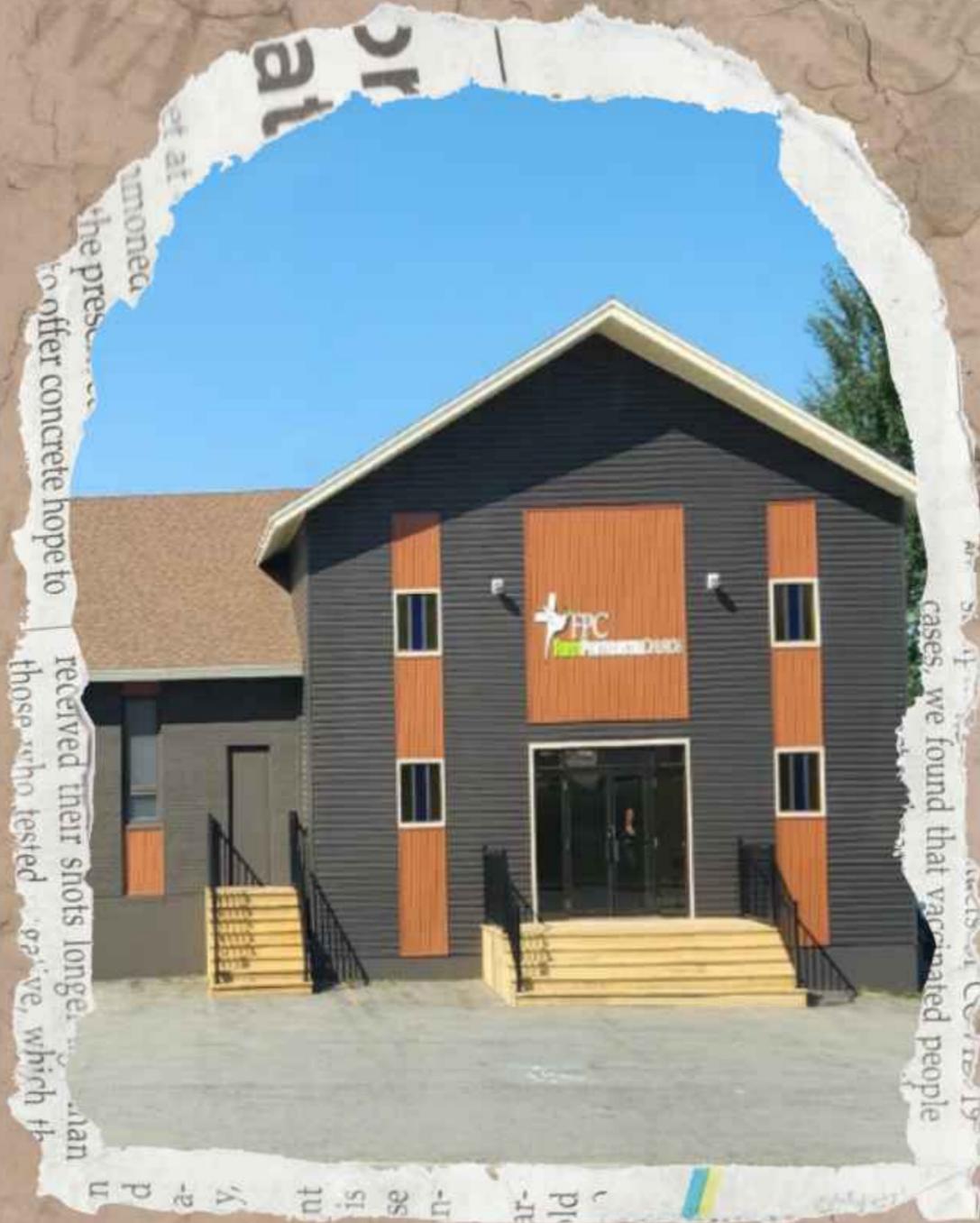
This period saw strong ministries emerge — Sunday School, Women's Missionary Council, and youth programs such as Christ's Ambassadors — solidifying the church's reputation as a thriving spiritual center.

Outreach, Missions, and Modern Ministry (1965-Present)

In the decades that followed, First Pentecostal Church continued to expand its influence through innovation and outreach.

Through seasons of growth, economic change, and social transformation, First Pentecostal Church remained steadfast — preaching Christ as Saviour, Healer, Baptizer, and Coming King. It became not just a local church but a spiritual home to generations, a place of prayer, missions, and discipleship.

Under successive pastors, First Pentecostal Church continued to expand. Today, First Pentecostal Church continues that same legacy with a multi-staff pastoral team and diverse ministries reaching youth, young adults, families, and the international community. Worship remains vibrant and Christ-centered, and the church stands as an “Ark of Safety” in a rapidly changing world.



A Century Later: The Same Spirit, A Renewed Mission (2025)

Today, First Pentecostal Church celebrates over 100 years of ministry. It stands as part of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland and Labrador, continuing the legacy of Garrigus, March, and Eddy. The church now has a full pastoral and support staff, serving people of all ages and backgrounds through worship, discipleship, and outreach.

While the world has changed dramatically since 1925, the mission remains the same – to proclaim Jesus Christ as Saviour, Healer, Baptizer, and Coming King.

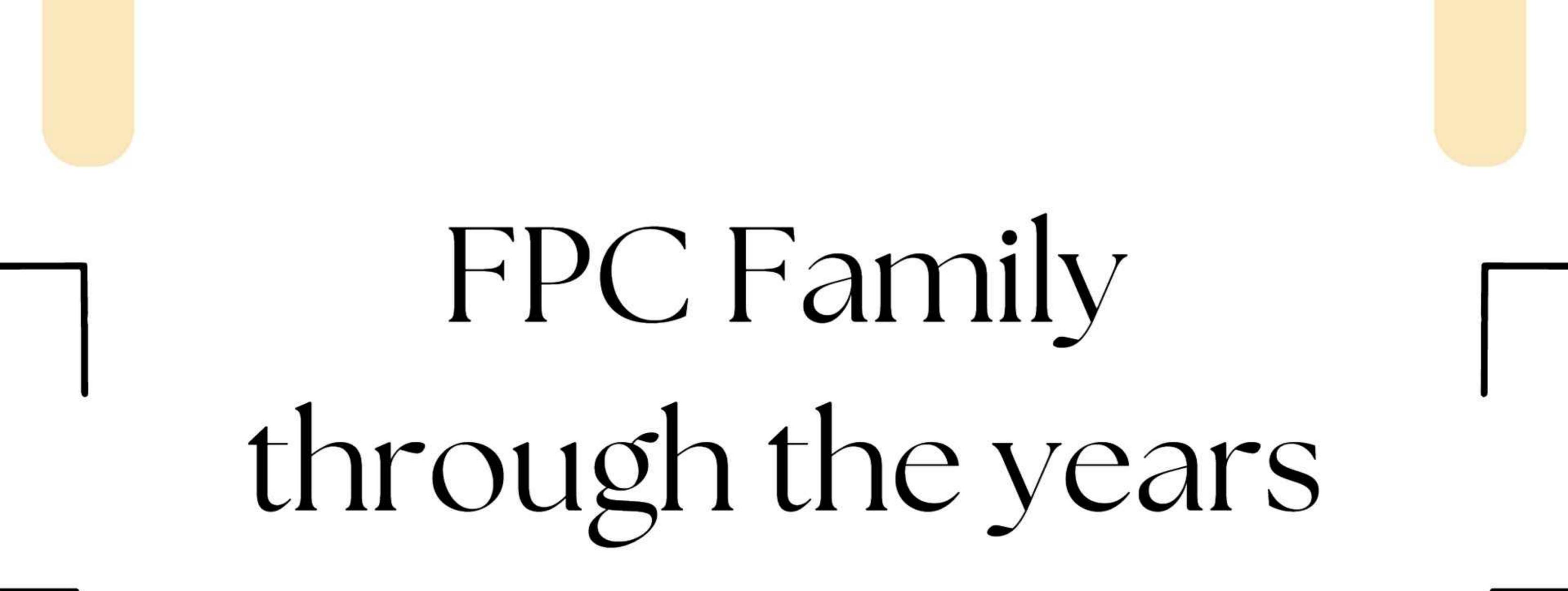
As Pastor L. R. Foster notes, this centennial milestone is not just a look back, but a call forward:

“The same Spirit who stirred them is stirring us today. The next century of ministry begins now”.



A Glimpse of the past





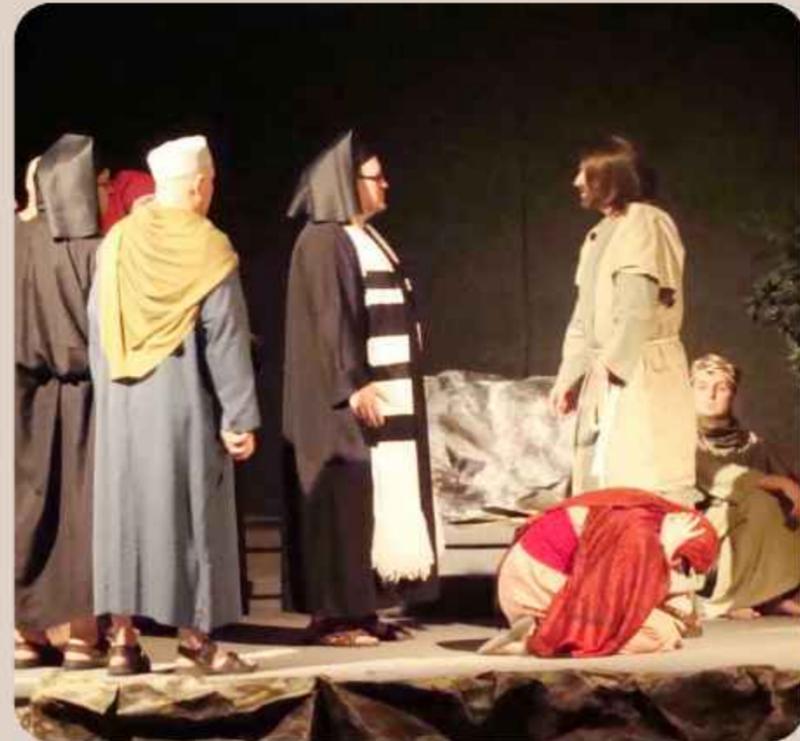
FPC Family
through the years



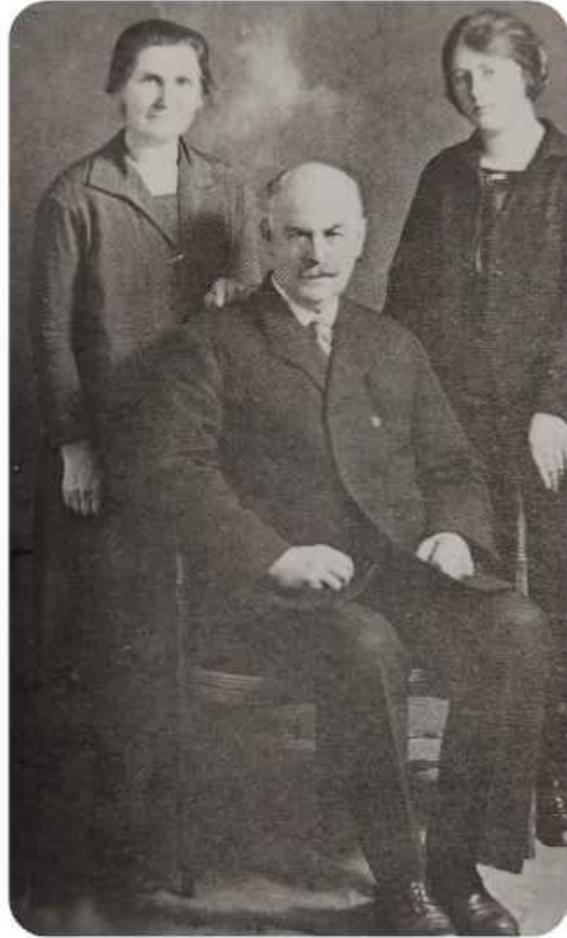
FPC Picnics



FPC Events



Honoring our Past



*Charles L. and Amelia
March; with daughter Gwen*



Pioneer
Alice Belle Garrigus



*Herbert and Mrs. Eddy and
Family.
Lewis and Sadie Eddy, center
back row*

Remembering the Faithful

As we mark one hundred years of God's faithfulness at First Assembly, our hearts are drawn to remember with deep gratitude the many men and women who have gone on before us into eternity. Over the past century, our church records the deaths of faithful soldiers of the Cross, and we know there are many more whose names may not be written in our ledgers but whose lives and service are forever woven into the fabric of this assembly. Each one has left a legacy of faith, devotion, and love for Christ and His church.

The Apostle Paul reminds us: "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58). These words ring true as we reflect on those who gave so much of their time, energy, and prayers to the life of this congregation. Their labor was not in vain—it was kingdom work, and its fruit continues to bless us today.

With gratitude to God for their lives and with hope for the future, we remember them with honor.



***Jesse Mercer/ Belbin
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Windsor
& Son Chesley***



William Gillett Family



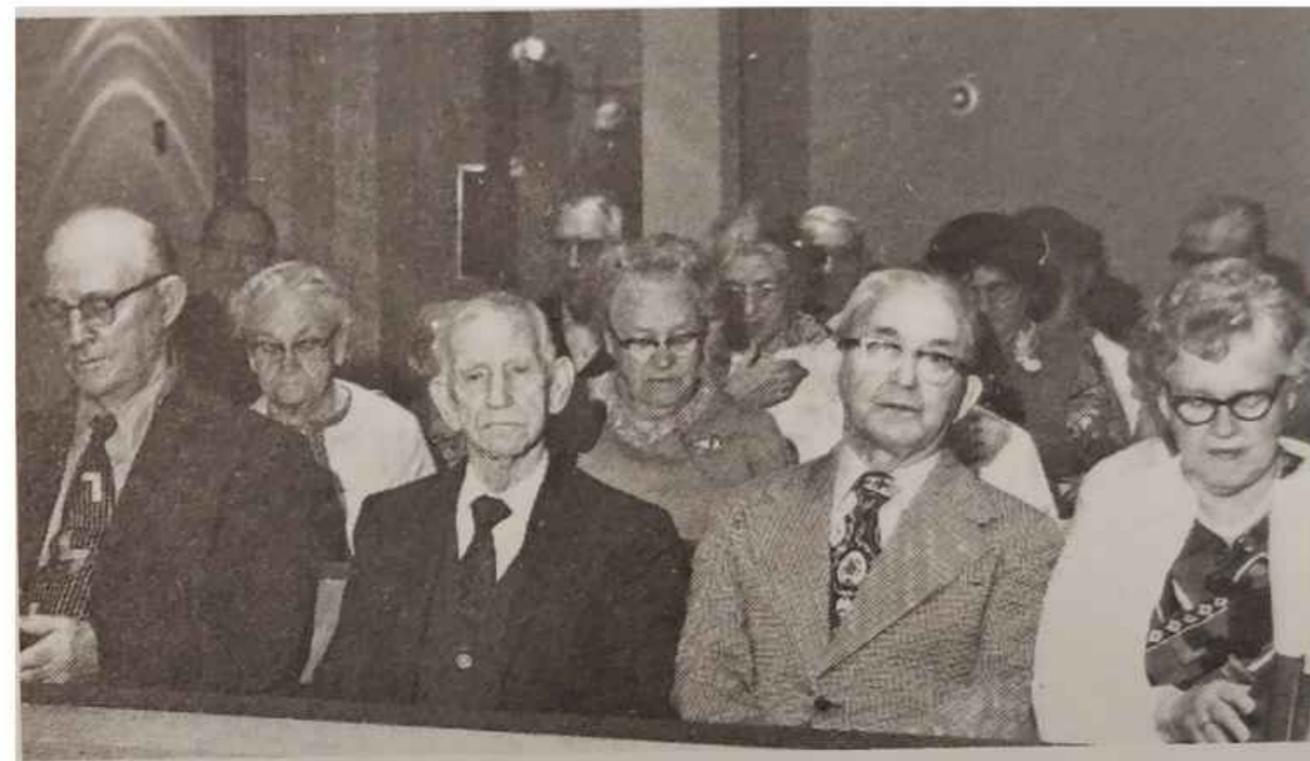
Mrs. Gillett & Sons



Sunday School Officers, 1975



C. E. Winsor



***Extension Sunday School Class
At interfaith Senior Citizens Home***



Junior Church



Sunday School Bus Ministry

Honoring our Pastors

As we celebrate one hundred years of God's faithfulness at First Assembly, it is fitting that we pause to give honor to the faithful shepherds who have gone before us. Each pastor who has served this congregation has brought unique gifts and a heart to see Christ glorified in Corner Brook.

Some were strong preachers of the Word, declaring the gospel with clarity and conviction. Others were gifted teachers, patiently grounding believers in the truths of Scripture. Some carried the heart of an evangelist, reaching beyond the walls of the church to bring the good news to our community. Others were encouragers and shepherds, walking closely with families through seasons of joy and sorrow. Still others were visionaries and builders, laying foundations—both spiritual and physical—that continue to bless us today.

Together, their labors have shaped the story of this church. Through their preaching, their prayers, their leadership, and their love, they have left a legacy of faith that we now inherit and carry forward. We are grateful for their sacrifices, their perseverance, and their obedience to the call of God.

On this centennial occasion, we honor them all, giving thanks to the Lord who raised them up and used them for His glory. May their example inspire us to serve with the same devotion, courage, and faithfulness in the years to come.

Former Pastors



**Pastor & Mrs. George
Parsons
(1925-27) & (1954-58)**



**Pastor Gwen White
(1927-29)**



**Pastor Winnie Taylor
(1929-30)**



**Pastor Clarice Murrin
(1929-30)**



**Pastor Wilfred Ball
(1930-32)**



**Pastor & Mrs. William
Gillett (1932-33)**



**Pastor Raymond Bursey
(1933-34)**



**Pastor & Mrs. Philip Butt
(1934-37)**



**Pastor Jessie Mercer
(1930-32)**



**Pastor & Mrs. Wallace Belbin
(1938-39)**

Former Pastors



Pastor Margaret Evans
(1938-39)



Pastor Maud Evans
(1940-43)



Pastor Thomas Mitchel
(1943-44)



Pastor & Mrs. Eric Ball
(1944-48)



Pastor & Mrs. Ivan Whitt
(1948-54) & (1958-63)



**Pastor & Mrs. Roy
Langdon (1963-67)**



Pastor Ronald Osmond
(1967-73)



Pastor Sterling Penney
(1973-81)



Pastor Roy & Betty Burden
(1981-89)



Pastor Melvin Power
(1989-92)

Former Pastors



**Pastor Wayne & Mrs. Pear
(1993-1993)**



**Pastor Norman Joy
(1993-2000)**



**Graydon Pelly
(2000-01)**



**Pastor Paul & Mrs. Margaret
Foster
(2000-2001)**



**Pastor Velmer Bessey
(2002-13)**



**Pastor Morgan (Youth)
(2005-06)**



**Pastor Andy &
Melanie Vincent (Youth)
(2009-11)**



**Pastor Jeremy Nippard
(Youth) (2011-17)**



**Pastor Stephanie & Brandon
Williams (Next Gen)
(2018-19)**



**Pastor Larry and Grace
Soper (2013-25)**



Labourers to the Lord's Vineyard

Starting with the first year of our history, and up to the present, there have been those how have gone out from the Assembly into full time ministry. We rejoice that it has been the privilege of this Assembly to give so many labourers to the Lord's Vineyard.

Pastors:

- Arthur Winsor
- William Gillett
- Sadie Eddy Butt
- Thomas Mitchell
- Gwen White
- Newman LaShana
- Lewis Eddy
- Myrtle Broomfield Eddy
- Tilley Peach Gillett
- Thomas Evans
- Raymond Bursey
- Florence Gillett Bursey
- Carl Stratton
- Clarice Winsor Stratton
- Graydon Giles
- Norma Winsor Giles
- Sadie Fifield Phillips
- Alvin Winsor
- Samuel Winsor
- Roanld Stratton
- Florence Stratton
- Randy Caines
- Ruth Stratton Caines
- Annie Critch Harnum
- Colin Wells
- Marie Wells
- Elva Gillett Janes
- Lida Park Pear
- Wayne Pear

Missionaries:

- Guy Penney
- Jane Penney
- Sharon Radford
- Micah Penney
- Cameron Pittman
- Eugene Gillett (Linda)
- Elva Gillett Janes
- Bruce Stratton (Gwen)
- Gary Burt (Joy)
- Eric Carter (Darlene)
- Larry Osmond
- Grant Gillingham
- Ted Jennings (Karen)

“ How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that
bringeth good tidings.....that publisheth peace..... that
publisheth salvation.....”

Isaiah 52: 7



Special

CONNECTIONS

Missions

Mission Pastors



*Global Workers
Pastor Guy and Pastor Jane Penney*

*Home Missions Pastor
Pastor Ryan, Ashley & Family*



*Home Missions Pastors
Pastor Kirby and Pastor Valerie*

*Home Missions Pastors
Pastor Ryan and Pastor Courtney*



C4 Ministry

At C4 (Community Connections and Conversation Café), we are dedicated to welcoming and supporting newcomers to Canada. Through our C4 Settlement Services and weekly Conversation Café programs, our mission is to create a safe, inclusive space where individuals and families can connect, access resources, and build the confidence they need to thrive. Guided by the values of conversation, community, and care, we strive to foster a strong sense of belonging and empower newcomers throughout their settlement journey.

C4 began as a vision from Pastor Larry Soper, whose desire to create a welcoming community for newcomers took shape through meaningful conversations with Bethesda in St. John's. Today, that vision continues to grow as we help families make Corner Brook, NL, Canada feel like home. From offering friendship and support to providing Conversation Café, essential furniture and household items.



C4 Team
(Susan, Grant & Tammy)



CONFERENCES



“What really stands out to me is how real our God’s presence is... seeing people connect to God all throughout the weekend was really inspiring, really awesome to see and experience.”



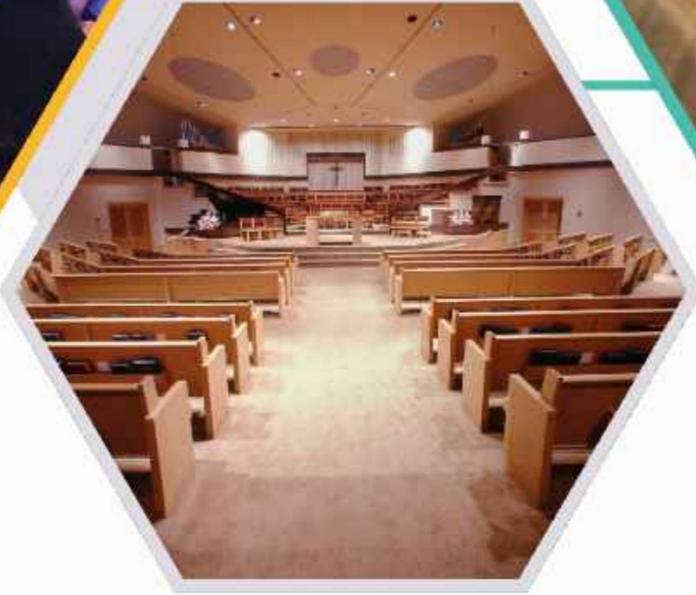
TESTIMONIALS

“I really learned how to trust God completely - that made me so much more happier and so much at peace.”

“It was really amazing... It really touched my heart.”



“I experienced how much companionship helps you experience the Lord... Holy Spirit is not something you can grab, Holy Spirit has to enter you and you have to accept it and with companionship, you can help others open up that gate to let other in”



CURRENT MINISTRIES

FIRST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH



First Pentecostal Church Board - 2025

Brian Stone, Richard Joy, Pastor Lindsey Foster, Elmer Gillett,
Pastor Jamie Rowsell, and Cora Coates



*FPC Sunday
Worship Service*





BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER

At the heart of our church family is a deep desire to grow in God's Word and strengthen our walk with Him through prayer. Our Bible study gatherings provide a welcoming space to explore Scripture, share insights, and apply biblical truths to everyday life. Through prayer, we seek God's guidance, experience His presence, and lift one another in faith. Together, we're learning, growing, and standing firm in His promises.



YOUTH MINISTRY





KIDS MINISTRY





MEN'S MINISTRY



Women's Ministry



Vision Statement from Lead Pastor

As we celebrate 100 years of God's faithfulness at First Pentecostal Church, our eyes are lifted with expectation toward the next century of ministry. We stand on the shoulders of those who came before us, but we are also called to rise and build for the generations yet to come.

Our vision is to remain a missions-focused church, committed to proclaiming Jesus Christ as Saviour, Healer, Baptizer in the Holy Spirit, and Soon-Coming King. We will continue to send, support, and raise up missionaries who carry the gospel to the nations, while also recognizing that our own city is a mission field in need of the hope of Christ.

We are committed to developing a local plan to reach Corner Brook and the surrounding region with the love of Jesus. Through acts of service, intentional outreach, and Spirit-led evangelism, we will be a church that shines as a light in our community.

We see a future where the Next Generation is empowered to carry the torch of faith. Our youth, young adults, and children are not just the church of tomorrow—they are the church of today. We will invest in them, disciple them, and release them into ministry, believing that God will use them mightily to shape the future of the church and the world.



Vision Statement from Lead Pastor

We are committed to a balanced ministry—one that is rooted in the Word, alive in the Spirit, and active in love. We will display faith to grow, not shrinking back in fear, but stepping forward in boldness, trusting God for greater things.

We envision a people who catch the vision to give and invest in the Kingdom of God—with their time, talents, and treasure. As we sow generously, we believe we will reap a harvest of souls and see the Kingdom expand in ways beyond what we can imagine.

As we look to the next century, our prayer is that First Pentecostal Church will continue to be a place where lives are transformed, families are restored, and Christ is exalted. With hearts full of gratitude for the past and eyes fixed on the future, we declare with faith: “Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.”

(Ephesians 3:20-21)



Prayer of Dedication

Heavenly Father, We thank You for 100 years of Your faithfulness to First Pentecostal Church. You have guided us, sustained us, and blessed us beyond measure. Today, we pause to honour the past, but we also look forward with faith to the future You have prepared.

Lord, we dedicate the next century of ministry into Your hands. May this church remain a lighthouse on the west coast of Newfoundland, proclaiming Jesus Christ as Saviour, Healer, Baptizer, and Coming King. May we be faithful to the Great Commission, reaching our city and the nations with the gospel.

We pray for the Next Generation—that our children, youth, and young adults will rise up with courage and conviction, carrying the torch of faith into the future. May they be filled with Your Spirit, grounded in Your Word, and passionate for Your mission.

We ask for wisdom to lead with balance, courage to step out in faith, and generosity to invest in Your Kingdom. May our worship be vibrant, our fellowship be strong, and our witness be bold.

Lord, we commit ourselves afresh to You. Use us for Your glory. May the story of this church continue to be a testimony of Your grace and power until the day of Christ's return.

In Jesus' mighty name, Amen!

VISION SNAPSHOT – FIRST PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

“Honouring our Past, Inspiring our Future.”

As we step into the next century, First Pentecostal Church will remain a Spirit-filled, missions-focused church—reaching our city, our nation, and the world with the gospel. We are committed to raising up the Next Generation to carry the torch of faith, investing in vibrant ministries for youth, young adults, new Canadians, and our community. With balanced ministry, bold faith, and generous hearts, we will continue to proclaim Jesus as Saviour, Healer, Baptizer, and Coming King until He returns.



**1 Corinthians 15
for beginners:**

**PART 2: RESURRECTION AS BOTH A
PRESENT AND FUTURE
EVENT (1 COR 15:12-34)**



First Pentecostal Church

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." – Hebrews 13:8

OUR CONTACT



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