



# The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175  
Vol. 19.23 June 7, 2015

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*Dear Fellow Companions of the Way,*

This Sunday, June 7th, we welcome as guest preacher, the Rev. Carol Howard Merritt. The award-winning author of *Tribal Church: Ministering to the Missing Generation* and *Reframing Hope: Vital Ministry in a New Generation*, Carol is a frequent contributor to books, websites, magazines, and journals. She is a regular columnist at the *Christian Century*, where her blog, "Tribal Church," is hosted. Carol offers theological wisdom and fresh sociological insight, and is known for serving Presbyterian (USA) churches, especially those with a deep commitment to serving the poor and disenfranchised. Please join me in welcoming Carol to First Presbyterian Church.

June 1-5, our church facilities have been alive with children attending Vacation Bible School. Thanks be to God for our outstanding VBS staff and for the children!

June 6, our **Go and Serve team** leaves for South Dakota with our prayers. Please see information on page two.

The Church Nominating Committee is meeting weekly and seeking congregational input on members for the **Pastor Nominating Committee**. The Church Nominating Committee consists of: Karen Doerr (Moderator), Doug Soderquist (Trustee Rep), Sharon Brooks (Deacon Rep), Al Meyer (Session Rep); Jon Bohlke, Martha Boyd, Richard Johnson, Morgan Karloff, Danna Wolford (At-Large Members); and Charles M. Webster (Ex-officio).

Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> will be "Worship in the Park." Please see information on page three.

Soli Deo Gloria!

**Charlie**

Charles Marshall Webster

**Complacent people see nothing wrong.  
Critical people see everything wrong.  
Creative people find solutions for which is wrong.  
Which kind of person is God calling you to be?**

Within the last two weeks, the Church has received \$560 for Pentecost Offering, thank you!

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This year our *Go and Serve* trip is to Pine Ridge, SD from June 6<sup>th</sup> returning the 13<sup>th</sup> where we will be building hard structures for the Lakota Sioux. Along the way we hope to see Mount Rushmore as we travel to stay with Westminster Presbyterian in Rapid City Saturday night, and worship with them Sunday morning. After our week of service we plan to cool off rafting down the Niobrara River, returning late June 13<sup>th</sup>. Our report to the congregation will be Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>.

Our service team includes 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. Our adult advisors are Rev. Berke Landrum, trip leader, Kevin Junker, Constance Malloy, Becky Meyer and Tammie Nowka.

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**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN SUMMER BOOK CLUB**

*HOW TO READ THE BIBLE AND STILL BE A CHRISTIAN: STRUGGLING WITH DIVINE VIOLENCE FROM GENESIS THROUGH REVELATION,*

by John Dominic Crossan

June 3 – July 8 Wednesdays at 12:00 in the **Parlor**  
(feel free to bring a sack lunch)

Facilitators: John Harrington and Charlie Webster

Come join us as we explore this exciting, provocative, and inspirational book!

\*NOTE -- The book can be purchased now with a 10% discount if you mention it's for the FPC summer book club, at Prairie Books & Gifts in downtown Hastings.

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This Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> – ***Summer Choir begins***. 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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A summer series of ***GriefShare*** will be held on Tuesday afternoons (2:00 p.m.) beginning June 2nd at the Community Center of Good Samaritan Village. Those who have lost a loved one are invited.

## HORIZONS BIBLE STUDY

All women are invited to a Horizons Bible Study, Reconciling Paul, lesson 10 on Wednesday, June 10 at 9:30 at the church, led by Mimi Webster of Circle 1.

Please take this opportunity to conclude the PW yearly bible study. We have a special invitation to those who would like to join us for a first time and “share the fellowship.” The Sole Hope shoe cutting will conveniently follow the bible study.

## SOLE HOPE Shoe Cutting Party

You are invited to do a mission project to offer more Hope, healthier lives and freedom from foot-related diseases in Uganda, Africa.

June 10 at 10:30 at the church we will have a cutting party. Denim has been donated from a previous cutting session. Bring your scissors, we will cut shoes out of denim and send them with a donation to a cobbler who will construct the shoes with soles made from tires. Leah Ratzlaff is our organizer and guide for this fun and easy party for mission.

Bring a friend and your sack lunch.

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## “Worship in the Park”

Service on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, will be held regular time 10:30 a.m. in the Alexander Park. Following service, all members and friends of the congregation are invited to join together for a meal in Fellowship Hall. Tickets for Custom Pack pulled pork sandwiches may be purchased this Sunday in Memorial Room and through next Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> from the Church Office for \$2.50 each. Committee will be providing baked beans and beverages; attending members are asked to bring a salad, side or dessert. We look forward to seeing you there.

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For Father's Day this year the Presbyterian Women will be taking donations In Memory of/In Honor of Father's for *Living Waters For the World*. You may make donations Sunday mornings before or after church starting May 31<sup>st</sup> OR in the church office during the week.

Website: [www.livingwatersfortheworld.org](http://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org)

## The Presbyterian Church (USA) and the death penalty

The decision of the Nebraska legislature to abolish capital punishment is fully supported by actions of the PC(USA) General Assembly. Statements of the Church include: “Believing that capital punishment cannot be condoned by an interpretation of the Bible based upon the revelation of God’s love in Jesus Christ, the Church calls on Christians to ‘seek the redemption of evil doers and not their death,’ and noted that ‘the use of the death penalty tends to brutalize the society that condones it.’” “In short, the Presbyterian Church has held a long-standing belief that capital punishment is wrong because it is contrary to God’s plan for humanity, it cheapens the value of human life, and it is not an effective way to reduce crime and violence.” – CMW

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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.