



The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 19.33 August 30 – September 6, 2015

Dear Fellow Companions of the Way,

I am excited to report that Dr. Robin R. Koozer has returned to the First Presbyterian Church staff as Interim Chancel Choir Director until December 31st. giving our music staff search committee more time in its work. Also, Dr. Byron Jensen will be our Interim Director of Adult and Youth Handbells this fall.

I trust you will join me in thanking Robin and Byron for assisting in the music ministry in this transitional time. Ashley Erich will continue as our organist, along with Linda Johnson, Tim and Teresa Canady, Mary Plock, and Alice Throckmorton on our talented music staff.

After our wonderful kick-off Sunday with Stephanie Brader and Kili Wenburg leading our new staffing in education and spiritual formation, the return of our chancel choir, the commissioning of our Pastor Nominating Committee, the visit of our transitional presbytery executive (Dr. Charles R. Traylor), among other activities, **the session met and voted unanimously to install a new sound system, plus video options, and a hearing assisted system for our church sanctuary.** This project of approximately \$100,000 will be entirely funded by generous gifts from members for this project, including one anonymous gift of \$50,000 that jump-started this “forward in faith” investment in the future of First Presbyterian Church, Hastings. It is our hope to complete the work before Thanksgiving.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Charlie

Charles Marshall Webster

The Church and Immigration

God's care for the plight of foreigners is pervasive in the Bible, and so is the call to God's people to treat them in a fair, loving and sustainable way. Indeed, for the Christian community **the way to proceed in relation to the stranger is the biblical way.** The guiding standard of expected behavior to that end can be found in the many passages of the Old and New Testaments, such as the following:

Leviticus 19:33-34

When an alien lives with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as a citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt. (This is one of more than 50 similar verses in Leviticus and Deuteronomy.)

Matthew 25:38-40

'And when was it that we saw you as a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Hebrews 13:2

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. - CMW

“We must first accept that everyone in the U.S., except for the First People, Native Americans and American Indians, are immigrants...*The idolatry of power and control is sin. The billions of dollars we invest on fences, walls, border patrols, drones and other devices to keep people from sharing in the benefits of God's abundance that leads to greater possibilities for freedom – all of this is idolatry. Especially, when the poor remain poor...* Jesus opens a door to the embrace of outcasts who are often made poor by the structural flaws of a society that denies opportunity to the most vulnerable.”

-- the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Office of Public Witness Compassion, Peace and Justice Ministry

Adult Sunday Morning Class:

Change, Uncertainty, and the Peace that passes all Understanding

Change is a guaranteed part of life, yet it catches us off-guard and creates stress and discomfort--in work, relationships, and even at church. Kili Wenburg will lead this four-session series, which will examine why change is so upsetting and also provide spiritual tools for finding peace in the midst of upheaval and uncertainty. Classes begin August 30 and will be held Sunday mornings at 9:15 in the Fellowship Hall. *No class on September 6, due to Labor Day weekend.*

Dixie Kerr died Saturday, August 22, 2015. Livingston-Butler-Volland Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Visitation at the funeral home will be on Wednesday, August 26 from 1-8pm with family present 6-8pm, and Thursday, August 27, from 9am-5pm. Viewing at First Presbyterian Church will be Friday, Aug. 28 in the Sanctuary at 9:00am with funeral service at 10:00am. A light luncheon will follow. Burial will be early afternoon in Lincoln.

Myron Chapel also died Saturday, August 22, 2015. In his memory a family gathering was held on Tuesday, August 25 in the First Presbyterian Church Chapel at 4pm.

The **Deacons** are forming teams of individuals who can assist with refreshments during the fellowship time following funerals. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for any or all of the following:

- preparing salads or desserts
- coordinating luncheons
- serving at luncheons
- helping with clean-up

Contact Pat Kern or Rogene Wenburg to be included in the calling list of volunteers.

September Communion will be for *The Zone*

This is an after school program for youth 6th-12th grade, Monday through Friday. Held at the Old Armory Building 2015 West 3rd Street, the YWCA's goal is to provide a safe, supervised, drug and alcohol free, caring, and enriching environment, operating between the hours of 3:30-8:30. Activities include- basketball, dodge ball, Ping-Pong, movies, video games, computers, arts and crafts, board games, snacks, study room and much more.

September 6 Communion Servers - Team 2:

Jim Boeve, Erica Brooks, Jeff Howard, Mary Kay LaMaster, Constance Malloy, Chad Murrell, Shannon Weltom, Rogene Wenburg, Dan Zabloudil

September 2015 Ushers

LaVern Franzen, Chuck Hastings, captain, Jim Hoffman, Mike Hogan, Monte Malouf, Doug Soderquist, Roger Sunderman, Steve Wolford

September Greeters

Sept 6: Karen and Roger Doerr
Sept 13: Connie Hansen, Anne Halbert
Sept 20: Jessica Meeske, Todd Pankratz
Sept 27: Elaine & Wayne Specht, Kim Creech



In Memoriam

Dixie Kerr, July 20, 1929 - August 22, 2015

Myron Chapel, December 14, 1941 - August 22, 2015



Congregational Lives

All Aboard! The Fall Season of FPC has started. Are you involved? YOU can be a part of the exciting educational events that are planned. It was wonderful to see so many people in church Sunday.

Teachers were commissioned for Sunday School and Wednesday Night Live. Your presence is an important part of the life of the church. Want more information? Contact Kili Wenburg or Steph Brader.

The Pastor Nominating Committee was commissioned and are open to your comments and suggestions. All they ask is that you prayerfully consider the future mission our church family.

AND, I beg you to share your good news so our whole family can celebrate, too!

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).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

09/01	Geraldine Carlson	09/16	Teresa Canady
09/02	Mike Ziemba		Byron Jensen
09/03	Linda Petroff		Imee Robbins
09/04	Daveta Brader		Roger Schukei
	Tethloach Duang	09/17	Tim Canady
	Willis Horton		Karen Doerr
	Hilarie Redline		Kaden Grams
09/05	Septer Duang	09/19	Jeff Howard
	Dave Glass		Jerri Knapple
	Pat Ochsner	09/21	Lori Schroeder
09/06	Nyanhial Duang		Richard Viglicky
	Melissa Ferguson	09/22	Jim Hahne
	Ryan Kern		Jane Marsh
09/07	Joe Black		Jack Shardelow
	Mike Hogan	09/23	Laura Bishop
	Kim Schawang-Smith		Carol Grummert
09/08	Sharon Harvey		Neely Nuss
	Jordan Graviette	09/24	Matthew Karloff
	Constance Malloy	09/25	Shelby Rhodes
09/09	Matthew Brooks		Ted Schroeder
	Caroline Echternach	09/26	Heather Cassidy
	Mary Olsen	09/27	Burdetta Fricke
	Cheryl Schukei		Becky Maul
	Guy Stocks	09/29	Jane Johnson
09/10	Gary Anderson Jr	09/30	Addyson Hermes
09/12	Jane Foote		Phil Odom
	Thelma Venter		Ben Onken
09/13	Renee Thomsen		Carole Pedersen
09/14	Neal Hoff		Ron Telecky
	Kim Kern		Sheryl Telecky
	Dixie McDonald		Francis Vineyard
	Cheryl Wray		Braxton Wissing
09/15	Ronald Maul		
	Rick Waltemath Sr		

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Lofquist, Kraig & Laurie	09/01/2007
Black, Joe & Amy	09/03/2007
McCrary, Don & Leah	09/05/1953
Williams, Craig & JoAnn	09/05/1970
Meeske, Susan & Rhodes, Brady	09/05/2005
Swan, Norris & Joan	09/06/1952
Thomsen, Travis & Renee	09/13/2003
Bauer, Chuck & Jane	09/14/1980
Welton, Todd & Shannon	09/16/1989
Phelps, Bruce & Jodie	09/21/1989
Donohue, Jim & Linda	09/21/2002
Redline, Tim & Hilarie	09/22/2001
Pettit, Tracy & Susie	09/25/1982
Meyer, Mike & Becky	09/28/1991
Strasheim, Dwayne & Cindy	09/28/1991
Oliver, William & Susan	09/28/2002
Murphy, Jamison & Brittany	09/29/2012
Baldwin, Jim & Dawn	09/30/1989

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**First Presbyterian Church
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A publication of
First Presbyterian Church
621 North Lincoln Avenue
Hastings, NE

Transitional Pastor
Rev. Charles M. Webster

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.

***Home Page
will not be issued
next week.***

***The next edition
will be printed
Tuesday, September 8,
and assembly will be
Wednesday, September 9.
Volunteers are appreciated!***

Finance Corner

FPC recently submitted \$255 for Project Homeless Connect and \$65.75 for PCUSA Hunger Fund.

Every month FPC issues payment of \$291.67 to General Assembly, \$350.00 to Synod of Lakes & Prairies, and \$2,945.84 to Presbytery of Central Nebraska. These funds are greatly relied upon and appreciated by all!

Glory Be to God!