



The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 19.35 September 20, 2015

Dear Fellow Companions of the Way,

- 1) This Sunday, September 20, we will be commissioning our 2015-16 church musicians, choral and instrumental, at 10:30 worship. Please be with us. The morning's sermon topic will be "The Dynamics of Christian Worship."
- 2) God is calling – but it may be the Church Nominating Committee on the telephone this autumn. We believe ruling elders, deacons, and trustees are called to serve by God, and this call is to be discerned by both the nominee and the body of Christ, represented by the Church Nominating Committee. The Committee represents the entire congregation, so representatives are elected to represent the Session, the Deacons, the Trustees, and other members of the congregation, often referred to as "at-large" members. (No, *elders* do not have to be elderly and "*at-large*" members do not have to be...well, large). The Church Nominating Committee does not choose officers. Prayer is the first task, and I do pray that you will assist the Committee in suggesting persons who have the gifts to lead.
The 2015 Church Nominating Committee includes: Karen Doerr, moderator; Al Meyer, Sharon Brooks, Doug Soderquist, Jon Bohlke, Martha Boyd, Richard Johnson, Morgan Karloff, Danna Wolford, and Charlie Webster, ex-officio without vote. I look for persons who are fully committed to Christ and his Church, who are compassionate and competent.
- 3) The *Book of Order* of the Presbyterian Church (USA) declares, "A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and *promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church.*"(G-1.0304). Have you found your ministry at First Presbyterian Church? Some people have had jobs in the church, and others are involved in a ministry. There is a difference! If you are doing it because no one else will, it's a job. If you are doing it to serve God, it's a ministry. If you are doing it well enough to get by, it's a job. If you are doing it to the best of your ability, it's a ministry. If you are doing it only so long as it doesn't interfere with other activities, it's a job. If you are committed to staying with it even when it means letting go of other things, it's a ministry.

If you quit because no one praised you or thanked you, it was a job. If you stay with it even though no one seems to notice, it's a ministry. If you did it because someone else said it needs to be done, it's a job. If you do it because you are convinced it needs to be done, it's a ministry. It is hard to get excited about a job. It is almost impossible not to be excited about a ministry. If your concern is "success," it's a job. If your concern is about "faithfulness," it's a ministry.

People may say, "well done" when you do your job. The Lord will say, "well done good and faithful servant" when you complete your ministry. Many churches are filled with people doing jobs. Great churches are filled with people involved in ministry.

If God calls you to a ministry, do not treat it like a job. If you have a job in the church, give it up and find a ministry. God does not want us feeling stuck in a job, but rather excited and faithful in a ministry.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Charlie

Charles Marshall Webster

Adult Sunday Morning Class plus

Adult Sunday School for Adults

1. *"Christianity's Family Tree"* at 9:15 in Anderson Conference Room.
2. *"Change, Uncertainty, and the Peace that Passes all Understanding"* at 9:15 in the Parlor.

Adopt-a-Student Kick-Off Picnic

If you signed up to adopt or to be adopted through this college outreach program, please join us for a casual potluck picnic at 6:00 on Saturday, September 19, at Chris and Colleen Schukei's house. If you have not signed up yet but are still interested in participating, you are welcome! Just call Kili at the church office to RSVP.

Wednesday Night Live Coffee Shop for Grown-Ups: Sep 23

Outside of choir practice and family meals, Wednesday Night Live (WNL) does not currently include regular adult programming. Once in a while, though, adults will be invited to not just drop off their kids and leave but to stick around for special events and projects. The first of these will be September 23 in the church parlor. Stop by that night from 4-6 and/or from 6:45-8:15 for casual conversation, light refreshments, and a comfortable place to relax with friends. You need not have kids involved in WNL to attend. All adults are welcome! Bring a friend!

Fair Trade-focused Adult Mission/Learning Trip to Nicaragua

Twelve Presbyterians from across the U.S. will travel together to Nicaragua January 23-30, 2016, to experience the benefits of Fair Trade first-hand, and you could be one of them! The trip will include meeting Fair Trade farmers and artisans, picking coffee and staying in the homes of farming families, meeting the women who sew sweat-free T-shirts, and generally deepening in knowledge of and

commitment to global discipleship. Applications are being accepted now through October

23. Contact Kili in the church office for an application.

Kili Wenburg, Director of Adult Education and Spiritual Formation, can be found in her office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 3:15 p.m. She would love to meet with you and work with you to find ways of encouraging adults in our congregation to continue to learn about and grow in their faith. Stop in sometime and say hello!

Links to the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Syrian refugee crisis may be found at
<http://pda.pcusa.org/situation/syria>



In Memoriam

Thelma Lorraine Venter, 9/12/1925 – 09/10/2015



Film and Lecture at Hastings College as Part of Hispanic Heritage Month

The community is invited to a free showing of the feature film *No Turning Back*, a thought-provoking look at immigration inspired by actual events. Jesus Nebot, who wrote, directed, produced, and starred in the film will be present for a short lecture and Q&A session after the screening. Friday, September 18, 6:30-9:00 p.m. at the Hastings College chapel.

Vicki Howard delivered to the Food Bank 5 bags with 28 items total last week.

New coffee is arriving in Hands Around the World (HAW) this week! Stop by and browse new teas, spices, honey, and jam. We are also now taking orders from the new Fall SERRV catalog, which includes several holiday items, and new chocolate bars will arrive in October when it is cooler.

Are you looking for a small gift to go along with sweet words of gratitude for someone's help or dedication? Let one of the members from HAW help you make a personal selection!

Paula Crosier will be joining the HAW team of Pamela

Congregational Lives

September 13, 2015

Welcome to James Owen, son of Kevin Ellerbee and Myste Shryack, born on Thursday, September 10, 2015. Proud grandparents are Linda and Richard Johnson.

Charlie Sue Stout, daughter of Lyndsey and Ethan Stout, was baptized into the life of First Presbyterian Church, September 13, 2015. We have pledged to be her brothers and sisters in Christ, what an awesome opportunity!

Lydia Meyer, a Hastings High school senior whose group, Sunny D's, teaches fellow students how to reduce their risk of getting HIV/AIDS, testified in Lincoln at a legislative hearing last Thursday. This hearing was part of the legislative study to examine "the integral link between academic achievement and risky health behaviors" as well as strategies to address those behaviors, including comprehensive sex education in schools. Chris Junker is Sunny D's Coordinator, and State of Nebraska HIV Prevention Coordinator. (side-note: Been there, done that in MO, 1971) Great Leadership Lydia!

Libby Knapple, Hastings High School Senior, scored her 26th career home run, which ties the Class B state record. Libby is the daughter of Jeri and Fred Knapple.

U.S. Marine Corp 1st Lt. Kaitlin Kleiber, granddaughter of Pat and Dick Kleiber of Hastings, recently completed a three-week naval exercise, Talisman Sabre 15, aboard the USN Blue Ridge and is headed back to home base in Okinawa.

Tim Johnson is the Warehouse Supervisor at Eakes Office Products and is happy to share that he is Cancer CLEAR! Congratulations Tim!!

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).

Lainson, Susie Graham, Denny Storer, Mary Lewis, and Cindy Strasheim. Welcome Paula!

Home Page
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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.

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

***Every Tuesday
at 9am***

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

Thank you!