



## Sixth Sunday of Easter – Confirmation Sunday May 6, 2018

**PRELUDE**

“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”  
Organist Linda Vollweiler

arr. Diana Bish

WELCOME Greg Allen-Pickett

HANDBELL INTROIT	Bwana Arabariki (May God Grant You a Blessing) Calvin/Westminster Ringers	Susan Nelson
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\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 98)

Sing to the Lord a new song, a song of hope and rejoicing!

***Praise God for wonderful acts of mercy and kindness!***

God has remembered God's faithful ones.

***God has poured blessing upon blessing upon us!***

Praise the Lord, all the earth, shout your praise!

***Rejoice, for God is truly with us. Come let us worship God!***

\*HYMN                      “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”                      Verses 1 & 3, 475

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (John 15)

***We have been called to follow Christ by obeying his one commandment: that we love one another as he has loved us. We confess this morning how we have fallen short of that love. Loving God, we have not loved you or each other with our whole hearts. Forgive us, we pray, and lead us toward wholeness, that we may be filled with your joy. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.***

# SILENT CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Christ loves us so much that he laid down his life for us and calls us his friends.

***Our call is to love and forgive our friends, and to seek Christ's love and forgiveness.***

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and loved!

\*PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you!

***And also with you!***

(Greet one another by sharing the Peace of Christ with those around you.)

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

(Please pass the Friendship Pads, and sign in to let us know you were here this morning.)

BAPTISMS

This morning we joyfully celebrate the baptisms of:

Harrison David, Raegan Leigh, Lincoln Thomas, Truman John and Wilson Ann Welsch.  
All the children in the church are invited to come down and sit around the baptismal font.

THE QUESTIONS FOR THE CONGREGATION

Through the act of baptism, this child will be received into Christ’s church and this congregation has a role in her nurture. To that end, I ask the congregation, do you promise, with God’s help, to support and pray for these children and their parents? And, do you promise to love these children and to assist them in becoming faithful followers of Jesus Christ? If so, please respond by saying say, “We do.”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, in the reading of your Word, that we would hear what you have to say to us today. May your Holy Spirit be poured out upon us; through Jesus Christ. Amen.***

1<sup>ST</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – Acts 10:44-48

2<sup>ND</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – John 15:9-17

SERMON

Confirmands’ Statements of Faith

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Written by First Presbyterian Church Confirmation Class, 2018)

We believe that God is our Father, who helps us through our daily lives. He is the creator of Heaven and Earth, who watches over us. We believe that God is our protector, who forgives us of our sins. He is our teacher, who guides us through our paths of life.

We believe that Jesus is the Holy Son of God. He is our leader and role model. We believe that he died for us on the cross, so that we could be forgiven of our sins. We believe that Jesus is the human form of God, and that he watches over us, guides us, and shows us the way to live a religious and great life. We believe that he continues to preach to us about how to live a sacred life.

We believe that the Holy Spirit is the voice inside our heads that tells us what is right and what is wrong. It is the part of God that is within us and is also all around us. We believe that the Holy Spirit allows and helps us to learn about God. It is the part of God that stays with us even after we die.

We believe that the Church is a safe place where people can practice their religion. The Church is also a group of people who come together to learn and talk about God. The Church brings its members closer together, and helps them to go out and help less fortunate people. Amen.

OFFERING (All loose coins in the offering plate will be donated to PC(USA) Hunger Fund.)

OFFERTORY "Resonances and Alleluias" Cathy Moklebust  
Chancel Handbells

\*DOXOLOGY "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" 606

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***The wisdom of the world tells us to hoard what we own, O God, while you invite us to share what we have with those in need. Accept these gifts for your purposes, that we may be your servants in the world.***

CONFIRMATION

***Tanner Gene Bauer***

Confirmation Mentor:

Tony Eddleman

Parents:

Gary & Jenni Bauer

Baptism Date: 02/29/2004

***Luke Anthony Brooks***

Confirmation Mentor:

Chad Murrell

Parents:

Brent & Erica Brooks

Baptism Date: 03/21/2004

***Abigail Elizabeth Kerr***

Confirmation Mentor:

Kathy Reimer

Parents: Rob & Michelle Kerr

Baptism Date: 10/31/2004

***Eric Steven Brader***

Confirmation Mentor:

Tom Ratzlaff

Parents:

Justin & Steph Brader

Baptism Date: 08/15/2004

***Chudier Tang Duang***

Confirmation Mentor:

Pamela Lainson

Parents: Nyareak Deng &

Peter Duang

Baptism Date: 09/18/2005

***Nathan James Kerr***

Confirmation Mentor:

Richard Johnson

Parents: Neil & Stacy Kerr

Baptism Date: 08/15/2004

***Erika Jane Nielsen***

Confirmation Mentor:

Mary Fisk

Parents: Erik & Ruth Nielsen

Baptism Date: 07/04/2004

STATEMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Stephanie Brader

Confirmands, will you be faithful members of this congregation, sharing in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Confirmands: ***We will, with God's help.***

Congregation, you have been witnesses to their life in this congregation. Will you support them by reaffirming your commitment as faithful members of this congregation, sharing in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

***Congregation: We will, with God's help!***

RENEWAL OF BAPTISM AND PRAYER WITH THE CONFIRMANDS

## WELCOME AS MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION

By publicly professing their faith, these confirmands have expressed their intention to continue in the covenant God made with them in their baptism. Let us welcome them as they join with us in the worship and mission of the church.

**Congregation: *With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one in him.***

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts.

***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.***

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

### COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Served by the Confirmands and Communion Servers

Take and eat the bread when it is passed to you.

Take the cup and hold it until the entire congregation has been served. We drink the cup together as a sign of unity in the Body of Christ.

### COMMUNION ANTHEM

"Come to the Table"

Jack Walker

Chancel Choir, Soloist Linda Johnson

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

#### \*HYMN

"In Christ Called to Baptize"

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(During the singing of the final hymn, we will take a second offering to benefit "Open Table." The congregation is invited to come down to the communion table and place their offering in the basket.)

#### \*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*BLESSING RESPONSE "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love"

Verse 1, 300

#### \*POSTLUDE

"Festive Voluntary"

Henry Purcell

## **Announcements**

**May 6, 2018**

**The radio broadcast** airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is in memory of Edna Perry by Shirley Johnston and family.

**Today'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 - today'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 at 402-462-5147 or [tarci@fpchastings.org](mailto:tarci@fpchastings.org).

**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.

**Flowers** are given in loving memory of Mabel C. and Frank E. Weyer by family.

### **May 6, 2018:**

**Ushers (Team #3):** Andrew Barrows, Dave Fisher – Captain, Ed Lockwood, Phil Odom, Rich Portwood, Doug Soderquist

**Greeters:** Jane and Chuck Bauer, Mary Creigh

**Acolytes:** Grace Brader, McKain Ratzlaff

**Nursery:** Kim Bogan, Abby Shetler

**Prayers for:** Lynn Barrows, Judy Brown, Ruth Caldwell, Sharon Chapel, Fiona (Louie & Kristen) Eckhardt, Stacy Eddleman, Zelma Fobben, Celia & Wayne Ganow, Bonnie Grams, Irmise (& Elmer) Heeren, Michael, Marcia & Stephen Hogan, Kathy (& Steve) Illingworth, Lois Katt (Barbara Sunderman's mom), Arlene Kort, Mary Kay LaMaster, Richard & Wanda Langer, Mary (& Jim) Lewis, Teresa Luther, Dwight & Jane Marsh (Edie Perdew, Dwight's sister), Carol Medsker, Larry & Carolyn Nowka, Ramona Shetler, Erv & Betty Lou Siemoneit (Shirley Maul & Sandy Siemoneit's parents), Steve Thelen (Pamela Lay's brother-in-law), Beth (Peggy Thomson's sister), Audrey Watson and families.

### **May communion offerings** will be donated to the **Open Table Sack Lunch Program**.

FPC is scheduled to assemble and provide the Open Table lunches through the month of July again this year. More than 5,000 sack lunches were assembled and almost 800 'special meals' prepared last year. 'Special meals' required Wednesday afternoon gatherings, meal preparation and storage, delivery to Catholic Social Services to return Thursday to warm and assemble to serve. This 'above and beyond' effort was opted by the Mission Committee in consideration of those who eat sack lunches regularly. The cost to fill the total need was \$4,727.40. The Open Table Fund has a 2018 beginning balance of \$301.64. Glory be to God that we are able to fill this need; let's do it again! Your offering makes the difference!

**The mission committee delivered** 277 diapers and wipes to Catholic Social Services on April 27... per Denny Storer, "dry bottoms are good"...

***"Thank you** for your donation of 1 box = 20 items of groceries given to Hastings Food Pantry on April 16<sup>th</sup>! We appreciate it so much! Many people will be blessed with this donation!"* – Board of Directors, Hastings Food Pantry

**Spanish classes** will now be held on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. (rather than 6:30 p.m.) in the Annex's NW classroom. All levels of knowledge are welcome to attend these free classes!

### Coming Soon: FPC Summer Book Club

Do you know anyone in the so-called "Church Alumni Association," that growing organization filled with former church members who are no longer motivated and inspired by traditional explanations of spiritual truth?

Or do you sometimes yourself feel like a "believer in exile," a spiritual seeker struggling to straddle two worlds, one with modern concepts, symbols, and science, and another with confusing creeds, unmoving liturgies, and archaic language?

If these questions, both framed by phrases coined by Episcopalian Bishop John Shelby Spong, trigger either a positive response or serious curiosity, consider participating in FPC's Summer Book Club as it discusses Spong's new book *Unbelievable: Why Neither Ancient Creeds Nor the Reformation Can Produce a Living Faith Today*.

With the boldness of a modern day Martin Luther, Bishop Spong calls for a new reformation within the church, posing twelve challenging theses ranging from the need to reimagine the nature of God, to why original sin is an inadequate way to understand human behavior, to how resurrection has more to do with spiritual wholeness than unthinkable biology.

Facilitated by John Harrington, this discussion group will meet each Wednesday noon, June 6 - July 18 in the Anderson Conference Room. Feel free to bring a sack lunch. Participants should obtain a copy of the book through their preferred book outlet.

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### Name Tags Are Here!

Everyone who regularly worships at First Presbyterian (whether member or friend) has (or will have) a name tag stored in our beautiful new storage cabinet in the Memorial Room. If everyone wears their tags each week, we should soon know one another's names. *"No one is anonymous to God, and neither should we be to one another."* (Brian Johnson)

- THANK YOU to Brian and Laurie Johnson for building the storage piece.
- PLEASE return your tag to your assigned slot each week following worship.
- CONTACT Kili with any concerns (spelling, missing tag, slot assignment questions, etc.)



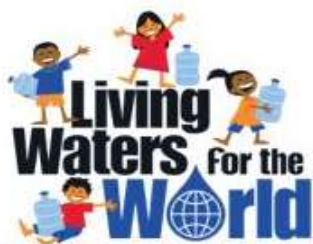
### GO & SERVE Needs Your Help/Stuff!

The Go and Serve Mission Team will be holding a Garage Sale June 1st and June 2nd in the FPC Annex. We would LOVE your donations of gently used items! We will take donations NOW until the days of the sale (June 1-2). Drop your items off in the church common office area or contact the church office to have a Go and Serve Team member pick up the items from you. Items we are not able to accept include tvs, computer monitors, child car seats and cribs.

**Ann L. Binfield and Chip Essex Memorial Scholarships** are available. Applications may be found on the glass shelf in front of the church office, or online at: [www.fpchastings.org/scholarships/](http://www.fpchastings.org/scholarships/). **Deadline is May 11, 2018.**



## Volunteers are still needed:



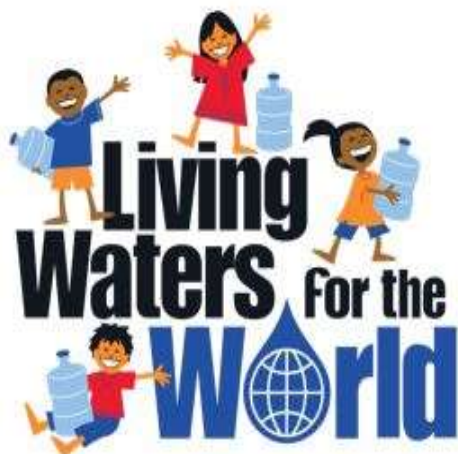
## 2018 VBS Volunteer Sign-Up

First Presbyterian Church--Hastings, NE

We are preparing for another great Vacation Bible School! This year, we are using Living Waters for the World's VBS curriculum. It is designed to help children experience God's love while exploring scriptures that refer particularly to God's use of water as an agent of creation, salvation, healing, blessing, and health. It will also give children an idea of the world water situation, and some suggestions about ways they may help.

**Our VBS will be held May 21-25, 9:00am-12:00pm.**

It is our prayer that God has VBS in His plan for your life! We know Jesus will work through YOU at VBS. Would you prayerfully consider serving in VBS? Please register as a volunteer at <https://fpchastings.org/vbs/>. Please contact Stephanie at [stephanie@fpchastings.org](mailto:stephanie@fpchastings.org) or 402-462-5147 with any questions or if you'd like a printed registration form.



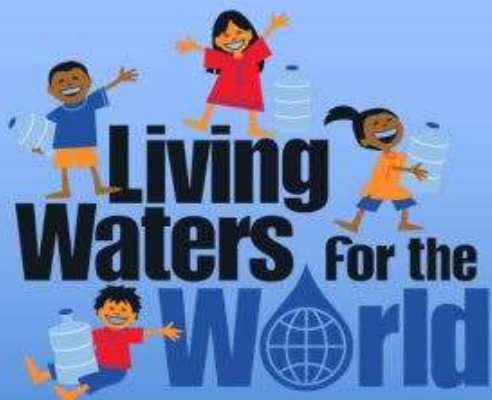
## 2018 VBS

First Presbyterian Church

May 21-25 9:00am-12:00pm

**\*\*Early drop-off option at 8:00am by pre-registration ONLY.**

Everyone welcome! Pre-school (must be toilet trained) through 4<sup>th</sup> Grade. Register now at <https://fpchastings.org/vbs/> for the best week of the summer!



**Clean Water for All God's Children!**

**Please join us for**

**Special-Needs VBS**

**May 22-24**

**1:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

**Hosted by: First Presbyterian Church**



Each Mother's Day, the Presbyterian Women sell **Mother's Day cards** for a suggested offering of \$10 each. The proceeds go to a mission to help mothers. Usually that mission has been overseas, but this year we are keeping it local. The proceeds will go to the *Sixpence Early Learning Fund* here in Hastings. More than 30,000 of Nebraska's infants and toddlers are at risk of arriving at their first day of kindergarten developmentally unprepared to learn and thrive. Sixpence is changing the odds in their favor. 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.

Women from our church will be selling cards Sunday, April 29, and Sunday, May 6 in the Memorial Room. Cards will also be available for purchase in the church office Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m. thru the week of April 30. Please stop by and help us help the young women of Hastings.



**American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Adams County**  
**Friday, June 1, 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM Hastings High School Track**

Relay for Life is the nationwide, signature event of the American Cancer Society. It is a community event in the fight against cancer, and as part of the ceremonies, volunteers and survivors line the track with luminaria (lighted candles in weighted, white bags) inscribed with an individual's name. At sunset, everyone is invited to participate in the incredibly moving Luminaria Ceremony and observe a heartfelt moment of silence as the candles are lit. Each luminaria is lit in honor of someone who has survived cancer or in memory of someone who has lost his or her battle to cancer. Donations for luminaria are \$10 each. All money goes to the American Cancer Society mission to help others Stay Well, Get Well, Finding Cures and Fight Back. First Presbyterian Church Team again will be participating this year. Luminaries are available each Sunday in May at a table in the Memorial Room or in the church office during the week. Donations can be made via the website: [www.RelayForLife.org](http://www.RelayForLife.org).



In honor and in memory of our father's on Father's Day this year, the Presbyterian Women will be collecting donations for Living Waters for the World (LWW), a global ministry that provides sustainable clean water and fosters long-term, mutually beneficial relationships between volunteers and communities in need.

LWW is a program of the Synod of Living Waters, Presbyterian Church (USA). Participation of churches of all denominations and civic organizations in this life-changing work is encouraged. LWW trains volunteers to establish and lead water mission teams that partner with international communities to implement water purification systems and health education. International Networks support partners throughout every phase of a water project and support sustainable water systems that produce clean water for a generation.

Please make your donation of any denomination payable to "Presbyterian Women" and include the name(s) of who you'd like to honor or memorialize. Checks may be given to your circle leader, be dropped off in PW's mailbox in the common office area, or mailed to FPC. Contact Mary Fisk with questions: 402-460-7880 or [maryjanefisk@gmail.com](mailto:maryjanefisk@gmail.com).



**FPC: Exploring God's Mission Through Partnership**  
***"Building relationships and understanding across borders."***



**Fact Sheet**

***What?***

FPC Hastings is sponsoring an adult exchange to one of our mission partners, Frontera de Cristo from October 20<sup>th</sup> to October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Frontera de Cristo is a Bi-National Presbyterian Border Ministry.

The following is directly from their excellent website at [fronteradecristo.org](http://fronteradecristo.org)

*Working with our partners, Frontera de Cristo engages in six areas of ministry including: church development, health ministry, family ministry, mission education, the Just Trade Center, and community development with the New Hope Community Center. A great deal of energy and prayer is directed towards mission education, working with mission delegations across borders to build relationships and understanding, and witness to the power of the gospel to tear down walls that divide humankind. Mission teams come to be in mutual mission with their Mexican brothers and sisters, sharing their gifts and talents as well as receiving.*

***Where?***

Frontera de Cristo is a Bi-National Border Ministry between Douglas, AZ and Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico. Our mission group will spend some time in Douglas, but most of the week will be spent in Agua Prieta.

***When, How and How Much?***

Plans are to depart from the Grand Island Airport for Tucson, AZ on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. A Frontera de Cristo van will pick us up in Tucson and transport us

to Douglas and Agua Prieta. We will fly back to Grand Island from Tucson on Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. The estimated cost is approximately \$800 to \$900 including the flight. If you prefer to drive and have more time, arrangements could be made to meet in Douglas. This cost includes food and housing while we are there. We will be housed in homes, a community center, or churches during our stay.

### *Activities:*

Primary goals for exchange delegates include:

- Forming relationships between U.S. and Mexican brothers and sisters.
- Building understanding of our spiritual, political and economic connections across borders
- Understanding the realities of life on the border
- Sharing talents or gifts of participants; as well as, discovering new abilities.
- Building knowledge of Frontera de Cristo to interpret their mission and ministry to others.

Activities may include visits, interactions and services at a migrant resource center, migrant shelter, the border wall, border patrol, Sonoran Desert, a Maquiladora, Just Trade Center, drug/alcohol rehab center, community gardens, Lily of the Valley Church, Café Justo roasting facility and Café Y Mas coffee shop.

### *Who?*

Twelve adults who are interested in making this life changing journey and building understanding and relationships with our brothers and sisters across the border, and with each other. Those participating should be able to handle moderate amounts of walking. An official ID is necessary for border crossing. Passports may serve as this identification, but are not necessarily required for this trip.

### *Deadlines and Application*

The deadline for filling out the attached application is June 1st, 2018. A \$200 deposit would be required at that time. Again some of the activities and opportunities could be tailored to the skills and interests of the participants, so the sooner we know who is coming, the better. The final non-refundable payment will be due July 1<sup>st</sup> to book the flight. Please consider joining us.

## B. INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION FORM

### FRONTERA DE CRISTO

Individual Registration Form



#### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name	Telephone
Address	E-mail
Name of Church or Organization	Passport #

#### MEDICAL INFORMATION

Do you have any medical or physical disabilities that may require accommodation?

If yes, please describe.

Do you take prescription medication?

If yes, please list their names and dosages.

Allergies	Blood Type
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#### SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Food Allergies

Dietary Restrictions (vegetarian, gluten free, diabetic etc.)

Accessibility (wheelchair access, etc.)

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

PLEASE BRIEFLY  
DESCRIBE WHAT YOU  
WOULD LIKE TO LEARN  
ON THIS TRIP.

#### EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name	Telephones (home, work, cell)
Address	E-mail

## **This Week --- May 7 – May 12, 2018**

<b>Mon, May 7</b>	<b>5:30p-6:30p</b>	<b>Foundation Meets</b> in Anderson Conference Room
	<b>6:30p-8:00p</b>	<b>Boy Scouts Endurance Training</b> in Annex Gym
	<b>7:00p-9:00p</b>	<b>Boy Scouts Meet</b> in Scout Room
	<b>7:30p-9:30p</b>	<b>Chorus of the Plains Practice</b> in Choir Room
<b>Tue, May 8</b>	<b>10:30a-11:30p</b>	<b>Staff Meeting</b> in Pastor's Office
	<b>12:00p-1:00p</b>	<b>Bible Study</b> in Anderson Conference Room
	<b>1:00p</b>	<b>Quilters Meet</b> in Annex
	<b>5:30p-6:30p</b>	<b>Congregational Life Committee Meets</b> in the Parlor
	<b>5:30p-6:30p</b>	<b>Trustees Meet</b> in Anderson Conference Room
	<b>7:00p-8:00p</b>	<b>CCC Dog Obedience Class</b> in NE Classroom, Annex
<b>Wed, May 9</b>	<b>7:00a-8:00a</b>	<b>Bible@Breakfast</b> in the Parlor
	<b>Last WNL 2017/2018 Picnic @ Libs Park</b>	
	<b>6:30p-8:00p</b>	<b>Wood Carvers Meet</b> in Basement
<b>Thu, May 10</b>	<b>5:00p-6:00p</b>	<b>Personnel Committee Meets</b> in Kessler
	<b>6:00p-7:00p</b>	<b>Spanish Class</b> in NW Classroom, Annex
<b>Fri, May 11</b>	<b>10:00a-12:00p</b>	<b>Mahjong Ladies</b> in Youth Activity Room
<b>Sat, May 12</b>	<b>12:00p-8:00p</b>	<b>Private Graduation Celebrations in Fellowship Hall &amp; NW Classroom/Gym in Annex</b>

### ***First Presbyterian Church of Hastings Sharing the love of Christ in the heart of Hastings since 1873***

**Head of Church:** Jesus Christ  
**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett  
**Director of Children & Family**  
**Ministries:** Stephanie Brader  
**Organist:** Linda Vollweiler  
**Chancel Choir Director:** Dr. Robin Koozer  
**Calvin/Westminster Choir Director:** Linda Johnson  
**Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors:** Tim and Teresa Canady  
**Praise/Alleluia Bells Choir Director:** Dr. Susan Oliver  
**Accompanists:** Mary Plock and Alice Throckmorton  
**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey

**Ministers:** Members of the Church  
**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Damen Heitmann  
**Director of Adult Education & Spiritual Formation:** Kili Wenburg  
**Parish Associate:** Rev. Don Canady  
**Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster Bells Director:** Dr. Byron Jensen  
**Music Coordinator:** Tim Canady  
**Administrative Specialist:** Tarci Matthews  
**Facilities Manager:** Tony Calhoun