

State of the Church & 2017 Annual Report First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

Presented by Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 28, 2018

State of the Church

- **Trackable Metrics:**

- **Membership:** Added 41 new members in 2017
- **Attendance:** Up over 10% year over year (229 compared to 252)
- **Pledging:** 2018 pledges up 16% over 2017
- **Giving:** Finished 2017 with a surplus due to generosity of congregation

- **Intangible Metrics:**

- **Positive spirit**
- **Deeper engagement**
- **People returning who had stepped away**
- **Excitement in the community about what FPC Hastings is up to!**

FPC Hastings “In the News”

July 18 – United Harvest

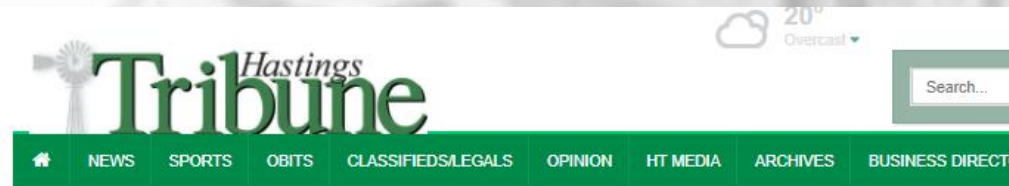
June 2 – Pastor Profile

August 18 –
Response to
Racism



United Harvest helping those in need

Tony Herrman Jul 18, 2017



New pastor 'standing on the shoulders of giants'

John Huthmacher Jun 2, 2017



Church leaders: Love is stronger than hate

Will Vraspir Aug 18, 2017





Associate Pastor Rev. Damen Heitmann

- Started August 2017 after search process and approval of Personnel Committee and Session
- Helping to support and lead
 - Youth group with Justin Miller (average 15+ youth)
 - Youth Sunday School with Kraig and Laurie Lofquist (average 15 youth)
 - Mission Committee
 - Go and Serve
- Helps lead worship every Sunday and preaches once a month

“It is a thrill to hang out with such intelligent, joyous, and curious youth. It is an honor to soak in the wisdom and love of a congregation devoted to the work of God.”

Christian Education: Children and Youth

- Energetic and positive leadership by Stephanie Brader
- New Child Protection Policy implemented (background checks and training)
- Sunday School attendance 42 with incredible volunteer teachers
- Wednesday Night Live attendance 54 with incredible volunteers



- Vacation Bible School with 64 kids – Special Needs VBS with 5 kids
- Jr. High Youth Group and Confirmation
- Loads of other activities like Easter Egg Hunt, YMCA VBS, Hayrack Ride, Pooh Corner Liaison

“...Many faith building opportunities including recreation play, service projects, meals, and other fellowship activities were incorporated into our Sunday School and WNL programs. It is a true blessing to grow in faith alongside the children and youth here at First Presbyterian Church!”



Adult Christian Education and Spiritual Formation

- Thoughtful and Compassionate leadership by Kili Wenburg
 - Adult Sunday School and Forums attended by 30-45
 - 2 weekly Adult Bible Studies attended by 20
 - Taize-style worship service every other Sunday
 - Fellowship opportunities including Observatory visit, Christmas Caroling, "Guy's Night Out," Intro to Yoga Classes, Busy Person's Retreat and more!
 - Active Mariner's group for moms of school-age children: Soup Group and Fellowship events
 - Spiritual Direction and work with people offering "Reflections."
- "This fall, it has been especially fun to work within the congregation-wide theme of "Hear the Story, Share the Story, Live the Story!" Many amazing stories have been heard and shared, and I hope that each of us is improving each day in our ability to live the story of faith."*

Congregational Life Committee

- Team is gaining “synergy”
- Church membership efforts
 - Reaching out to those who had left
 - Name Tags
- 500th Anniversary of Protestant Reformation Celebration!
- Float in Hastings College Homecoming Parade – Community presence and support of Hastings College



Board of Deacons

- Ministry of Caring and Compassion for the members of our congregation
- Parish Groups
- VIPs
- Monthly communion visits to retirement homes
- Flower Delivery
- Funeral Meals
- “Being a Deacon is about “The loving and caring concern for each other”. If all members of the congregation work with us towards this end we will develop a strong community of faith. It takes all of us to do the work of Jesus Christ.”



Global Mission and Local Witness Committee

- Feeding Ministries: United Harvest and Open Table
- Started Spanish Language Classes
- Partnered with Hastings Public Schools
- Promoted visits of missionaries from Africa and South Korea
- Raised \$10k+ through “Communion Offerings” for local organizations
- Managed the “Hands Around the World” store and “Café Justo” coffee
- Planned 2 adult mission trips for 2018
 - Hurricane Relief in March 2018 with Hastings College students
 - US-Mexico Presbyterian Border Ministries in October 2018



Annex Usage

FEEDING MINISTRIES

- Hearts and Hands Against Hunger (read their report)
- United Harvest Mobile Food Pantry
- Hastings Food Pantry storage and sorting facility

COMMUNITY USE

- Hannah Jensen Piano studio
- Red Tide Homeschool Basketball League
- CCC Classes
- Spanish Classes
- Many other community groups and families



Library Report

- 5000+ Books
- 55 new books purchased
- 4 Journal/Magazine subscriptions
- Project to automate library catalog



Memorial and Gifts Committee

- \$1400 spent in memorial gifts
- Gifts received in memory of beloved church members
- “Stained Glass” Designated Fund established

Music

- Amazing staff and volunteers, always looking for more!
- Choir and Bells participated in more than 50 services
- Church organist Linda Vollweiller a blessed addition
- Organ repairs and maintenance underway
- Langenberg Lesson Program
- Continued connection to Hastings college Music Program



Presbyterian Women

- **Support of MANY mission projects and programs**
 - Thank offering, Healthy Women/Healthy families, Hunger fund, CROP Walk, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Kits
- **Fellowship opportunities**
- **Study opportunities**
- **Quilters Group**





Questions or
comments?

Clerk's Report

Membership, December 31, 2016 **644**

During the year, we received:

Profession of faith, reaffirmation, restoration **23**

Certificate of Transfer **14**

Confirmation **4**

Losses:

Certificate **1**

Death **7**

Membership, December 31, 2017 **677**

Clerk's Report

Young Adult/Adult Baptisms	0
Infant Baptisms	7
Weddings	1
Funerals	7

Age Distribution of Membership	Male	Female
25 & Under	44	48
26 – 45	54	78
46 – 55	32	42
56 – 65	53	72
66 – 75	58	78
Over 76	36	82

Clerk's Report

Average worship attendance:

8:30 Celebrate Band / Taize service	41 (23 Sundays)
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10:30 Traditional Service	211 (52 Sundays)
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Average weekly Sunday School attendance:

Youth (Nursery to grade 12)	42
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Teachers	12
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Adult Education – Bible Study	20
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Adult Education – Heirs Apparent	10 – 15
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Adult Education – Forums	20 - 30
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Average Wednesday Night Live attendance:

Youth	54
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Teachers	13
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