



The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 20.30 September 11, 2016

CANADY'S CHRONICLE

Kick-off Sunday took place three weeks ago. You heard Sunday (and in the Homepage from Kili and Stephanie) that many Christian Education activities have begun, but more will begin shortly. Activities for deepening our faith - whether it be the beginning faith of our children, or the growing faith of adults. All of that will be nothing if you are not here to receive what is offered.

There is an unbelievable spirit that is filling this congregation, and yet more people could be reaping the benefits. We have approximately 110 students, Pre-K through 12th grade on our Sunday School list. We have hundreds more adults that could be taking advantage of the growth opportunities offered.

Yes, I know all the excuses that are offered for, "why I can't be there." But if we are committed to our faith and to a strong relationship with our God through Jesus Christ, then we need to be here. Oh, I have heard it before: "I can believe in God and not be in church on Sunday." Yes, you can, but can you be a Christian? I believe that Christianity is to be lived in community and in fellowship with others. What is the first thing Jesus did? He chose a group of followers to be with him.

As members of First Presbyterian Church, you have been called by Jesus to be part of his group. Remember he said, "you did not choose me, I chose you." Be part of this spirit filled church and allow your personal relationship with God to be strengthened beyond your imagination.

-Pastor Don Canady

"Signs of Hope in Hope-Challenged Times, Ancient and Modern"

News abounds with the hopeless: wars, terror attacks, climate change, and political turmoil. We need encouragement and reminders about the true and indomitable Source of our hope as people of faith. Join us at The Forum for an hour of thoughtful exploration of signs of hope. *September 11, 9:15-10:15 in the Fellowship Hall. Led by Kili Wenburg.*

"Happy Hour Book Club"--A new and fun adult opportunity!

- Meeting the last Thursday of each month, 5:15-6:45ish, at various establishments in the community.
- It's an opportunity to combine reading, learning, discussing, and enjoying a favorite beverage with friends!
- This is a perfect "invite-a-friend" outreach opportunity for our church! Meeting "off-campus" will make non-Presbyterians feel comfortable.
- The books chosen for this group will draw upon and expand the topics covered in other educational venues of our church.
- *First session will be Thursday, September 29. Watch for details coming soon!!*

What does it mean to "Live the Questions"?

In a world that is increasingly polarized, the love and curiosity behind authentic questions may be the only way to peace. When we "live the questions," we live in a way that is humble, open to new ideas, willing to accept the legitimacy of another's viewpoint, and motivated by the desire for continual personal and communal growth.

This fall, all are invited to consider how to "live the questions" rather than "force the answers" by joining in discussion and reflection with the Bible@Breakfast group on Wednesday mornings at 7 a.m. Breakfast will be provided. Discussion of the book *Living the Questions: The Wisdom of Progressive Christianity* by David Felten and Jeff Procter-Murphy will begin on September 14. The book includes commentary from bestselling authors Diana Butler Bass, John Shelby Spong, Marcus Borg, John Dominic Crossan, Brian McLaren, and others.

Order your copy of the book from your favorite book seller, or contact Kili for assistance in obtaining a copy. *Please note: The church library will soon possess a copy of the book, which all are invited to read while at the library. The library's copy will not be available for checkout until after the Bible@Breakfast group finishes their discussion of it.

We are now taking orders for "FREE HUGS" T-shirts

The shirts have a vintage red background with cream-colored print displaying "FREE HUGS" on the front and "First Presbyterian Church" on the back. Cost will be \$7-9, depending on number of shirts ordered (+\$2 for XXL and XXXL).

*Anyone is welcome to order one of these shirts.

*The shirts were envisioned and designed especially for use during college outreach events, but can be worn whenever one feels the need to spread some First Presbyterian warmth in the community!

Hands Around the World Store is open Sundays, 9-noon. Feel free to browse the fine selection of fair trade coffee, chocolate, textiles and jewelry. Items come from nonprofit, fair trade organizations dedicated to lifting disadvantaged artisans and farmers and their families out of poverty. Your purchases make a difference!

A new mission connection with SASA Crisis Center

Our local SASA (Spousal Abuse and Sexual Assault) Crisis Center has asked for our help in maintaining their newly remodeled donation room. The new space is brighter, more spacious, and provides a more distinguished "boutique" atmosphere for the women they serve. Volunteer responsibilities would include sorting through the week's donations and deciding what to keep, what to pitch, and checking the racks to maintain appropriate and seasonal inventory.

Volunteers would work in pairs for about two hours per time. First Presbyterian church has committed to providing a pair of volunteers to work their shift at some point during the 3rd week of each month, beginning in October. Depending on how many volunteers step forward, individuals may work only 2-3 shifts per year. All volunteers must attend a training session. Trainings are currently scheduled for Sun, Sep 18 at 1pm; Wed, Sep 21 at 10am; and Thur, Sep 29 at 2pm.

***Please contact Kili to sign up for one of the trainings.*

Did You Know?

Kili Wenburg is available for one-on-one spiritual direction appointments at no cost to church members and friends. These 45-minute sessions provide the perfect space for looking more deeply and intentionally into one's life and faith journey. A spiritual director can help you identify where God is leading in your life and can make suggestions for prayer practices, spiritual disciplines, and scriptural readings tailored to each situation and need.

*This is a great way to take that "next step" in your spiritual growth!

Appointments can be scheduled during Kili's regular office hours (Mon-Tue-Thur, 10-3) or at other mutually agreed-upon times.



Because the July 5 **Red Cross blood drive** far exceeded its goal, First Presbyterian Church is being recognized on the Red Cross Sponsor Spotlight. Thank you to all of the donors and volunteers who make these drives a success. If you haven't been to one of our drives, please stop in and check it out!

Our next blood drive is October 13 from noon to 6pm. If you would like to donate or volunteer, contact Erica Brooks at ericalynn128@gmail.com or [402-469-9285](tel:402-469-9285). You can also make an appointment to donate at redcrossblood.org. Your donation makes a difference!

Celebrating a Successful Inaugural United Harvest Distribution!

On Saturday, August 27, around 45 volunteers from FPC and from 1st United Methodist Church joined together at 10:30 am to unload 6,000 pounds of fresh, frozen, and canned food, which had just arrived at the Annex from Omaha's Food Bank for the Heartland. The volunteers had everything unloaded and organized in about 45 minutes, then gathered for training and prayer for the day, for the project, for the volunteers, and for the recipients of the food. Food recipients began arriving long before the stated distribution time of 12:30-2:30 p.m., so they were given a number and encouraged to come back at 12:30. A steady stream of folks flowed through the Annex from 12:30-2:15, at which time the very last bit of food was given out. Around 200 individuals and families signed in to receive, representing over 500 individuals served. Both volunteers and recipients deemed the day a rousing success!



A mobile pantry is a traveling food pantry that delivers food directly to families in need for a one-day distribution.

The goal is to provide food where there is a high need but limited resources.

The mobile pantry is available to you free of charge!

MOBILE PANTRY

HELPING MEET YOUR FAMILY'S NEEDS

Date: Saturday, September 24th

Time: 9:30am-11:30am

Location: Annex Building

Between the First United Methodist Church and First Presbyterian Church

Hastings Ave and 7th Street in Hastings, NE

Contact: (402)-440-6241

Instructions: Please bring boxes or bags to carry food



This institution is an equal opportunity provider



FOODBANK
FOR THE HEARTLAND

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Help us create a living scrapbook display celebrating
the past, present & future of
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Pictures needed:

- Veterans who are or were church members.
- Vacation Bible School pictures - from any year!
- Weddings held at the church.

Our hope is to glorify
GOD whose enduring love
has strengthened and inspired
people of this church since 1873.

2 ways to share your photos!

1. e-mail pictures to:
memorywall2016@gmail.com

2. call Colleen Schukei
(402)984-1315.

Colleen would LOVE to make
a digital copy of your treasured memory.

She has a portable scanner and will come to your house!

We plan

to have a living scrapbook wall with evolving displays to highlight
the rich history of this church and today's vibrant church life.

We are repurposing found objects and using upcycled vintage frames along with purchasing a digital picture frame to allow for slideshows and announcements. If you're interested in contributing in any way, you are most welcome! Please contact Colleen at (402) 984-1315.

Big Announcement About Worship on September 18

We are taking our worship service on the road on September 18!

Our regular, 10:30 Sunday morning worship service will be held in French Memorial Chapel on the Hastings College campus on September 18.

This is a new adventure for us and is the brainchild of a special summer discernment group, which focused on enhancing our college ministry efforts.

Please note: Sunday School WILL still be held on September 18 but will dismiss at 10:00 a.m. to allow time for transitioning to Hastings College for worship.

Transportation: All are encouraged to car pool as able! Additionally, "door-to-door" transportation will be available for anyone who would like it. If you would like a ride to Hastings College, please come to the Memorial Room entryway at 10:00, and a driver will be assigned to you who will drop you off at the French Chapel door.

Congregational Lives

Congratulations to Virginia Johnson and Brad Davis for their recent marriage!

“Thank you for the continuing ministry from my congregation. The visits by Pastor Don, communion with the deacons, delivered altar flowers and courtesies from PW Circle 3 sisters are appreciated.” --*Lillian Baumann and Family*

Correction September 11 greeters: Stan and Chanda Essink, Vonda Essex

PW (**Presbyterian Women**) will resume **meetings** this fall on September 7 at 11:45am. Circle 3 will prepare the lunch and Circle 1 is responsible for setting tables and preparing devotions and name tags. Kili Wenburg will present the program giving us an introduction to this year's Bible study, "Who is Jesus?" All women of the church are invited to attend. (The executive committee will meet at 10:30am in the library.)

Other opportunities in September include: Circle meetings on September 21 and Presbytery Fall Gathering in Atkinson on September 22 or Beaver City on September 24. Kili will be the speaker at both locations.

Need a ride to church on Sundays? Request a ride by calling the church office or Deacon Moderator Jan Ham at 402-301-9081.

The radio broadcast airs Sunday @ 10:30a.m. during service on KICS 1550 AM.

Sunday's service will be broadcast on Channel 181 Tuesday, 1:00 p.m., and Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

For those living at Good Samaritan Village, Sunday's service will be broadcast on Channel 3 on Sunday at 12:00 noon and on Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.

Please pray for members of our PNC: Jim Duval, Chad Murrell, Mike Karloff, Joan Shaw, Chris Junker, Pam Lay and Jeni Howard.

**Sunday,
September 18, 2016
Service @ Hastings College**

9:15 Sunday School
(All Ages Welcome!)

10:30 Worship
Pastor Don Canady,
Damen Heitmann

Committee News

Report from special summer discernment group #1: *Taize Worship*

Three special summer discernment groups were convened this summer, each with its own mandate. The first group's challenge was to determine the future of FPC's Taize worship services. The decisions listed below were arrived at after hours spent in careful and thoughtful discussion by the following prayerful individuals: Don Canady, Alice Throckmorton, Byron Jensen, Teresa Luther, Kili Wenburg, and Mary Plock.

- Taize services will continue to be held at FPC.
- Services will be held the first Sunday evening of each month, 7pm, in the Parlor.
- Taize song books will be purchased.
- Services will be planned and led by a variety of individuals.
- Special effort will be made to promote and plan the services in the spirit of the Taize community's core values: simplicity, reconciliation, ecumenism, and peace.

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) will be giving a report during 10:30a.m. Worship Service on Sunday, September 11. Please join us!

MINUTES OF A STATED MEETING OF SESSION FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HASTINGS, NEBRASKA August 25, 2016

Members of the Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska, held their regular meeting on August 25, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Elders in attendance: P= Present E=Excused A=Absent

Class of 2016

Class of 2017

Class of 2018

P - Matt Fong

P - Chris Junker

P- Sharon Brooks

P - Kim Hermann

E - Erik Nielsen

E - Kay Georgiana

P - Susan Hoff

P - Tim Redline

P - Harold Korb

P - Al Meyer

P - Mary Olsen

P - Kraig Lofquist

P - Clerk: Karen Doerr

Moderator was Rev. Don Canady. Guests included David Johnson and members of the PNC: Chris Junker, Jeni Howard, Mike Karloff, Chad Murrell and Joan Shaw. Sharon Brooks opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer.

Consent Agenda: Motion and a second to approve the consent Agenda. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

Board Reports:

Deacons: No action items to bring forward.

Trustees: No action items to bring forward.

Foundation: No action items to bring forward.

Motion and a second to approve these Board Reports. Upon a voice vote, the reports are adopted.

Personnel: Personnel Board has reviewed and updated the Personnel Policies of FPC. Upon a recommendation by the board and a voice vote, these policies are adopted.

Clerk's Report: Motion and a second to accept the request for transfer for Dwayne and Cindy Strasheim to Trinity Presbyterian Church in Bixby, OK. Upon a voice vote, motion carried. Motion and a second to accept the resignation of Ashley Ehrich as organist. Upon a voice vote, motion carried. Letters of thanks were received from Revive Ministries and Head Start for donations.

Reports from Committees of Session:

PNC: Presented the Ministry Information Form (MIF) for consideration and approval. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

Christian Education: Presented the revised Child Protection Policy for review and approval. Upon a voice vote, policy is adopted.

Communication/Technology: Is in the process of purchasing a new video projector for Fellowship Hall at a cost of \$4,392. Funds from the Langenberg Fund will be used for this purchase.

Congregational Life: No action items to bring forward.

Global Mission/Social Witness: No action items to bring forward.

Memorial: .No action items.

Worship, Arts & Music: Requested funds of \$500 to pay for the performance of the Bel Forte quartet. Upon a voice vote, motion carried. Recommendation from committee to hold worship services on September 18, 2016 to French Memorial Chapel on the campus of Hastings College. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

Request for a baptism of Tenley Sue Hermann, daughter of Jeff and Ashley Hermann on September 25, 2016. Motion (by grandmother, Kim Hermann) and a second, upon a voice vote, motion carried.

Request for a wedding of Kelly Junker and Taylor Swanson on December 17, 2016. Motion (by mother-of-the-bride Chris Junker) and a second, upon a voice vote, motion carried.

Scholarship: Did not meet.

Annex sub-committee: Committee met three times to discuss the future uses for the Annex. After hearing the report, Session recommends the committee continue to meet, to talk with Dave Fisher regarding the buying/selling of potential tax credits and further investigating what a historical designation requires and/or obligates the owner of such a designated building to do.

Motion and a second to accept reports of the Committees of Session. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

Moderator's Report: Communion was provided to the Congregation on July 3, and August 7, 2016 at the 10:30 AM worship service.

Committee on Ministry is to pay its required visit to Session in September. Session will be asked to answer a series of questions prior to the meeting.

New member inquirers, Paul and Ruth Caldwell and Tarah Sorenson will be accepted by transfer and Gary & Emily Johnson, Neal Riley, Ben and Jenni Welsch and Erin Gastermann and Junior Messinger will be asked to attend a New Members Class.

David Johnson, a student at Dubuque Seminary, and under care of FPC, reported on his studies. He will graduate with his Masters in Divinity next year.

Zach Spurgeon, also under care of FPC, has started classes at Dubuque Seminary. Suggestions on how FPC could help financially will be investigated.

Review of the Manual of Operations and the Church By-laws will be tabled until the September meeting.

Session will hold its next stated meeting on September 22, 2016 beginning at 5:30 PM in the Anderson Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted:

Karen G. Doerr, Clerk of Session

Home Page
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The Home Page

A publication of
First Presbyterian Church
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Temporary Supply Pastor: Don Canady

Publishing Guidelines: The *Home Page* is a weekly publication (bi-weekly June & July) 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 by Friday of each week. Submissions may be edited for length and suitability. You may send articles to the church office: tarci@fpchastings.org or call 402-462-5147.

Financial Corner

August 28, 2016

10:30 Worship Attendance	193
General Fund	\$2,680.00
Plate Collections	\$31.00
PC(USA) Hunger Fund	\$33.87
CE Sunday School	\$1.15
Communion-WNL	\$10.00
Food Pantry	\$2.00
Annex Building Use	\$25.00

Thanks be to God!