



The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 20.29 September 4, 2016

Have you read your message today?

Merriam-Webster's simple definition of "message" is: a piece of information that is sent or given to someone. What does that message look like to you? Is it a text, a message left on your answering machine, an email or letter from your loved one, or maybe even a Facebook friend request?

As I sit and write this article, I am reminded of a doctor I worked for several years ago. Either upon arriving at the office or when calling in, he would always ask, "Did I or do I have any telephone calls, flowers, or messages?" I often had messages from telephone calls to him. Not once in the 6 years working with him was I privileged enough to pass over a beautiful, flower-bouquet message.

This past Sunday, on behalf of the members of our church, I was allowed to present each child/youth in grades Kindergarten, 3rd, and 8th with his/her own Bible. I can honestly say that this was the best message I have ever delivered! Each Bible was selected with respect to each of the child/youth's general level of biblical learning and understanding.

Each Kindergartner received a *Spark Story Bible*. Designed for early readers, the *Spark Story Bible* opens up God's Word to kids through colorful art and rich retellings of 150 of the most popular Bible stories. This Bible uses creative language familiar to kids and features activity suggestions and questions to help kids connect with the stories.

Our 3rd Graders were presented with the *CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible*. This interactive Bible offers four-color icons and illustrations throughout with a wealth of notes, devotionals, Bible trivia, and other interactive elements. The *CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible* joins readers with three life-like kids in discovering the Bible and what it means to their lives.

NIV Study Bibles were given to the 8th Graders. This NIV Study Bible features a four-color interior with full-color photographs, maps, charts, and illustrations. It contains full text of the New International Version (NIV) with study notes. Introductions and outlines provide valuable background information for each book of the Bible. The in-text maps, charts, diagrams, and illustrations help to visually clarify the stories in the Bible.

It is important to remember that no matter what translation of the Bible one prefers to read, the message is the same. The Bible teaches us how to live our life, comforts us in our times of need, helps us to know who God is, and gives us some insight on our future both here on earth and in heaven.

Most importantly, take time each day to read your message and let it be a lamp to your feet and a light to your path!

----Stephanie Brader, Director of Education for Children & Youth

Taize Worship Returns September 4 with New Schedule

Bring a friend** and join us the ***first Sunday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Parlor!

*Taize service on September 4 will be led by Rev. Dr. David McCarthy, who has made many trips to the Taize Community in France and who deeply loves and understands this unique worship style.

*This is a "can't miss" opportunity to experience Taize worship in an authentic way!

Taize Testimonial: "Do you ever notice that it never seems quite enough to pray during Sunday morning worship? Taize services are a time for prayer and chant-like music--but the setting is more muted and personal. Without a doubt, our devotional time for reflection during a Taize service seems deeper. For me, these prayers to God can feel somewhat ethereal, yet more purposeful and connected to the Almighty." --Byron Jensen

Sunday School classes for all ages are cancelled for September 4.

Have a happy Labor Day weekend!

"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.

How would you describe "progressive Christianity"?

We hear a lot about "conservative"; "fundamental"; or "liberal" Christianity....but what about "progressive" Christianity? Invite a friend and come learn, discuss, and stretch your ideas while discussing the book *Living the Questions: The Wisdom of Progressive Christianity* with the **Bible@Breakfast** group.

*Every Wednesday morning at 7 am in the Parlor, beginning Sep 14.*Order your book now! (Or contact Kili for assistance with obtaining a copy.)

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!

"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!!*

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.

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!

September Communion Offering will go to our local Habitat for Humanity chapter. The offering will be received this Sunday--September 4--following a Minute for Mission by Rich Reimer.

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!

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!

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.

“Calvin/Westminster Ringers, grades 6-12, is open to students who have some ability to read music. We rehearse on the Sunday mornings at 8:45 when there isn't a Celebrate Service--so about twice a month. Our first rehearsal is September 4th. I know this is Labor Day weekend, but I need to start sometime. Contact me at bjensen@hastings.edu if your child will be participating this year in Calvin/Westminster Bells. Thank you.” -- *Byron Jensen*

CHANCEL CHOIR rehearsal will begin at 6:45 on September 7 (the Wednesday AFTER Labor Day).

Congregational Lives

Rev Bill and Janey are the proud grandparents of a grandson born Aug. 16 at 2:50 PM. He was 9 lbs., 2 oz., and 21.5 in. long. Nathaniel and Janeen Tacey are the proud parents. They named him **Imre Von Tacey**. (“Imre” is Hungarian and translates to *strength*; “Von” is Norse and translates to *hope*.)

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.

COMMUNION SERVERS, SEPTEMBER 4 – TEAM 4

Dick Brader, Jan Ham, Jeanne Hastings, Mark Hemje, Kraig Lofquist, Dick McKenzie, Jane Pollack, Katherine Sachtleben, Ted Schroeder, Lori Schroeder, Alice Throckmorton, Kili Wenburg, May Wierenga.

SEPTEMBER USHERS

LaVerne Franzen	Mike Hogan	Doug Soderquist
Chuck Hastings-Captain	Monte Malouf	Roger Sunderman
Jim Hoffman		

SEPTEMBER GREETERS

Sept 4	Wayne and Elaine Specht
Sept 11	Stan and Chanda Essink, Vonda Essink
Sept 18	Christian and Sarah Fruehling
Sept 25	Todd Pankratz and Jessica Meeske

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SEPTEMBER

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY SEPTEMBER

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

The office will be closed Monday, September 5. Have a happy and safe Labor Day weekend.

"It feels like an eternity since I got to see you all last. Given how often some of us made church this summer, there may be quite a bit of truth to that! First off, Jesus loves you and so do I. Never forget that. We're settled if not entirely unpacked and the kids have taken a shine to the area. Becky sends all her love and I'm not supposed to say anything so don't put this on Facebook (like I even have to say that to some of you senior saints) but Anah's not going to be the youngest for very much longer. Don't tell Becky I told you or I'll catch it for sure!

I miss you already, but Logan's our next door neighbor so life's not all bad. Hate the humidity, bugs are the size of house cats and the first congregation we visited us was very warm, welcoming and responsive throughout the ENTIRE service. Can't even begin to explain how much that threw me off my game. For a minute I was panicking, looking for the exit from this obviously evangelical church, until the organ played and I remembered where I was. One thing's for sure though, I am gonna miss the level of musical excellence that you all enjoy every Sunday. I love you, I miss you, Borg is a terrible theologian, and GO BIG RED. --Your humble servant, *Zach (Spurgeon)*"

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.

Committee News

From the Mission Committee: *Thank you for supporting communion offerings!*

In August, our communion offering was received in support of the Wednesday Night Live (WNL) program. This communion offering recipient was chosen by the Mission Committee because we believe that it was a very "*missional*" move for the Christian Education Committee to decide to make WNL a totally fee-free program. While more expensive for our church budget, this change allows children much more freedom not only to participate in the program but also to invite their friends! *Way to go CE Committee! Thank you, Congregation, for supporting this mission-oriented change!!*

****September's Communion Offering will go to Habitat for Humanity.**

"When working with your attorney to update your **will and estate plan**, please consider including a gift to the First Presbyterian Church Foundation that will enhance the work of this congregation for many years to come. Our Federal Identification Number is 47-0710307."

--Roger Doerr, Moderator of the Foundation

**Sunday,
September 11, 2016**

8:30 Worship
With Celebrate Band

9:15 Sunday School
CE Youth Training

Adult Forum
(All Ages Welcome!)

10:30 Worship
Pastor Don Canady

Home Page
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The Home Page

A publication of
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621 N. Lincoln Ave.
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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 21, 2016

10:30 Worship Attendance	178
General Fund	\$11,111.75
Plate Collections	\$151.00
PC(USA) Hunger Fund	\$31.61
CE Sunday School	\$9.35
Communion-WNL	\$200.00
Share Table	\$2.00
Food Pantry	\$5.00

Thanks be to God!

Honor the LORD with your
substance
and with the first fruits of all
your produce;
then your barns will be filled
with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting
with wine.

—Proverbs 3:9-10