



The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 22.02 Weeks Of: January 21 & 28, 2018

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

Our program theme for the year is “Hear the Story, Share the Story, Live the Story.” This theme has led us to invite people to share reflections on scripture. Below you will find a reflection written by Kaleena Fong based on John 1:43-51. If you would like to submit a written reflection on scripture, or would like to give a reflection on Sunday morning, please let me know! Thank you to everyone who has shared a reflection so far, it has been a beautiful way for us to hear how God is speaking to and through our members this year.

-Pastor Greg

Reflection by Kaleena Fong:

I am a person that worries about virtually everything, nearly all of the time. I always have been. A constant theme in my life are the words, “Kaleena, you need to chill out.” I have heard it from my mother, from my college professors, my employers and my husband [everyday]. I desire to always see a pragmatic solution to every challenge or problem. It turns out (as I am learning) that many of our challenges are messy and there isn’t a direct path to the solution if there is even such a thing.

This is where our faith comes into play because certainty is often the opposite of faith. Just because I cannot see immediately the solution to a problem, that doesn’t mean that it can’t exist or that I shouldn’t have faith it will turn out the way that it should. Just because Jesus is not standing in front of me, like he was Nathanael, proving that he knows about me in the greatest detail, which does not mean that he is not there helping me through.

I am terrible at the “just chill” part. I am terrible at the “just trust it will turn out ok” part. I am terrible at the “cast your anxieties on him because he cares for you” part (1 Peter 5:7) but I am trying to get better. May I (and you) spend time finding not so pragmatic solutions to worrying less, may we trust that the Son of God and King of Israel is very truly telling us that he is in control and that everything in the end will be the way that it is supposed to be.

Register NOW for 2018 Summer Camp--3rd thru 12th Grade,
PLUS Intergenerational camps for adults/children age 5-12!

Benefits of Christian Camping...

- Campers can grow in their spiritual development in a fun, positive environment.
- Camp is an extension of your local church ministry program.
- Campers engage with others—building on the connectional strength of the reformed tradition.
- Child development experts believe that residential camp experiences help children and youth mature socially, emotionally, intellectually, morally and physically. This is supported by research conducted by the American Camp Association.

Highlands Presbyterian Camp & Retreat Center Summer Camp brochures are now available on the Child & Youth Announcements Bulletin Board near the church offices. Scholarship Applications are also available.

Please contact Stephanie at stephanie@fpchastings.org with any questions

***Thank you** for the beautiful prayer shawl. CJ said your prayer group at church wanted me to have it. Please thank them all for me. We are amazed at the number of people who intercede on our behalf with our heavenly Father. Your prayers mean so much to Marla and me. God is leading us on a unique journey but we know that it is His story for our lives and we are so blessed beyond all we could hope or imagine. I have enjoyed the shawls and will continue to seek God's will. – Brian*

***Thank you** so much for the large monetary donation for the Hastings Public Schools Kids Closet. We are extremely grateful for this donation!! It couldn't have come at a better time when we are seeing such a need for warm winter clothing, shoes and under garments.*

Your thoughtfulness for this program is greatly appreciated. Without support from the community we would not be able to assist the many children and families in need. We are grateful for your kindness and blessings! Thank you so much for your generosity and support!!

– Amy Swayze, School-Community Liaison, Hastings Public Schools

Global Mission Committee delivered 155 diapers to Catholic Social Services on Thursday, January 11th.

January Communion Offerings will be collected thru January and donated to Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

On January 15th, FPC remitted \$514 to Salvation Army Utility Assistance Program, \$861 to Crossroads, \$210 to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, \$20 to Presbyterian Peace Offering and \$1,437 to Christmas Joy Offering.

This Saturday, January 20th we will host the **United Harvest food distribution** in the First Presbyterian Church Annex, 7th and Lincoln. Volunteers are encouraged to arrive at 8:00 AM for set-up and unloading the truck. 9:30 AM to start the distribution, 11:30 AM to relieve the earlier volunteers, and 2:00 PM for tear down and clean-up. We plan to double your pay if you show-up. All and many volunteers are needed and appreciated. Please remember when two or more of you are together doing God's work, He will be with you.

The **January 3 Red Cross Blood Drive** was a little slow, but did not lack in enthusiasm! We collected 18 pints of blood. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers including Mary Fisk, Carolyn McKenzie, Lois Hahne and Cheryl Schukei. FPC donors included Carol Wheeler, Leah Ratzlaff, Vernon Groves, Karen Doerr, Vicki Howard, Phil Odom, Ginny Locke, Jim Wenburg, Richard McKenzie, Lance Hall, Jane Marsh, Lynne Friedewald, Sharon Brooks, Marnie Soderquist, Chuck Hastings and Sarah Snell. Our next blood drive will be Friday, March 2 from noon to 6pm. Sign up at [Red Cross Blood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or contact Erica Brooks at ericalynn128@gmail.com.

"Happy: What it is and How to find it"

This is the title of the new Heirs Apparent curriculum, which will begin January 7. No matter how hard we try, happiness can seem elusive. Even as we reach our goals, we set new ones, making happiness always out of reach, but this study helps you discover that contentment isn't dependent on the "things" of life. Class meets in Anderson Conference Room at 9:15 on Sunday mornings, under the leadership of Curtis Reimer.

Coming Soon: *Financial Peace University*

This biblically-based training series integrates video teaching and class discussions to enable participants to gain peace in the area of finances. Topics include cash flow planning, investing, saving, credit, retirement and giving.

Facilitated by Deb and Tim Johnson, FPC will host this 9-session series on Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m., beginning February 20. Contact Kili Wenburg at 402-462-5147 for more details.

FPC Mariners Presents "Moms Group"
(a sub-group of Mariners)

LIFE AS A PARENT

Information, Encouragement, Support

Jan 18: Work/Life balance
Feb 1: Marriage/Relationships
Feb 15: Elusive happiness
Mar 1: Raising boys
Mar 15: Talking about sex
Apr 5: Raising successful kids
Apr 19: Parenting taboos
May 3: Celebration of parenting

Bring a friend!! Women at all stages of parenting are welcome!

1st and 3rd Thursdays, Noon-1
First Presbyterian Library
Bring a sack lunch if you like.
FREE childcare provided!

Grief Healing Group

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings will be facilitating a group for people experiencing grief. The group will meet for six weeks on Tuesdays, 12:30-2PM, starting Tuesday January 16. Below is a brief description of the group written by the facilitator, Lanae Hall:

Life brings us all goodbyes- experiences of change and loss that carry with them grief, whether that is the death of a loved one, the end of a relationship, divorce, major illness, or a season of life coming to an end. Are you seeking spiritual meaning from your goodbye experiences? Looking for healing and wholeness? Find it in community with others who have experienced significant goodbyes, who are also moving through grief.

The group will use the book 'Praying Your Goodbyes' as a guide on our journey together. This journey will

be gentle, safe, and rich with reflection, prayer, and healing. If you have any questions or would like to talk, please contact Pastor Greg.

Prayers for: Arnie Boehler, Judy Brown, Celia & Wayne Ganow, Erlene Gessford, Lois Hahne, Jan Ham, Irmise (& Elmer) Heeren, Richard & Wanda Langer, Carol Medsker, Al & Lee Meyer, Larry & Carolyn Nowka, Karla Reese, Romana Shetler, Elaine & son Jonathan Specht, Audrey Watson, Wilson, Jenni and Ben Welsch and families.

Hear, Share, Live the Story!

JANUARY

The stories of the *past*...

In January, the Forum continues to explore the annual "Hear the Story; Share the Story; Live the Story!" theme, this month featuring stories of local, national, and world history.

First, Rev. Bill Nottage-Tacey, Pastor Emeritus, will offer an historical, Biblical, and theological reflection on responses to life's disasters, with reference to local fires as well as the fire that destroyed the Jerusalem Temple and the two towers fires of 9/11.

As a follow-up to our celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we'll consider the Reformation's impact on Michelangelo, who painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel just prior to Luther's hanging of the 95 Theses. Later, when the shock waves of the Reformation were being felt in Rome, Michelangelo painted the altar wall of the Sistine Chapel. Comparison of these two works shows a marked change in the mood and spirit in the Church of Rome.

Finally, in observation of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day (January 15), we'll honor this famous preacher by exploring the role of churches in the 1960s Civil Rights movement. Churches have long felt the call to help shape a world in accordance with their understanding of God's will and to change unjust laws when they do not square with the moral universe. This talk is an historical examination of the roles churches played in the 1960s Civil Rights struggles in order to provide comparison with the role churches currently play in the context of contemporary racial inequality and unrest.



Heirs Apparent Class

No matter how hard we try, happiness can seem elusive. Even as we reach our goals, we set new ones, leaving happiness always out of reach. This study helps you discover that contentment isn't dependent on the "things" of life.

Sunday mornings at 9:15, Anderson Conference Room; Curtis Reimer, leader

Forum Schedule

- 01-14-18 *The Phoenix Church: The Great FPC Fire of 1910 and its Aftermath*
Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey
- 01-21-18 *Impact of the Reformation on Michelangelo's Works*
Dr. Turner McGehee
- 01-28-18 *Religion, Love/Hate, and Justice: The Role of Churches in the 1960s Civil Rights Movement*
Dr. Michella Marino

Need a ride to church on Sundays? Request a ride by calling Deacon Moderator Dawna Whitcomb at 402-469-4805 or the church office at 402-462-5147.

The radio broadcast airs during service at 10:30 a.m. 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 2:00 p.m.

A copy of *Angels Aware* from December 10th service is available on DVD or Blue-Ray upon request at no charge. Contact Roger or Cheryl Schukei at 402-462-9282 or schukei@kdsi.net.

An annual congregational meeting will be held following 10:30am worship service on Sunday, Jan. 28th. At this meeting, the 2017 Annual Report and the 2018 Budget will be presented. Church Officers (Elders, Trustees and Deacons) will be elected. All members are encouraged to attend if possible.

2017 Contribution Statements mailed via USPS Bulk on Wednesday, January 17th. Please allow 7 – 10 business days to receive yours.

alzheimer's  association®

CAREGIVER EDUCATION SESSIONS

An opportunity to share information, education and support.

Quarter 3

1/24/2018

12:00pm-1:00pm

Effective Communication Strategies

***Complimentary light lunch will be provided by Family Medical Center of Hastings.

3/28/2018

12:00pm-1:00pm

Understanding and Responding to Dementia Related Behaviors

***Complimentary light lunch will be provided by The Heritage of Red Cloud.



LOCATION:

**Hastings Chamber of Commerce
301 Burlington Ave.
Hastings, NE 68901**

ABOUT THE WORKSHOPS

Effective Communication Strategies

As people with Alzheimer's disease progress in their journey and the ability to use words is lost, families need new ways to connect. Join us to explore how communication may change. Learn to decode the messages delivered by someone with dementia and develop strategies to help you connect and communicate at each stage of the disease.

Understanding and Responding to Dementia-Related Behavior

Join us to learn how to decode behavioral messages, identify common behavior triggers, and incorporate strategies to help intervene with some of the most common behavioral challenges of Alzheimer's disease.

Seats limited. Please register at least one week in advance by calling 800.272.3900.

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

Senior Pastor: Greg Allen-Pickett

Publishing Guidelines: The *Home Page* is a bi-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 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

December 24, 2017

10:30a.m. Worship Attendance	133
3:30p.m. (College View)	60
5:30p.m. (Family)	335
7:30p.m. (Candlelight w/ Communion)	186
11:00p.m. (Chapel)	22
General Fund (2017)	\$41,286.00
General Fund (2018)	\$25,345.00
Plate Collections	\$858.00
Per capita (2017)	\$30.25
Per capita (2018)	\$91.50
PC (USA) Hunger Fund	\$25.46
Christmas Joy Offering	\$1,247.00
Communion-Crossroads	\$10.00
Christian Ed	\$12.00
Go & Serve Bid Board	\$3,045.00
Memorials- Mary Jo Emmons	\$330.00
Library	\$114.68
Minister's Designation	\$350.00
Church & Annex Utilities	\$350.00
Coffee	\$100.00
Postage/Copies	\$10.00
Annex Bldg. Use	\$1,228.00

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