



The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 20.42 December 4, 2016

Our Communion Offering on December 4th will be dedicated to our neighbors across 7th Street, the young people at **Maryland Living Center**. These 16-21-year-olds are transitioning to independent living from lives as foster or homeless children. In addition to our communion offering's financial gifts, we can help by supplying them with items they need to live on their own. Please prayerfully consider bringing items to put in our "next door neighbor basket" on Sunday:

• Kitchen Utensils • Non-perishable Food Items • Cleaning Items
• Dish Soap • Sponges • Laundry Detergent • Dryer Sheets •
Toilet Paper • Razors • Feminine Hygiene Products • Shampoo •
Conditioner • Lotion • Toothbrushes & Paste • Deodorant • Body
Wash • Hand Soap

Hands Around the World Store Christmas Fair Trade Sale

Saturday, December 10, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Memorial Room, First Presbyterian Church

Hands Around the World Store and Eternal Threads will join together for a Fair Trade shopping opportunity. All of our products come from artisans who live in poor areas around the globe. Purchasing their goods helps them to feed their families, allows them to send their children to school, and helps improve their lives by becoming economically self-sufficient. Handcrafts for sale include baskets, scarves, woolen hats and mittens, jewelry, table linens, holiday decorations, gourmet chocolates, spices, tea, coffee and much more. We will feature 4 varieties of delicious Café Justo coffee from Mexico. Your purchase helps to lift disadvantaged artisans, farmers, and their families out of poverty. Your purchase makes a difference!

United Harvest Volunteers Needed Saturday, December 17!

5 Additional Volunteers will be needed for the United Harvest mobile food pantry distribution on Saturday, December 17, at the Annex.

These volunteers will be asked to walk through the line and fill a box, which FPC Deacons will deliver to a disabled or elderly individual unable to physically attend. Please call the office to sign up.

"We want to send a letter to thank the Middle Schoolers for the four tubs of groceries they gave us from their food drive. What a wonderful donation!! So many people will be blessed with this gift! Thank you and God bless!!"

— Hastings Food Pantry

Taize Service to Offer Special Blessing of Fathers

"Strength" is the theme for December's Taize prayer service, which will feature a time for blessing of all fathers and father-figures. If you are a father, please come! If you have a father, please bring him! If you desire to meditate upon and give thanks for the strength of our Heavenly Father, this is the time and place to do so.

Sunday, December 4, 7:00 p.m., Chapel

***Rides are available for those who wish not to drive in the dark. Call the church office to sign up.*

Community Prayer Walk

Sunday, December 4, 2016 from 1:00-2:00 pm

Details:

- 30-40 minutes of walking, with optional fellowship time after walk
- Begins in front of St. Cecilia High School (participants park in the St. Cecilia parking lot)
- Ends at the St. Cecilia Health Ministry, approximately 200 yards from the parking lot

For St. Cecilia and St. Michael parishioners, this "Prayer Walk" will be integrated into our internal Walk to Bethlehem Advent program.

For those with **limited mobility**, a modified "Prayer Walk" will be set up at the Health Ministry Office, 415 N. Kansas. Handicapped parking and entrance is located on the west side of the building.

**Walking together in groups, or as families,
is a great way to participate!**

This prayer walk commemorates Joyce Schiffler, a well-known community walker, who was tragically killed while crossing at 7th and Burlington in September.

The Prayer Walk also:

- Promotes physical and spiritual activity.
- Encourages faith communities on their spiritual walk with God.
- Brings faith traditions together in prayer.
- Honors Joyce, who walked everywhere and inspired people to love.

A collaboration between First Presbyterian Church, St. Cecilia Health Ministry, Mary Lanning Healthcare, and the Hastings Health Ministry Network.



**Sunday,
December 11, 2016**

9:15a.m. Sunday School
(All Ages Welcome)

10:30a.m. Worship
Communion

Chancel Choir Cantata
(With Calvin/Westminster Choir)
Message by Pastor Don Canady

MORE Advent Devotional Books Have Been Ordered and Will Be Available Soon!

Advent began Sunday, November 27. A guidebook with daily devotional readings can be helpful in keeping one's heart focused on "the reason for the season" in this busy time of year. Pick up your free daily devotional guidebook in the Memorial Room. *While waiting for the additional copies to arrive, you can keep up with the daily readings by going to the website www.WaterFromRock.org and clicking on the "Advent Blog" tab.*

*****8:30a.m. Worship with Celebrate Band will be on Sunday, December 18.*****

Looking for a weekly, evening Bible Study?

A Bible study will be held *every other week for six sessions* on Wednesday evenings in the Spring semester. Consideration is being given to organizing a second Bible study group that would meet *every week* (perhaps on Monday nights, though that is not yet finalized). If you are interested in participating in a weekly, evening Bible study group, please contact Kili. We are especially in need of someone to lead this study; contact Kili for more information.



Donations for Go & Serve Bid Board are still being accepted.

Items may be dropped off at the church office on the designated cart in the common office area. Your donations are appreciated!

It's easy to **get a Bid Board bidding number!** Come see us in the Parlor (west of Fellowship Hall) each Sunday thru December 11.

Proceeds from sales support the annual youth mission trip.

Go & Serve's annual bake sale will be on Sunday, December 11.

Come shop the variety of delicious baked goods. Proceeds support the annual youth mission trip.



Mark Your Calendar for FPC Christmas Caroling!

It's fun for all ages!

Outreach, fellowship, service, fun, and bonding--don't miss it!

Sunday, December 11, 1:30 p.m.

Meet in the Fellowship Hall, and then we'll carpool to various rest homes to spread warmth and cheer, enjoying cookies and hot cocoa at our final stop.

UPCOMING FORUMS

"Sustainable Living: Live Simply So That Others May Simply Live"

During the holidays, we buy, buy, buy, even though we already have more than enough. Can we break free of this lifestyle? What scriptural and spiritual motivations might we employ to guide a life of simplicity and contentment? This forum will be led by Rev. Damen Heitmann, Hastings College Chaplain.
Sun., Dec. 4, 9:15-10:15,
Fellowship Hall

"The Christmas Story"

Pastor Don Canady will lead us in taking a fresh look at the Christmas story as told by the gospels of Matthew and Luke. We will examine the differences and similarities between the two stories and consider how the unique context and focus of each gospel writer may have contributed to his unique telling of the story.
Sun., Dec. 11, 9:15-10:15,
Fellowship Hall

2016 Go & Serve Bid Board
Supporting the Go & Serve Mission Trip

Please help support the Go & Serve mission trip by donating to the Bid Board.
Past donations have included:

Baked Goods	Christmas Decorations
Quilts/Blankets	Glass Work
Centerpieces	Art Work
Note Cards	Books
Candles	Wreaths
Gift Certificates	Special Meals
Tickets to Events	Homemade Crafts
Gift Baskets	Autographed items

These are just suggestions; anything is welcome.
We would love to see some new items included.

Donated items may be dropped off at the church office. The Bid Board is open each Sunday now through December 11th and is located in the Parlor (next to Fellowship Hall).

Please complete this form and return it with your donation(s).
Your donation(s) and support are greatly appreciated!!

Thank you!!

I would like to donate the following items:

Donated by: _____

Phone: _____

Business: _____

Youth Contact: _____

CONGREGATIONAL LIVES

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.

As a friendly reminder, please be mindful to park in handicap stalls only if you have a handicap license.

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

FLOWER MEMORIAL FUND

Starting in 2017, the Flower Memorial Funds will be handled in a different manner. The church is attempting to contact everyone listed as the memorial fund contact person to inform them of this change. We do have lots of contact names but need help in finding a contact person for the following: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Bierman, Rose and Robert Ryan, Mildred and Victor Lutkemeier, Dean and Mrs. Frank Weyer, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Theobald, Florence and George Root, the Kuehns and McCollum, Rev. and Mrs. C. Walter and Louise Walter, Ruth and Ray Watson, Toni and Bob Mays, Alberta Stewart, Dr. William McCall, Dr. McIntire, the Milo and Marvin Finks, and Libby and Elmer Glenn. If you have information on whom we might contact, please let Mary Olsen know. She can be reached at 402-462-2811 or molsen@charter.net. Thank you for any help you are able to give.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Tom & Molly Johnsen	12/01/2001
Charles & Margaret Hermes	12/18/1965
Willis & Jane Horton	12/21/1973
Robert Nedderman & Sue Medsker-Nedderman	12/21/1975
Chris & Inde Wissing	12/21/2002
Steve & Lin Jurgena	12/27/1969

Presbyterian Women will meet in the Fellowship Hall of the church at 11:45 a.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2016. The program will include Christmas music provided by students of Linda Johnson. Circle 3 will prepare and serve the lunch. Circle 1 is in charge of preparing the tables, name tags, and devotions. All women of the church are invited. Please RSVP to your circle chairperson or to Tarci by December 5. The coordinating team will meet in the Church Library at 11:15 a.m.

***** **For the rest of the month:**

Circles 1 and 2 have decided to change their meeting date to December 14th instead of the 21st. **Circle 3** will keep its meeting on December 21.

Hostesses: Circle 1 - Susie Graham; Circle 2 - Joy White; Circle 3 - Jane Pollak and Nancy Grams

COMMITTEE NEWS

The Annex Committee needs assistance in grant writing and is looking for volunteers to help write grants. Our committee feels that the building should be used for mission, and, to use it better, we need to make some upgrades. We hope to keep the cost at a minimum to the church by using grants to pay for those upgrades. If you are interested in helping in any way please call Kim Hermann at 402-461-1957 or Kay Georgiana at 402-462-6871. Thank you for your consideration.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

12/01	Peter Duang	12/16	Karson Stroyek
	Diane Phelps	12/17	Marilyn Nielsen
	Michelle Wells		Lindsey Stout
12/03	Jeanne Hastings	12/18	Wayne Ganow
	Eva Ehrich		Deb Jensen
	Justin Musgrave		Shannon Welton
	Abigail Shetler	12/19	Sue Bradley
	Sandra Wimer		Tom Ratzlaff
12/04	Conner Kidd		Zane Thomsen
	Diane Mullen		Kili Wenburg
12/05	Tyson Kerr	12/20	Eleanor Jorgenson
	Carol Morris		Bill Redinger
12/06	Connie Franzen	12/21	Matt Nieman
	Damon Nievas		Justin Osborne
	Dave Rethorst		Barbara Sunderman
12/07	Tanner Bauer	12/22	Jax Gernstein
	Ricki Frasier	12/23	John Harrington
	Lynette Krieger	12/24	Mari Anderson
12/08	Pam Schlichtman		Shirley Johnston
	Steve Wolford	12/25	Tracy Brooks
12/09	Dave Dirks		Emily Funkey
	Sophia Hemje	12/26	Lisa Marvel
12/11	Kevin Ellerbee		Sophia Pankratz
	Phyllis Salyards		Laura Marvel-Wunderlich
	Chima Uche	12/27	Margaret Koontz
	Danna Wolford	12/28	Jim Cooke
12/12	Traci Boeve		Thomas Cooke
	John Brooks		Jim Wenburg
	Gail Schmidt		Rogene Wenburg
12/13	Nyaguor Duang	12/29	Landon Benorden
	Mark Scheidegger		Indiana Hoff
12/14	Mary Fisk		Connie Kubicka
	Darrel Lloyd		Carolyn Nowka
12/15	Kelly Barnett	12/30	Levi McCoy
	Deegan Dettwiller		Al Meyer
	Pat Kleiber		Laura Peterson
	Nnamdi Uche		Riley Propp
	Nnenna Uche		

The Talking Table

"Hello. I am a table, nothing fancy, just a piece of wood on four legs. I'm pretty pleased with what I have to offer, though.

"When the kids in my family were all home, dinnertime was a real trip! There was lots of conversation and teaching manners. And occasionally Mom and Dad would even break into song. That REALLY embarrassed the children! But before every meal, they would all hold hands and thank God for the food and for being together as a family. I really liked being a part of that.

"Every day after school, I learned a lot of neat stuff because I was where the kids did their homework. Sometimes, after supper dishes were done, everybody sat around me and played games with cool names like Yahtzee, Sorry, Monopoly, and Chutes and Ladders.

"After my kids went away to school and then got married, it was really quiet for a while. Grown-up talk was more subdued. Then the grand kids came and we started all over again. It was a little different, though. The kids carried around different sizes of boxes that they poked at a lot with their fingers. They didn't want to talk as much, and it was harder to get them around me to play games. Once they got started, though, they seemed to have fun.

"I got to know the neighbors too. Sometimes the lady from the house next door would come over for a cup of coffee. They could set that coffee pot on me any time; it was my pleasure. Some new neighbors moved in and that was fun, too. My family invited lots of people over for a potluck dinner. I smelled lots of great new cooking. There were tamales and egg rolls and hummus and naan. Of course, I couldn't see, but everybody said the food was really tasty.

"Through the years I could feel myself getting older. One of my legs didn't work as good, but they put a folded up napkin under it and I didn't wobble so bad. My top was pretty scratched, but then my lady would rub on lemon oil and I would almost feel young again.

"One day something was really wrong. My man wasn't there in the morning and my lady was crying. Pretty soon people started bringing in lots of pans and dishes of food. Everyone that brought in food hugged my lady, and they cried, too. Pretty soon all my kids and their kids came and they all sat around me again. It was almost like the old days – almost.

"One day some men came with a truck and took me to some kind of store. I didn't know any of those tables and chairs, and I was pretty lonely. But then something really special happened. A very tall man and lady came into the store and said I was just what they needed. They told the store person they had come from Sudan and this table would be perfect for their family to sit around and play games and eat dinner and thank God for their food.

"I'm not done yet and I am a happy table."

Home Page
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The Home Page

A publication of
First Presbyterian Church
621 N. Lincoln Ave.
Hastings, NE 68901

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

November 20, 2016

10:30 Worship Attendance	220
General Fund	\$16,816.95
Plate Collections	\$160.00
Per capita	\$181.05
PC (USA) Hunger Fund	\$46.68
CE Sunday School	\$6.00
Communion – Camp Calvin Crest	\$13.00
Food Pantry	\$27.00
Special Offering – Zach Spurgeon	\$25.00

Thanks be to God!

Give thanks in all circumstances:
For this is the will of God
in Christ Jesus for you.

-1 Thessalonians 5:18