



# The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175  
Vol. 22.06 Weeks Of: March 18 & 25, 2018

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“Dear First Presbyterian Church Hastings, I am writing on behalf of Foundation for Peace to **thank you for your kind support and your donation** in support of FFP programs. Your financial gift gives hope, transforms communities and brings a brighter, healthier future to many. It also slows us to continue our vital work and expand our outreach in the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Kenya! We know that these efforts are only possible because of the contributions received from generous donors like you. Thank you again for your support.” – Ken, Executive Director

“Dear Friends: ...**thank you for making Presbyterian Disaster Assistance a priority** out of many opportunities to give and serve. Your gift is deeply needed and greatly appreciated, and I am privileged to speak this word of gratitude on behalf of those for whom your generosity brings renewed hope and joy in the wake of disaster and its aftermath. In Christ’s peace,” -- Laurie Kraus, Director

“**Thank you for the donation of food** given to the Hastings Food Pantry on January 8, February 1, and February 19. That wonderful donations! We appreciate it so much! So many people will be blessed with these gifts! God bless in all you do!!” – Hastings Food Pantry, Board of Directors

“**Thank you for your generous gift** (monetary donation) to Crossroads Center. Your compassion is already impacting hungry, hurting men, women and families who turn to us for help. You have touched their lives in practical, meaningful ways – with nutritious meals, clean clothes, safe shelter, and most importantly, the love of God.” -- Jerry Bumgardner, Executive Director

## **March communion offerings will be for Sixpence Early Learning Fund:**

*The **Sixpence Early Learning Fund** is Nebraska's signature effort to put our state's youngest and most vulnerable children on the path to success in school and life. Sixpence promotes high-quality early care and learning opportunities that help parents guide the healthy development of their infants and toddlers. As public-private collaboration at the state and local levels, Sixpence delivers efficiency, fiscal responsibility and measurable results for our investment in the next generation of Nebraska's citizens. --* Retrieved from & for additional information visit: <http://www.singasongsixpence.org/>

**Easter Egg Hunt Candy Donations Needed:** First Presbyterian Church will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31 at 11:00am for children thru 3rd grade. Donations of individually wrapped candies and/or toys would be greatly appreciated. Drop off your donation in the common office area as soon as possible so that volunteers can begin stuffing eggs. Thank you!



### Red Cross Blood Drive – March 2, 2018

With the help of several walk-ins, we were able to exceed our goal and collect 27 units of blood at our March 2 blood drive. Thanks to all donors including Vicki Howard, Rich McKenzie, Daveta Brader, Tom Michalek, Harold Korb, Stephanie Brader, Liz Bell, Michelle Brooks, Roger Soucek, Gary Brooks, Patty Pedroza, Paul Pedroza, Max Gallagher, Jane Marsh,

Lynne Friedewald, Linda Cooke, Chuck Shoemaker, Penny Ryan, Chuck Hastings, Crystal Nunez, Sarah Weber, Lanae Hall, Traci Boeve, and Leah Ratzlaff. A special thank you to first-time donors Justin Brader and Michelle Kerr. Volunteers included Cheryl Schukei, Mary Fisk, and Georgie Evans. The blood drive would not be possible without all of you. The next blood drive is July 2. If you would like to volunteer or donate, go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or contact Erica Brooks at [ericalynn128@gmail.com](mailto:ericalynn128@gmail.com).

**Go & Serve registration forms are due on Wednesday, March 14.**

They can be turned into the office along with the \$100 deposit.

**ATTENTION: Mandatory Training for ALL First Presbyterian Church Child & Youth Adult Volunteers!!!!**

## First Presbyterian Church

### *Child Protection Policy Training*

**Who:** All persons 18 years of age or older who desire to or presently work with the children participating in FPC programs and activities

**When:** Sunday, March 18; 11:30am–12:00pm (following worship)

**Where:** First Presbyterian Church–Sanctuary

*First Presbyterian Church seeks to provide a safe and secure environment for the children who participate in our programs and activities. Training of adults working with FPC children is a **MANDATORY** requirement of the FPC Session-adopted policy. Questions? Contact Stephanie at 402-462-5147 or [stephanie@fpchastings.org](mailto:stephanie@fpchastings.org)*

### Houston Service Trip

An inter-generational service trip is heading to Houston, Texas March 18-24. Open to both college students and members of First Presbyterian Church, we'll travel by van to Houston. Once there we will partner with the Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church in their Hurricane Harvey recovery efforts. They have recovery efforts going in 15 different counties in the Houston area which we

will assist as best we are able. We will be hosted at a church and provided access to showers, a kitchen, and a place to sleep. Most likely that means air mattresses though there is a slight possibility that other arrangements could be made if necessary. Also, we will probably be participating in more physical labor kinds of tasks but we'll know more about what we'll be asked to do in the next couple of weeks. In order to cover costs and make a donation to our service partners we are asking folks to contribute \$200 to participate in the trip. There is scholarship funding available and the cost includes meals, gas, and funds for a fun day before we leave Houston. Some have already indicated their interest but if you are interested or have other questions please contact Pastor Damen.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR an

# EASTER EGG HUNT

Hosted By: First Presbyterian Church

Saturday, March 31 at 11:00am

Located at Alexander Park

(Just north of First Presbyterian church)

Alternate location in case of rain: First Presbyterian Church Annex Gym

Age Divisions: • Age 0-2 years • Age 3-5 years • Kindergarten-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

\*\*Please bring your own basket for collecting eggs.



For more information contact Stephanie at  
402-462-5147 or [stephanie@fpchastings.org](mailto:stephanie@fpchastings.org)



**Register NOW for 2018 Summer Camp--3<sup>rd</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

Calvin Crest and 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](mailto:stephanie@fpchastings.org) with any questions.

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**Moms Group: Information, Encouragement, Support**

Meets 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month in the Library, noon-1.

Mar 15: Talking About Sex. Let's discuss ways to handle it when it's time to have "the talk."

\*Free Childcare. \*Bring a sack lunch if you like.

**"The Mobile Phone's Impact on the Human Spirit"**

A Forum class led by FPC  
High School Students  
Sun., Mar. 18, 9:15 a.m.

*Which mobile phone uses are enhancing life; which are draining?  
Which apps facilitate true community; which foster a sense of aloneness?*

- Basic information on common apps will be provided.
- Reflections on positive and negative effects of phone use will be shared.
- Suggestions of apps to strengthen one's spiritual life will be given.

**Easter Prayer Vigil**

Every year, from the evening of Good Friday until sunrise on Easter Sunday, FPC members and friends hold vigil, offering up an unending stream of prayers from our chapel to the throne of God. It takes many participants to fill all the time slots, so please consider being one of them! Assisted by the prayer guide, the hour goes by very quickly, and many find the time of solitude to be a deeply meaningful spiritual experience.

*In the Memorial Room, you can fill out a prayer request card and/or sign up for a time slot in the Easter Prayer Vigil.*



FORUM 03.25.18 PRESENTED BY DAN DEFFENBAUGH 9:15 A.M. FELLOWSHIP HALL

During the season of Lent, there is a photo exhibit set up in the Chapel called **“Reflections of Holy Week.”** The photos are from Pastor Greg’s trip to Lebanon and Syria in October of 2016. Accompanying the photos are a scripture that reflects the last week of Christ’s life along with a question or statement for reflection. You are invited to walk through the exhibit anytime between now and Easter. There is an accompanying booklet, also in the chapel, which includes the photos and scriptures for you to take home and use as a study guide during the Season of Lent.

**Coming Soon: College planning...It's never too early to start nor too late to get help!**

- *What does it really cost to go to college these days? How do different schools handle merit vs. need-based financial aid?*
- *How does a student figure out which school is best for him or her?*
- *What clues can standardized tests offer for discerning future career aptitude?*
- *What does "college planning" look like in the middle school years? And what needs to happen during each year of high school?*

These questions and many more will be addressed by experts in FPC's first College Planning Workshop. Free and open to the community, this workshop will prove valuable for parents and students at all stages in the college planning process.

*Thursday, April 12, 6:30-8:00 p.m.*

**Mark Your Calendars: Parenting Workshop on April 14**

Children don't come with instruction manuals, but expert advice, instruction, and encouragement is on the way! Make plans now to attend (and invite any community parents you know) our parenting workshop on Saturday, April 14, 1-5 p.m. The workshop will be led by Dr. Nancy Foster, professor and clinician specializing in pediatric psychology. Presented by the FPC Adult Ed Committee.

**Did you know** that most of our Forums (the adult education classes taught on Sunday morning), are recorded and available on our website? You can watch previous forums by visiting this webpage: <https://fpchastings.org/adult-education>.

Recalling that the March United Harvest distribution is quickly approaching, our "Featured Form" for this edition of the *Home Page* is one entitled "Hunger in Hastings." To find the video of this Forum, visit the web page above and then scroll down to the blue buttons with white text (quite a ways down the page) clicking on the one labeled "10/2 Hunger in Hastings."

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### **United Harvest: Offering Food and Raising Awareness**

As we prepare for Saturday's United Harvest distribution, please remember three things:

1. Food is available, no questions asked, to anyone in need. Bring boxes or bags to receive.
2. Volunteers are needed! Last month, we were short on volunteers. Most are needed during the primary shift (9:30-12:00), but many are also needed for the clean-up shift (12:00-2:00). Your help is appreciated!!
3. United Harvest distributions are a venue for spiritual and personal growth. Please consider the following thoughts, shared with us by a friend from FUMC.

*"Language and how we use it matters, especially within the Christian community where the context is transforming lives. Language is constantly changing with the times. That should lead us to challenge and listen to each other because what has been normative in the past may not be acceptable today. Communication styles likely vary widely among the diverse group of volunteers and guests who make up the United Harvest ministry. Thus, with patience and awareness, we should all strive to avoid language which exhibits racial bias, labels people by what they lack, or indicates gender-based judgments or preconceptions. Such language would demonstrate failure to love our neighbor. An example from my educational background in the scientific arena fifty years ago illustrates how what once was normative is now considered sexist. The statement "A scientist should carefully document his experiments" would today more likely be written as "Scientists should document their experiments." When we label someone as "poor," do we emphasize their financial poverty and dismiss their value? When native English speakers hear Spanish being spoken locally, do we respond with curiosity or with judgment? In all matters which threaten to divide us—race, language, gender, financial standing, etc.—may we use language that instead brings to light the unity of Spirit which we have through God who created us all."*

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### **Langenberg Legacy Lesson Program Application for Spring 2018 is now available**

First Presbyterian Church is pleased to invite you to participate in a very exciting program offered by our church. Several years ago, through the generosity of the late Luella Langenberg, a program was established to encourage the children and youth of our church in their musical pursuits. Parent(s) of students in grades 1-12 may apply for up to \$250 per semester to offset the cost of private music instruction. Applicable areas of study include: piano, voice, guitar, or any band/orchestral instrument. Grants are limited to one per child. Parent(s) must be members of First Presbyterian Church and students must be active participants in the church choir/music program. Lessons are verified by Worship, Arts and Music committee members. NOTE: Although grants are renewable, parents MUST RE-APPLY EACH SEMESTER.

## ***FPC Adult Mission in Motion***



***"Building relationships and understanding across borders."***

***Save the Dates***

***October 20<sup>th</sup> to October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018***

***Join fellow church members on a journey to Frontera de Cristo.***

***[fronterdecristo.org](http://fronterdecristo.org)***

**Frontera de Cristo is a Presbyterian border ministry located in the sister cities of Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico and Douglas, Arizona. Frontera joins with community partners in six areas of border ministry including: church development, health ministry, family ministry, mission education, the Just Trade Center and community development with the New Hope Community Center.**

This trip is being coordinated by four members of our mission committee who made this life changing journey over a year ago. Denny Storer, Jan Ham, Pam Lay, Jeni Howard and Greg Allen Pickett will be glad to answer questions and share their experiences of Frontera de Cristo. There are so many blessings from this type of mission experience, but two of the most important are the spiritual growth and relationships developed with people working-living close to the borders on all sides; as well as, the relationships built with our fellow travelers. We are hoping to find about 12 adults interested in going. We are looking at an estimated cost of \$800 which includes a flight from Grand Island to Tucson. It also includes housing and most meals. There may be some financial assistance available. We will continue to add information about the ministry, registration, costs and schedules each week. Our adult mission trip to Frontera is a "trip of discovery" -- we go to gather information, share stories, experience new stories, and bring the stories back to interpret to all. We will also learn more about how the Café Justo we sell in our Hands Around the World Store is such an important part of that story.

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Attached is a photo of a portion of the US/Mexico Border Wall from both sides, and a Peace on Earth Pole at sunset.



### **Presbyterian Women Circle Meetings – March 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Circle I – 9:30am: Hostess - Jean Barber; Lesson - Mary Jeanne Cooke**

**Circle II – 9:30am: Hostess - Mary Fisk; Lesson - Susie Graham**

**Circle III – 1:15pm: Hostess - Marie Rasmussen; Lesson - Katharine Davis**

### **DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS:**

NOWKA, Larry & Carolyn, p.19: Regency, 1235 N. Laird, Apt. #122, Hastings.

THOMSON, Barry & Margaret (Peggy), p. 26: 402-499-3795

\*Minden (Not Menden)\*



## EASTER LILIES

Easter lilies may be purchased in honor or in memory of a loved one. The cost is \$12. Twenty Easter lilies will be purchased. All additional proceeds will be donated to Adams/Clay County ARC (Advocate for the Rights of Citizens).

Lily in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Lily in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Prayers for:** Lynn Barrows, Judy Brown, Ruth Caldwell, Fiona (Louie & Kristen) Eckhardt, Stacy Eddleman, Zelma Fobben, Celia & Wayne Ganow, Bonnie Grams, Carol Harrenstein, John Harrington, Irmise (& Elmer) Heeren, Jean Houser (Mary Kay LaMaster's mother), Kathy (& Steve) Illingworth, Linda Johnson, Richard & Wanda Langer, Mary (& Jim) Lewis, Carol Medsker, Bob Nedderman, Larry & Carolyn Nowka, Ramona Shetler, Erv & Betty Lou Siemoneit (Shirley Maul & Sandy Siemoneit's parents), Irva Smith, Elaine & son Jonathan Specht, Steve Thelen (Pamela Lay's brother-in-law), Beth (Peggy Thomson's sister), Audrey Watson and families.

**Condolences to** Jill Kramer, family and friends. Jill's sister Judy from Wayne, NE, died March 8<sup>th</sup> after a long battle with cancer. Church services will be held in Wayne and a graveside service in Hastings, to be announced. Prayers for Jill, Judy's close friend Gloria, and Gloria's three great nieces.

**Congratulations to** grandparents Kenton & Bonnie Grams for the birth of Marion Emilia Baumbart-Grams born March 7<sup>th</sup> to Brayton and Aaltje of Chicago, Ill.

"First Presbyterian Church Members – **Thank you to everyone for their thoughts & prayers.** We feel very blessed to be part of such a caring church family! A special thank you to Kim Creech for her visit and delivery of flowers. They were very beautiful! I am healing and feel better each day! Love," – Stacey & Tony Eddleman & Family

"Dear FPC Friends and Deacons, **Thank you so much for your prayers and support** through my dad's illness and death. I truly appreciate your care and concern during this difficult time. Sincerely" -- Erica Brooks

**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 Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. on KICS 1550 AM.

**Sunday's service will be broadcast** live on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/fpchastings](http://www.facebook.com/fpchastings) and on Channel 181 Tuesday at 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 any Sunday service** is available on DVD disc upon request at no charge. Contact Tarci in the office.

**2018 Offering Envelopes are in.** You may pick yours up from the glass shelf in front of the church office or on the welcome stand in the Memorial Room. Please call the office if you'd like yours mailed.

*"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."* --Dave Dirks, Moderator of the Foundation



## Help the young women of Pine Ridge Reservation.

Beginning on Women's Sunday, March 4 a special project has come to our attention. Many teenage girls on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, SD are missing up to one week of school each month because they can not afford Sanitary Supplies.

You can help us and these young ladies. A group of FPC women along with the Presbyterian Women's Committee are asking for the congregation to either donate supplies or help with money to purchase products.

We will be doing an ongoing drive for feminine hygiene products for the young women living on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

You can buy the products and bring them to the church or you can donate money and they will buy the products in bulk to be shipped to the reservation.

The supplies can be placed in Memorial Room starting March 4 and continuing in the future by leaving them in the office or leave a check made out to First Presbyterian Church with a note on the memo line Pine Ridge.

If you would like to read more about this concern you can read the Huffington Post IMPACT article from August 25, 2017.

[https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/what-its-like-to-be-a-teen-in-the-us-who-cant-afford-tampons\\_us\\_597216dde4b09e5f6cceddff](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/what-its-like-to-be-a-teen-in-the-us-who-cant-afford-tampons_us_597216dde4b09e5f6cceddff)

For further information contact  
Kim Hermann, Margaret Marsh or Georgie Evans.



## Home Page

First Presbyterian Church

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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](mailto:tarci@fpchastings.org) or call 402-462-5147.

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