



The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 20.43 December 11, 2016

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!

Santa Shop Asks You To "Give Me Five!"

What is the "Santa Shop"? It's a new, one-time addition to the United Harvest Mobile Food Pantry. During the December 17 distribution, children in attendance will be given the opportunity to *receive* an item for themselves and also to choose an item that they can *give* to someone else. To make this happen, we're asking for your donations of new or gently used toys for the children as well as new or gently used items for adults--items that can allow the children the joy of giving Christmas gifts to their parents.

Please take a few moments this week and search your home for items that you can share with our young friends at the United Harvest distribution.

We challenge each household to find and share FIVE items in each category:

- Gifts for kids (such as toys, books, crafts)
- Gifts for moms (such as necklaces, purses, candles)
- Gifts for dads (such as billfolds, watches, pens)
- All donations can be dropped off on the cart in the common office area.

The Giving Tree

The tags are now on the Giving Tree! The Giving Tree in the Memorial Room supports clients of Assertive Community Treatments, people with severe and persistent mental illness and living in our community. Most are without family support and live on disability or nothing. Please help support these people by taking a tag from the tree and returning gifts to the tree by Sunday, December 18. The gifts should be wrapped and the tag placed back on them. Monetary donations may also be given.

Sponsored by the Mission Committee.

THANK YOU for helping to make this a joyful season of both GIVING and RECEIVING for the children in our community!!

THANK YOU Nytha and Dave Glass for the beautiful, live Christmas tree in the Memorial Room!

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### **It's Time 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.

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In Appreciation of the Advent Devotional Books

The lovely Advent devotional books that are available in the Memorial Room were given to our church free of charge by Water From Rock Ministries, Inc.. If you are enjoying your book, you may want to consider sending a small financial token of appreciation in the envelope that was enclosed with the book. Water From Rock is a 501(c)3 organization.

The Living Scrapbook Wall

Hopefully, all members of the church are enjoying the beautiful display known as the "Living Scrapbook Wall," located on the North side of the hallway connecting the Memorial Room and the Fellowship Hall. The Trustees want to express a great deal of thanks to Colleen Schukei for the creation of this display (assisted by Kili Wenburg). Additional thanks goes to Roger Schukei for installation of the display and to Krieger Electric for installation of new electrical outlets to power the TV's.

The display is intended to be an evolving one, with new items added from time to time. Future videos featuring weddings, baptisms, and veterans are planned, but your help is needed in securing photos for these displays! If you have photos to share (which can be scanned and returned to you), please contact Kili at the church office.

What About the Wall Facing the Living Scrapbook Wall?

Currently, the wall on the South side of the hallway connecting the Memorial Room and the Fellowship Hall is blank. Plans are underway, however, for this wall to become a display place for special crosses shared with the church by members of the congregation. The display will grow over time as people obtain and share special crosses. Do you have a cross that you would consider allowing the church to display? Perhaps one you obtained on an overseas trip, or one you received when you were confirmed, or one passed down from a grandfather who was a pastor.... The vision is to create a collection of personal mementos, each with its own story that will be shared with the congregation and catalogued for future reference. If you have a cross that you would like to share, please contact Kili.

UPCOMING FORUMS

"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

"Christmas Readings"

Darrel Lloyd will offer a selection of poetry and prose, specially curated to provide an entertaining and contemplative experience of the Christmas holiday. Sun., Dec. 18, 9:15-10:15, Chapel

LAST WEEK TO PLACE YOUR BIDS

Attention Shoppers!

This is the last week to place your bids on the silent auction Bid Board. All bids will close 30 minutes after worship on Sunday, December 11th.

We will begin calling those with winning bids after 3:30.

If you cannot make it on Sunday, you can stop in during the week to sign up for a number in the Parlor and place your bids.

Help the kids earn some money for their Go & Serve trip and get some great gifts.

On Sunday, December 11th, before and after worship, we will have a baked goods table in Fellowship Hall.

Presbyterians are great cooks, and we will have some very yummy baked items!!

We will be set up by the Parlor where the Bid Board is!!

Come one, come all!!

POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias may be purchased in honor or in memory of a loved one. The cost is \$15 each. Money raised over the cost will be donated to Salvation Army Utility Assistance Program, which provided \$24,627.75 towards utilities assistance in the last 12 months. Funds helped 404 people with necessary electricity, water and gas, of which 382 were in families - 70 were children under the age of 5 and 85 were children aged 6-10. 7 of the 404 people assisted were over the age of 62. As with all of The Salvation Army's programs, utilities assistance is an emergency service. To qualify, individuals and families must have received a disconnect notice and meet qualifications of need.

Your donation makes a difference. Please return this order form to the church office.

Poinsettia in memory of: _____

Poinsettia in honor of: _____

Given by: _____

**Sunday,
December 18, 2016**

8:30a.m. Worship
with Celebrate Band

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

(No Sr. High - Semester Tests)

10:30a.m. Worship
Message by Pastor Don Canady

Prayer Focus

Each month, we receive a "communion offering" on the first Sunday of the month. The recipients of these offerings are carefully chosen each year by the Mission Committee. Each recipient organization is believed to be doing the work of God in our local community, and each recipient is in need of both our funds AND our prayers (and often our volunteer time as well!). Each month, let us make these communion offering recipients a focus of our personal and corporate prayers, asking God to bless their work and to guide us in how we may be of support to them. *For December, let us pray for the Maryland Living Center.*



UNITED HARVEST MOBILE PANTRY

HELPING MEET YOUR FAMILY'S
NEEDS

Date: **Saturday, October 15th**
Saturday, November 19th
Saturday, December 17th

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)-463-6733

Instructions: Please bring boxes or bags to carry
food. No need to pre-qualify.

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

Brought to
you by **First
United
Methodist
Church and
First
Presbyterian
Church of
Hastings**

The mobile pantry
is available to you
free of charge!



FOODBANK
FOR THE HEARTLAND

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Join us for Christmas Eve candlelight service on Saturday, December 24th at 5:30p.m. (family) and/or 7:30p.m. (with communion). Both will provide opportunity for the Christmas Joy Offering.

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the **Christmas Joy Offering**, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

- The Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions
- Racial Ethnic Schools and Colleges
- Racial Ethnic Leadership Development

To donate online, or for additional information, go to: <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/christmasjoy>.

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.

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

Prayers and Sympathy to Emily and Gary Johnson and family on the sudden death of Emily's brother-in-law, Wayne Panetta.

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: Rose and Robert Ryan, Mildred and Victor Lutkemeier, Dean and Mrs. Frank Weyer, Florence and George Root, Rev. and Mrs. C. Walter and Louise Walter, Ruth and Ray Watson, Dr. McIntire, 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.

Presbyterian Women 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

The Chorus of the Plains is hosting their third annual Community Christmas Sampler, a benefit concert on Saturday, December 17 at 2:00 PM at the Hastings High School auditorium. Choirs and small groups from area churches, as well as the Chorus of the Plains, will be performing and a free will offering will be collected to benefit the charities chosen by those groups. We hope to see everyone come out to hear some quality Christmas music and to support some worthy charities. (If you have questions, please call Richard Johnson at [402-670-2495](tel:402-670-2495) or Kevin Ellerbee at [402-469-6534](tel:402-469-6534))

The next **Red Cross Blood Drive** in Fellowship Hall will be on Tuesday, January 3rd from 12 noon to 6 p.m. For more information, or to make an appointment, contact Erica Brooks at ericalynn128@gmail.com or 402-469-9285.

WREATHS! – The Boy Scouts Troop 200 is selling Christmas wreaths, cheerful bows and evergreen ornaments. Perfect for gifts, festive decoration for your business or organization or to just to hang one on your door. They can be delivered to you or you can have them shipped to anywhere in the US! Let us help you spruce up your seasonal décor. Contact me and I will get a polite and well-dressed scout to you with ordering options.

As always, if you have a boy between 5 and 14 that is interested in scouting, we would be happy to get him signed up!

Loyally yours, Thomas Kleinjan, Scout Master, Troop 200
[402 705 0553](tel:4027050553), scouting200hastings@gmail.com

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.

Minutes – First Presbyterian Church Foundation Meeting 11-21-16

Attending: Roger Doerr, John Northrup, Dave Dirks, Nancy Langford, Justin Wenburg, Kay Georgiana & George Howard

Guest: Jane Bauer

- 1) Opening prayer by Doerr
- 2) We reviewed the 8-15-16 meeting's minutes. It was moved by Langford, with a 2nd by Northrup to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
- 3) Treasurer's Report
Wenburg said the balance of \$612.42 had not changed. The Treasurer's report was accepted. Wenburg will contact Oakeson to transfer \$1,000 to the Foundation checking account to pay Contryman's for their work on the 990 IRS form and filing. The 6 Foundation funds will share in the expense on a pro rata basis.

4) Jane Bauer/Completing/Filing 990 IRS form

Jane is no longer working for Contryman's and no longer has access to software needed to file IRS Form 990 for our Foundation. As a stop-gap measure, Jane suggested the Foundation could contract with Contryman's for a fee of \$1,000, which was approved at a prior meeting. Jane gave Howard a copy of the 990 Form for our records. Jane wanted the Foundation to note that the form was completed differently for 2015. The form showed liabilities (previously always zero) for the Foundation of \$1,976,667 as of 12-31-15. Jane and Julie Moller's thinking was that the Foundation was simply holding/managing those funds for the church, but it was really the church's money. It appears the Langenburg fund was excluded from the liability calculation.

Howard asked what the offset was for the liability and Jane stated none (no accounts receivable) would be made on the church's balance sheet. Howard noted the funds were actually in the Foundation's name, so it was suggested that Howard and Bauer research this asset/liability treatment with other local Foundations to consider making different accounting entries. It was decided to file the 990 form as it stands and if a different account treatment was suggested, then an amended form could be made and filed in the future. (Subsequent to the meeting, Howard discussed the accounting entries with Oakeson and Doug Oakeson reported that he hadn't seen this anywhere before, so he suggested we contact other Foundations or accounting practices for their ideas.)

Jane had all of the members present sign their annual conflict of interest form. This will be an annual requirement and then we can deliver them to her.

5) Rev Don report-He has resigned from Administrative Committees

6) Investment Update –Howard:

Quarterly Investment Update

Howard discussed the 9-30-16 Excel spreadsheet which calculates the present percentage of the large fund, which each of the 6 sub-funds own. Only about \$150,000 of the authorized \$350,000 movement from short term investments to higher yielding stock or bond funds had been accomplished in the last 45 months, for the Session's funds, due to the high prices of bonds and stocks at this time. All of the 6 sub-funds had gains of about 3% during the 3rd Quarter, 2016. \$500 of the \$3,305 in Essex Scholarship funds have been awarded. Howard noted Oakeson hadn't provided their usual quarterly reports, so we were reviewing figures from the 9-30-16 Ameritrade statements. (Subsequent to the meeting, Howard contacted Oakeson and he immediately provided their 9-30-16 quarterly reports which were in good order and were distributed by email to all Foundation board members.)

After a review of the information, the board approved the profile of investments.

7) Session Report from Kay/New Business

Howard had received the 10-31-16 Fund statements and noted there were small losses in all funds for October. However, the first 2 ½ weeks of November had seen gains that more than made up for the October losses. After some discussion, the consensus was that our Board feels uncomfortable with "guaranteeing" an amount of distributions, but, with the markets increasing so far this year, our board would think distributions would be at least the size of the 2016 distributions and maybe 1% higher (4% vs 3%), if the markets hold onto the present gains during the next 2 months.

8) Trustees Report – Harrington

John was absent and there was nothing to be discussed related to the trustees.

9) Old Business –

Already discussed most of it.

10) New business-

The board thanked Roger Doerr for his leadership during 2016.

The next meeting was set for 2-13-17 at 5:30 PM in the Anderson room.

Doerr adjourned the meeting with a prayer.

George Howard, Secretary

**MINUTES OF A STATED MEETING OF SESSION
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HASTINGS, NEBRASKA
November 17, 2016**

Members of the Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska, held their regular meeting on November 17, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. in the Anderson Conference Room.

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

Class of 2016

E - Matt Fong
P - Kim Hermann
P - Susan Hoff
P - Al Meyer
P - Clerk: Karen Doerr

Class of 2017

P - Chris Junker
E - Erik Nielsen
P - Tim Redline
P – Mary Olsen

Class of 2018

P- Sharon Brooks
E - Kay Georgiana
P - Harold Korb
E - Kraig Lofquist

Moderator was Rev. Don Canady. Guests included Jan Ham, moderator of the Deacons and Polly Deppen-Williams from COM. Chris Junker 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.

Motion and a second to approve the minutes of a Congregational Meeting on October 30, 2016. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

Board Reports:

Deacons: No action items to bring forward.

Trustees: No action items to bring forward.

Foundation: Did not meet.

Personnel: Sent a recommendation to the budget committee that salaries for 2017 budget year remain the same as 2016.

Motion and a second to approve the board reports. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

Clerk's Report: No report.

By-Laws: The following changes were recommended to the By-Laws:

Amend Article II – Meetings of Members

Change “annual meeting” to “required meeting”

No changes to the article related to the Clerk of Session

Change Manual of Operations to reflect By-laws as related to treasurer and trustees

Change all references to “Chairman” to “Moderator”

Motion and a second to approve the recommended changes; upon a voice vote, motion carried.

Motion and a second to completely strike Article IX – the Board of Personnel so it becomes a committee of session. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

Motion and a second to strike Article 3, Section 7 as it relates to electronic voting. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

All recommendations will be brought back to Session for final review in November and presented to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting.

Triennial Visit by Committee on Ministry: Polly Deppen-Williams as moderator of Committee on Ministry conducted the Triennial Visit on behalf of Presbytery.

Reports from Committees of Session:

Christian Education: No action items to bring forward.

Communication/Technology: No action items to bring forward.

Congregational Life: No action items to bring forward. All are invited to the Hanging of the Greens on November 26 at 9AM.

Global Mission/Social Witness: Recommends that \$300 be donated from the Hands Around the World store proceeds to assist mission co-worker to return from Ethiopia to the United States for the funeral of her mother. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

Memorial: No action items to bring forward.

Worship, Arts & Music: Recommend that the bell choir, Rezound, be allowed to receive a free-will offering during their concert on June 18, 2017. Upon a voice vote, motion carried. Recommend that \$4150 from the Langenberg Fund be used to purchase a 5-octave set of bells. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

Scholarship: Did not meet.

Annex sub-committee: No report.

Go & Serve: No report.

Moderator’s Report: Communion was provided to the Congregation on November 6, 2016 at the 10:30 AM worship service.

Ordination and installation of officers will be held on December 4, 2016.

Request that \$2800 be advanced to Dubuque Seminary on behalf of Zach Spurgeon and that this amount be deducted from the \$8755 set aside for his educational expenses each semester. Upon a voice vote, request granted. Point of information: Zach will graduate in May, 2017 with his Bachelor of Arts degree and begin seminary in the fall.

Request received to baptize Cade Vaughn and Cora Katherine Hemje, children of Mark and Kate Hemje on November 20, 2016. Upon a voice vote, request granted.

Recommendation that Communion be celebrated as usual on January 1, 2017, the first Sunday of the month. Upon a voice vote, recommendation approved.

Session will hold its next stated meeting on December 15, 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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Address Service Requested

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 27, 2016

8:30 Worship Attendance	31
10:30 Worship Attendance	150
General Fund	\$6,761.00
Plate Collections	\$58.00
Per capita	\$208.60
PC (USA) Hunger Fund	\$28.16
Coffee Stand Donations	\$6.47
Food Pantry	\$5.00
Special Offering – Zach Spurgeon	\$100.00

Thanks be to God!

And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

-2 Corinthians 9:8