



# The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175  
Vol. 19.25 June 21, 2015

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## 2015 Go/Serve Summary Pine Ridge, South Dakota

***This Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, the Go & Serve Mission Team will lead 10:30 worship.  
Lunch following for those interested where more photos and stories will be shared.***

The 2015 Go & Serve mission trip went well. We started by going to Rapid City, S.D. There we saw Mount Rushmore and spent the night at Westminster Presbyterian church. We worshipped with Westminster the next day, our senior highs were even moved to join the children's sermon down front. We arrived at our camp Sunday afternoon around two. One hundred or so total volunteers were in our camp, divided into ten work crews.

Our group was divided into two work projects: (1) making a roof for a porch; (2) hanging sheet rock in a trailer refurbishment. The porch was perhaps 18x18, and the roof we did completely, from taking the fascia off to nailing down the last shingle (in the rain).

The trailer will benefit a young family once it is redone, perhaps the Redcloud's. Tuesday we lunched with the Redcloud's, one of the families the Next Step ministry works with. Ron Redcloud is a direct descendant from Chief Red Cloud. Children visited and played throughout the work and lunch. "They come here all day," Ron said. We hung sheet rock and 'mud-ded' the seams in four rooms, along with a general cleaning.

The porch benefited a very nice lady, Theresa White Butterfly. She works as a translator for a law firm, helping work between English and Lakota. Theresa visited with us at length Thursday. She told us stories of her life, taught us some Lakota, shared stories of the tribe, and generally made us feel welcome in her home.

Just as important as the work we did, there was a cultural exposure. Each day we had visits to different sites. First was the Wounded Knee memorial. Auto Jack volunteered to lecture us on the significance of the site. He spoke for over an hour and told of the moving history of that place. Tuesday we shared in worship with Lakota Hope, a ministry at White Clay, Nebraska. Dinner was provided along with great music, native art, faith testimonies and a closing Lakota dance for all.

Pinky's store, a general goods store and gas station, was Wednesday's destination. Much candy and soda was bought, including four bags of skittles, and we saw another community on the reservation. Finally, Thursday after cleaning up we saw the Red Cloud Indian school. We learned this school is open to all students, not just Lakota residents. Graduates have gone on to colleges all across the country.

Worship concluded each day. We heard live music, pre-recorded reflections from Johnny Chen, and other testimony. Our last worship on Thursday offered us the chance to wash each other's feet. While this is not part of our tradition, most of us tried it and found it to be an interesting experience.

Friday we headed home, but took a significant detour in Valentine. We rafted on the Niobrara river, and hiked up to see Smith Falls.

First Presbyterian has a lot to be proud of in its youth. Our group was organized, hard working (we had to stop twice because we used up the material provided for that day), and a very well behaved. Several youth leaders commented to me about how nice our young people were. I agree, they are great.

Finally, let me thank the advisors. Kevin Junker drove our third vehicle, and was very helpful on the job site and in camp. Constance Malloy coordinated our thank you notes and was a seamless addition to the group. Becky Meyer cared for all of us, while working hard on site. Tammie Nowka found this opportunity, along with Chris Junker. Tammie rented two vehicles, drove the larger passenger van, worked both sites, tended the ill, and anything else we needed. Berke Landrum was the team leader. Berke drove the church van (mud washes off right?), led nightly team worship, and tended other details of the trip.

Please take time to visit with our student servants: Lauren Canady, Dylan Croon, Jordan Graviette, Courtney Junker, Morgan Karloff, Thomas Kerr, Katie Kingsley, Lydia Meyer, Maggie Nielsen, Emma Redinger, Erikka Rhodes, and Duang Tang. Thank you,

~ Rev. Berke Landrum



***Thank you to everyone who made Worship in the Park a great success, including the Celebrate Band and those working in the kitchen for the Fellowship Hall feast! -C.M.W.***



*Dear Fellow Companions of the Way,*

I thank God that many members of First Presbyterian Church are praying for each other, the church staff, church board members, and the ministry of this church every day. Praying makes a difference!

When the disciples of Jesus said, "Lord, teach us to pray," they spoke for all of us who have wondered not only how to pray or what to pray, but what to expect from prayer. If you saw the film, *Shadowlands* (produced by my extended family), based on the life of C.S. Lewis, you may remember the scene where Lewis returns to Oxford from London where he has just married Joy Gresham in a private ceremony in a hospital where she is being treated for cancer. As Lewis arrives at the college where he teaches, Harry Harrington greets him and asks what news there is. Lewis hesitates, then deciding to speak of the marriage and not the cancer he says "Ah, good news, I think, Harry. Yes, good news." Harrington, unaware of the marriage and thinking that Lewis is referring to Joy's medical condition, replies: "I know how hard you've been praying; and now, God is answering your prayer." Lewis responds: "That's not why I pray, Harry. I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God, it changes me."

One of my professors once said, "Prayer is not a message scribbled on a note, jammed into a bottle and tossed into the sea in hopes that it will wash up someday on God's shoreline. Prayer is communion with God. We speak to God, but God touches, embraces, shapes and changes us. Whether we pray for rain or pray for sunshine, our prayer is answered, because in the act of praying we receive the gift we really seek—intimacy with God."

Lord, teach us to pray, not only how to pray, but what to expect when we pray. Prayers will change us, and in turn change First Presbyterian Church and beyond!

Soli Deo Gloria!  
*Charlie*  
Charles Marshall Webster

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*"We want to thank you for the beautiful flowers, prayers and visits from the congregation. Del is getting better and has been moved to Good Samaritan's Rehab to continue his recovery. Many thanks!" - Del & Ruth Swingle.*

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**Do you enjoy singing?** Please join us on the first and third Sundays of June, July, and August. Rehearsal begins at 9:30 in the choir room, worship at 10:30 in the church sanctuary. Michael Hull will be leading the choir.

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**The Home Page**

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Transitional Pastor  
Rev. Charles M. Webster  
Interim Associate Pastor:  
Rev. Dr. Berke Landrum

**Publishing Guidelines:**

The *Home Page* is a weekly publication for the people and mission of First Presbyterian Church.

The newsletter seeks to inform, instruct and challenge its readers to become engaged in the ministry of FPC.

**Articles** will be accepted on Monday of each week. Submissions will be edited for length and suitability. You may send articles to the church office: [fpc@fpchastings.org](mailto:fpc@fpchastings.org) or call 402-462-5147.

*Summer Volunteers Needed*  
*for Assembly of the Home Page*

*9 a.m. Tuesday:*

*June 23<sup>rd</sup>*

*July 7<sup>th</sup>*

*July 21<sup>st</sup>*

*Please call the office to confirm*

*Thank you for your help!*