



The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 19.36 September 27, 2015

Dear Fellow Companions of the Way,

One of the more challenging stories Jesus told is often called the parable of “the laborers in the vineyard.” (*Matthew 20:1-16*) In this story, some of the workers feel they are “entitled” to more than others. We live in a society that feeds an entitlement attitude. The entitlement attitude says, “life owes me something,” or “people owe me something,” or “God owes me something.” But entitlement is a perversion of reality. There is nothing in the universe that says, “we deserve to live a long, happy, and successful life.”

Eliminating entitlement from your life and embracing gratitude is spiritually and psychologically liberating. Gratitude is the recognition that life owes me nothing and all the good I have is a gift by the grace of God. My life is a gift. So is my spouse, my clothes, my work and my every breath. Recognizing that everything good in life is ultimately a gift is a fundamental truth of reality. And seeing everything good we have as a gift leads us to the reality of a giver and the source of all goodness: God. Gratitude is where we begin to experience God in a powerfully personal way.

A children’s hymn, written in 1897, declares:

*Count your blessings, name them one by one,
Count your blessings, see what God hath done!
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you, what the Lord hath done!*

Count your blessings. Write them in a daily journal. Thank God, the source of all good, and grow closer to God in an authentic and joyful way.

Soli Deo Gloria!
Charlie
Charles Marshall Webster

COME JOIN US IN THE LIBRARY!

Our library is a great place to check out!

Book Club in the Library will be Thursday, October 1, 2015. Everyone is welcome! Please contact Alice Throckmorton with any questions. 402-463-3815

Coming Soon: Conversations That Matter

How do Christians dialogue about important, controversial matters of our time? How do we interpret the Bible for today? How do we act toward those with whom we disagree? What if we disagree with our church's position, locally or nationally?

The need to prayerfully, lovingly, intelligently engage these important questions has inspired our new adult Sunday morning series, Conversations That Matter.

Each week, a panel of individuals chosen for their lived experience, job experience, professional study, and more will explore a special topic. Please come support these courageous individuals as they share their stories, and bring with you an open mind and an open heart.

Conversations that Matter, October 4: Justice and Mercy

Fellowship Hall, 9:15-10:15.

Through scripture, we know that our God is both a God of justice and a God of mercy. How are Christians to balance these values, particularly with regard to the death penalty? Panelists exploring this question will be: Senator Les Seiler; Teresa Luther, district court judge; and Wayne Ganow, prison ministry volunteer.

October 4 is Hastings College Sunday. With an extra-festive worship service and special guest speakers during our Sunday School hour, this would be a great day to invite a friend or neighbor!!

Are You Missing the Forum on Sunday Mornings?

Though the name "Forum" has not been utilized in adult programming this fall, the spirit of the Forum is still alive and well. For a faith-based approach to modern questions and concerns, check out either of our Sunday morning adult classes, which take place in the Anderson Conference Room and the Parlor/Fellowship Hall.

Anderson Conference Room:

"Christianity's Family Tree," a DVD-based course exploring the differences between the various Christian denominations.

***Parlor:** "Change, Uncertainty, and the Peace that Passes all Understanding," a four-part series concluding this week with a presentation on the relationship between fear and change.*

Presbyterian Women (PW) Lesson

Leader Training

Those scheduled to lead their circle's Bible study during the October circle meetings are invited to attend a training session at 10:00 on Wednesday, October 14, in the church library. There, Kili Wenburg will provide leaders with additional information about the Bible passage to be studied, along with tips and suggestions for leading the lesson.

October 2015

Communion Servers - Team 3:

Dave Fisher	Lynette Krieger	Phil Odom
Kay Georgiana	Paul Krieger	Chris Schukei
Susan Hoff	Scott Kummer	Doug
Soderquist		

Kathleen Nelson

Ushers

Duane Huber	Clyde Sachtleben
Steve Illingworth	Dwayne Strasheim

Greeters

Oct. 4: Bonnie & Kenton Grams ~and~ Dawn & Jim Baldwin
Oct. 11: Martha & Bill Boyd ~and~ Willy & Scott Kummer
Oct. 18: Susy & Kenny Graham
Oct. 25: Karla & Monte Malouf

Welcome to Don Canady in his role as Interim Music Coordinator.

Hastings CROP Hunger Walk/5k Run

Sunday, October 18, 2015 @ 2:00 p.m.

**5k run - \$30 registration fee and forms due
by noon on 10/08/15 (t-shirt included)**

**Meet at Hazelrigg Student Union, 1003 E. 9th St.,
Hastings College**

Check in 30 minutes before start time.

To register or donate: www.cwsglobal.org

**Sponsored by Church Women United
Ending Hunger One Step at a Time**

***Jim Lewis will be presenting the Minute for Mission
on Kids Against Hunger on Sunday, September 27,
2015.***

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Come join us at 7:00am Wednesday mornings in the  
Parlor for Breakfast Bible Study. Everyone is welcome!  
~~~~~

Still Praying?

If you attended the Kick-Off Sunday informational
session in the Fellowship Hall, you may recall being
asked to pray for a certain Sunday School class and
their teachers. This is just a friendly reminder to pray for
them again (and again!). If you don't remember to
whom you were assigned, just choose any class(es) and
pray for them. Both our young people and our teachers
of those young people face challenges unique to our
modern life, and they need our prayers for energy,
creativity, wisdom, and strength. Thank you!!
~~~~~

**Taize Worship returns October 8**

Join us the second Thursday of each month at 7:00  
p.m. in the Chapel for a unique contemplative,  
prayerful, candlelit worship experience. You won't  
want to miss it!

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**Presbyterian Women salad luncheon** is Wednesday,  
October 7 at 11:45am in Fellowship Hall. Guest speaker  
is Amy Sandeen about Prairie Loft Home. Reservations  
are not required, all ladies are invited, no fee per person -  
just bring a salad!  
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**September 20<sup>th</sup> Home Page Congregational Lives  
announced the birth of James Owen as September 10<sup>th</sup>.  
This was in error and should have been September 11<sup>th</sup>.  
Our sincere apologies! Please don't hesitate to contact  
the office should you find any mistakes.**

**Congregational Lives**

September 20, 2015

Jo Seiler's husband is Senator Les Seiler,  
District 33 Legislator. Les works on public  
policy issues that affect our everyday Nebraska  
lives. Jo spends her time learning about our  
state Capitol and speaks to many groups about  
the historical features. Making the stories more  
personal, she is now creating her fourth full-size  
quilt, which portrays these historical features.  
The three quilts completed exhibit some of the  
details of the capitol that have been lovingly  
pieced together to tell a proud story of  
Nebraska.

November 7, 2015 is the date of the Veteran's  
Parade in downtown Hastings. We had such a  
great first year entry supporting our FPC  
veterans, I want to give you plenty of time to  
get this on your FAMILY calendar. What a  
wonderful way to teach children about our  
country and the sacrifices our veterans have  
made to ensure our continued freedom and  
independence. Children and adults can march  
in the parade carrying small flags or riding in  
wagons, or on bikes. Please contact Cindy at  
402.469.5357 if you want to help plan our FPC  
entry. Encourage your loved Veteran to sign up  
to ride on the van or to walk and carry a flag.

Congratulations to Annie Peterson and Tyler  
Maffitt who will be marrying on October 10,  
2015! Annie grew up in our church. She is the  
Director of Youth Ministries at Westminster  
Presbyterian Church, Munster, Indiana. She is  
the daughter of Kathy Gardner Duvall and Tim  
Peterson. Her brother and sister are Alex and  
Lara Peterson.

Congratulations to Kathy Gardner Duvall, who  
is entering the race for Mayor of Hastings. Her  
Facebook page is Kathy Duval for Mayor. Her  
husband is Jim Duvall, and her three children  
are Laura, Alex, and Annie. Good luck Kathy!

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

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

|              |                                                                            |              |                                                                       |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>10/02</b> | Dwight Marsh<br>Laura Kate Oliver                                          | <b>10/17</b> | Will Reimer                                                           |
| <b>10/03</b> | Luke Brooks<br>Karen Dielman<br>Jason Hafer                                | <b>10/18</b> | Tyler Adam<br>Cindy Fricke<br>Susan Hoff<br>Chris Schukei             |
| <b>10/05</b> | Jim Donohue<br>LeRoy Echternach                                            | <b>10/19</b> | Linda Hall<br>Bev Rader                                               |
| <b>10/06</b> | Vonda Essex<br>Emma Redinger                                               | <b>10/20</b> | Margaret Hermes<br>Robert Pankratz                                    |
| <b>10/07</b> | Steve Cropley<br>James Freetly<br>Virginia Johnson<br>Scott Snell          | <b>10/21</b> | Richard Johnson                                                       |
| <b>10/08</b> | Clark Ehrich<br>Elmer Heeren<br>Kris Horton<br>Sue Horton<br>Junko Jurgena | <b>10/22</b> | Justin Wenburg<br>Craig Williams<br>Nancy Ziemba<br>Zachary Henderson |
| <b>10/09</b> | Kathy Davis<br>Vicki Howard<br>Patty Kingsley                              | <b>10/23</b> | Paige Redline                                                         |
| <b>10/10</b> | Scott Kummer<br>Beckman Onken<br>Corrol Roach                              | <b>10/24</b> | Jeanne Reynolds<br>Ding Tut                                           |
| <b>10/11</b> | Roger Doerr<br>Jeff Hermann<br>Ben Ore<br>Lorna Zajack                     | <b>10/25</b> | Stella Thomsen                                                        |
| <b>10/13</b> | Janice Ham                                                                 | <b>10/26</b> | Craig Balnicke<br>Jane Pollak<br>Selah Wenburg                        |
| <b>10/14</b> | Nathan Jensen                                                              | <b>10/27</b> | Ruei Duang<br>Amy Hermes<br>Zeppa Kreager<br>Gladys Kuehn             |
| <b>10/15</b> | Lexi Dettwiller<br>Lucy Nielsen<br>Madalynn Redline                        | <b>10/28</b> | Mary Creigh<br>Matt Fong<br>Jami Shaw                                 |
| <b>10/16</b> | Nyabong Duang<br>Laura Sunderman<br>Carter Wenburg                         | <b>10/29</b> | LaVern Franzen<br>April Kaul<br>Tim Redline                           |
|              |                                                                            | <b>10/30</b> | Milrae Korb                                                           |
|              |                                                                            | <b>10/31</b> | Stephanie Brader                                                      |

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

|                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Johnson, Richard & Linda | 10/01/2005 |
| Knaub, Bryce & Sara      | 10/04/2014 |
| Storer, Denny & Carole   | 10/06/1962 |
| Redinger, Bill & Javae   | 10/11/1997 |
| Hermes, William & Amy    | 10/11/2003 |
| Junker, Kevin & Chris    | 10/12/1984 |
| Dielman, Kirk & Karen    | 10/12/1985 |
| Schukei, Roger & Cheryl  | 10/15/1966 |
| Ferguson, Nick & Melissa | 10/16/2004 |
| Fong, Matt & Kaleena     | 10/27/2007 |

## Interested in Global Mission?

**You are invited for dinner and program Friday night, October 16<sup>th</sup>** in Fellowship Hall, hosted by Pastor Emeritus Bill and Janie Nottage-Tacey and Transitional Pastor Charlie and Mimi Webster. Our guests will include Jan Dus, Executive Director of Diakonia, of our sister denomination the *Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren*. Current projects of Diakonia are Agriculture Development, Empowering Women, Humanitarian Aid and Social Service. **Come and bring your entire family** to hear what the Church is doing in Eastern Europe, East Africa, and Southeast Asia. **Save the date!** More information will be forthcoming.

## 2015 summer staff additions

As head of staff, I want members and friends to know how blessed First Presbyterian Church is with the additions of Tarci Matthews (Administrative Specialist), Stephanie Brader (Director of Children and Youth Education), Kili Wenburg (Director of Adult Education and Spiritual Formation), and Carlos Santos (Custodian). These four new staff members are excellent and offer the best in Christian ministry and service.

– Charles Marshall Webster

**Home Page**

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**The Home Page**

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](mailto:fpc@fpchastings.org) or call 402-462-5147.

***Volunteers Needed  
for  
Home Page Assembly***

***Every Tuesday  
at 9am***

***Email or call  
the office  
to confirm***

***Thank you!***