



The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 19.26 June 28 – July 5, 2015

Dear Fellow Companions of the Way,

The gospel calls us to be in community. In the past few days I learned of two local member deaths that occurred weeks ago. I was stunned, simply stunned, that such news did not come to the church office earlier. As your lead pastor in this transitional time, I take very seriously the role of being a good shepherd to the congregation. Please call the church office to let us know of church member/family illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths. We visit Mary Lanning Hospital every day of the week and review the “Presbyterian Church census.” (Occasionally, religious affiliation is not recorded) With hospitalizations beyond Mary Lanning we need to hear from you. When you know a church member is in hospital or has died we need to hear from you. It is better to receive ten calls than none. Thank you.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Charlie

Charles Marshall Webster

In response to the racist act of terrorism at Emmanuel AME Church in Charlestown, SC, I (CMW) offer this prayer adapted from The Iona Community Worship Book.

*God of our mourning, our weeping, our sighs too deep for words:
You share our joys and crushing sorrows, you hear the cries of the afflicted,
you fill the hungry, and you set free the oppressed,
we pray for the end to all injustice.*

We bow our heads remembering our brothers and sisters in Christ whose last earthly act was prayer. Comfort their families and friends and strengthen them in the difficult days that are ahead. God of justice and compassion, you sent your Son for the sake of the world you love. When Jesus was murdered his last words were a prayer for forgiveness. Three days later you raised him from the dead and his first words told us not to be afraid because even death had been defeated. Help us to remember and proclaim that violence and hate do not have the last word. The love of God made known to us through Jesus Christ always has the last word. The Spirit’s crop of goodness and love and joy and peace and gentleness will not stop growing.

*Inspire us with the all embracing love of God,
challenge us with the radical love of Jesus.
empower us with the transforming love of the Spirit,
that we and all God’s children may live and be free. Amen.*

From the Office of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA): “We celebrate the faithful witness and words of Pope Francis as he encourages responsible, loving care for God’s creation in the release of his papal encyclical *Laudato Si*. We affirm its echo of the great St Francis’ reverence for nature. At the same time, we join the Pope in the urgency of truth telling: we humans are largely responsible for global warming and we have to find ways to reverse track. The Pope is calling us all to environmental conversion: May we together find the immense moral and spiritual energy that the world powers have been lacking so far.”



In Memoriam

Sylvia Oye, November 22, 1923 - April 30, 2015

Thomas Creigh III, March 24, 1958 - May 22, 2015



SERVING COMMUNION JULY 5

Stephanie Adam

Patty Kingsley

Mary Olsen

Marie Rasmussen

Alice Throckmorton

Mark Hemje

Dwight Marsh

Don Rasmussen

Cheryl Schukei

May Wierenga

JULY ACOLYTES

July 5 Morgan Karloff

July 12 Laura McCarthy

July 19 Eric Brader

July 26 Hannah Hafer

JULY USHERS

Dale Behrens

Matt Fong

Al Meyer, captain

Ken Stein

JULY GREETERS

July 5 Carol and Jim Harrenstein

July 12 Alice Throckmorton, Linda and Richard Johnson

July 19 Rob and Michelle Kerr, Marilyn Nielsen

July 26 Traci and Jim Boeve

PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

On July 24, 2014, an amazing collective of agencies, volunteers, and community members from Adams, Clay, Nuckolls and Webster Counties converged for a day of service. Project Homeless Connect Hastings met the needs of 467 people: 304 adults and 163 children. We don't always see them, but on any given day in our area, there are many homeless or near homeless people. There are even more who struggle to make ends meet. The objective of Project Homeless Connect Hastings was clear from the beginning: connect those in need with community services and meet some of those needs. The objective was resoundingly met. Project Homeless Connect Hastings was supported and sponsored by Mary Lanning Healthcare, Hastings Community Foundation, Sunnyside, and South Heartland District Health Department. Donors included: Gottsch Feed Yard, Keith's Pharmacy, Pepsi and the First St. Paul's Lutheran Church Foundation. First St. Paul's Lutheran Church was the host site.

Who we served

467 total clients 304 adults and 163 children 52% were stably housed (247) 23% were in unstable housing (107) 9% were literally homeless (41) 5% were imminently losing housing (24) 16 veterans 94 single parent households 36 reported a mental health disorder 47 reported a physical or medical disability 16 reported a history of substance abuse 12 reported a developmental disability.

Services Offered / Number of people assisted

Automotive repair 27	Food stamps/SNAP 18	Medicaid Applications 4
Bathing facilities 52	Grooming supplies 213	Mental health screenings 7
Bedding/linen 224	Hairdressing/nail care 70	Parasite treatment 2
Bicycle donation program 46	Hearing screenings 25	Peer -to-peer networking 3
Blood pressure screening 24	Incontinence supplies 25	Prescription assistance 21
Book distribution 70	Job search/placement 9	Religious literature 11
Boys/Girls clubs 2	Laundry products 35	School supplies 175
Chiropractic 32	Laundry vouchers 41	Sexuality education 6
Clothing 147	Lead poisoning screen 4	Shoes 45
Dental screening 53	Legal education/info 2	Td/Tdap Immunizations 13
Emergency food 2	Legal services 13	Toy/game donations 20
Fans 77	Local transit fare 23	Vision screenings 41
First Aid Kits 180	Meals 359	

This year's **Project Homeless Connect** is sponsored by FPC Mission Committee and will be held Tuesday, July 23 from 10 am to 4 pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Hastings. We are in need of even more volunteers this year as we expect more people to attend this event.

(Project Homeless Connect is a project of the Global Mission and Local Social Witness Committee)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | | | |
|---------------|---|---------------|---|
| 1-Jul | Cal Johnson
George White
Audrey Portwood | 19-Jul | Lois Hahne
Steve Jurgena |
| 2-Jul | Pat Jacoby
Brent Sovereign
Cale Henderson
Jayden Propp | 20-Jul | Dixie Kerr |
| 4-Jul | Mike Meyer | 21-Jul | Cathy Davis |
| 5-Jul | Julie McDougal
Dave Schawang | 22-Jul | Meg Stewart-Magee
Mark Hemje
Chelby Schlichtman |
| 6-Jul | Verna Meyer | 23-Jul | Becky Matticks
Jonathan Lainson |
| 8-Jul | Terry Beahm
Tammie Nowka
Eleanor Oliver | 24-Jul | Mackenzie Heneger
Grace Redinger
Harrison Bishop |
| 9-Jul | Martha Boyd
Connie Hultine
Sara McPherson
Paige Taylor | 25-Jul | Don Rasmussen
Dave Fisher
Laif Hultine |
| 10-Jul | Bryant Allen | 26-Jul | Mary Lewis
Linda Johnson
Dawn Baldwin
Kate Hemje |
| 13-Jul | Charles Hermes
Kay Georgiana | 27-Jul | Jean Koch |
| 14-Jul | Mary Jeanne Cooke
Lynne Friedewald
Marc Hultine | 28-Jul | Chuck Kidd |
| 16-Jul | Nkuma Uche
Duane Huber
Michelle Kerr | 29-Jul | Lyndie Eddleman
Alex Ferguson |
| 17-Jul | Pam Lay | 30-Jul | Paul Becker
Mary Seiler |
| 18-Jul | May Wierenga
Sharon Reicks | 31-Jul | Hubert Payne
Mike Florek
Stella Adam |

OPEN TABLE SACK LUNCH PROGRAM begins Sunday, July 5th.

During the month of July, members and friends of First Presbyterian Church assemble sack lunches for the Open Table Project administered by Catholic Social Services. Each Sunday in July the assembly line will be set up in Fellowship Hall. Food donations may be brought to the church kitchen. Suggestions for donations needed for the sack lunches may be found in the Memorial Room on the table with the Volunteer sign up sheet. Donations and volunteers are very much appreciated!

Do you enjoy singing? Please join us on the first and third Sundays of 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.

Happy Anniversary

Jo and George Anderson July 6, 1974
Tracy and Kenny Brooks July 10, 2010
Teresa and Tim Canady July 18, 1998
Susan and Neal Hoff July 16, 1972
Vicki and Jeff Howard July 26, 1980
Deb and Byron Jensen July 1, 1979

Pat and Dick Kleiber July 25, 1958
Teri and Tam Nguyen July 15, 1980
Leah and Tom Ratzlaff July 31, 2004
Marnie and Doug Soderquist July 27, 2012
Dee and Tommy Toms July 18, 1998

Congregational Lives

This addition to the Home Page provides a place for the congregation to celebrate the good things happening in the lives of our church family.

Erica Nielsen plays the role of Jo Jo, the Mayor's son, in Seussical Jr. Show times are Wednesday through Saturday, 7:30 PM; 2:30 matinee on Saturday at Hastings Community Theater at Good Samaritan Village.

Lily Kingsley has volunteered to be the Youth Coordinator for the Open Table Mission Project during the month of July. She will be inviting youth to help assemble sack lunches.

Zeppa Kreager was recently recruited and hired for the position of Associate Director of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs of the office of the Vice President, Joe Biden. Zeppa is currently at work in Washington, D.C. Zeppa is the daughter of Meg Stewart-Magee and Tom Kreager.

Carol and Gary Grummert will celebrate 50 years of marriage on June 27.

We invite you to share your joys with the church family by emailing Cindy Strasheim, cstrasheim@windstream.net or call the church office [402.462.5147](tel:402.462.5147)

Home Page
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A publication of
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621 North Lincoln Avenue
Hastings, NE

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 or call 402-462-5147.

Summer Volunteers Needed
for Assembly of the Home Page

9 a.m. Tuesday:

July 7th

July 21st

Please call or email the office
to confirm

Thank you for your help!