

First Presbyterian Church Hastings



Ascension of the Lord Sunday May 13, 2018

PRELUDE "Processional" William Mathias arr. Eckhardt
Organist Linda Vollweiler
Dr. Louie Eckhardt, Trumpet

WELCOME Greg Allen-Pickett

CHORAL INTROIT "How Majestic is Your Name" Michael W. Smith
Calvin/Westminster Youth Choir, Directed by Linda Johnson

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Acts 1, Psalm 47, Ephesians 1) Damen Heitmann
Christ is alive! He is risen from the dead!
The Holy One calls us to worship and praise.
Baptized with the power of the Holy Spirit,
We live with Christ in our hearts.
Clap your hands and shout to God with loud songs of joy!
Sing praises to God, who fills the world with forgiveness and grace!

*HYMN "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" 263

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Acts 1)

Jesus said, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Holy One has set." Yet we find ourselves looking to the future, trying to predict or anticipate what is to come instead of living fully present in each day. Jesus said, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you." Yet the Holy Spirit can scare us, so strive to create procedures and order rather than opening our hearts to those around us. Forgive us, Holy One, when we try to shape the world according to our desires, instead of asking for the power to do your will.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Holy One enlightens the eyes of our hearts,
That we may know the hope to which we are called.
In the name of Christ, we are forgiven and loved!
Alleluia, Amen!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Glory to God”

582

*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.)

ANTHEM

“Without Love it Will All Pass Away” Lloyd Larson
Calvin/Westminster Youth Choir, Directed by Linda Johnson

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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

BAPTISM This morning we joyfully celebrate the baptism of Fiona Elizabeth Eckhardt
All the children in the church are invited to come down and sit around the baptismal font.
While the children are coming forward, the congregation will sing, “Jesus Loves Me.”

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

Enlighten the eyes of our hearts, O God, and grant us a spirit of wisdom and revelation through the reading of this, your Word. Amen.

1ST SCRIPTURE READING – Ephesians 1:15-23

REFLECTION

Jane and Margaret Marsh

2ND SCRIPTURE READING – Acts 1:1-11

SERMON

“A Spirit of Wisdom”

HYMN

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

245

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Responsive Apostles' Creed)

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

OFFERTORY "La Rejouissance" G.F. Handell arr. Seipp

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Psalm 47:1)

Holy One, we clap our hands and shout for joy! We give you praise and these offerings, for, with Christ ascended by your side, you are God, awesome and most high! Use these gifts to help us proclaim your message of love and hope to the world. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

*HYMN "Open My Eyes, That I May See" 451

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*POSTLUDE "Psalm 19" Marcello

We are an Easter people, Alleluia is our song!

-St. Augustine

April-May Easter Season Worship Themes

Sunday 4/8: "Service and Unity" Acts 4:32-35, 100 years of Boy Scouts at FPC

Sunday 4/15: "Showing up" Luke 24:36-48, Visit from mission partner from Mexico,
Hastings College Handbell Choir

Sunday 4/22: High School Senior Recognition Sunday, Psalm 23 and John 10:11-18

Sunday 4/29: "Guiding and Teaching" Acts 8:26-40

Sunday 5/6: Confirmation Sunday, Confirmands' Statements of Faith

Sunday 5/13: "A Spirit of Wisdom" Ephesians 1:15-23, Mother's Day

Sunday 5/20: Pentecost in the Park! Acts 2:1-21 Shared worship
and potluck with the Episcopal Church in Chautauqua Park



CHURCH IN THE PARK

A joint worship service of the
congregations of First Presbyterian
and St. Mark's Episcopal

Picnic lunch follows worship.
Main dish provided. Bring a side to share.

**SUNDAY, MAY 20, 10:30 A.M.
CHAUTAUQUA PARK**

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

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

From Presbyterian Women

DONATION IN HONOR OF:

All Mothers
Corrina Bohlke
Stacey Bohlke
Liz Creech
My Daughter Jana Kay Ghorashy
Shirley Johnston
Shirley Johnston
Carol Kyle
Gretchen Lainson
Elizabeth Lay
Evelyn J. Geu
Rachel Lay
Carol Medsker
Sue Medsker-Nedderman
Becky Meyer (Lydia & Nina's Mom)
Verna Meyer
Julia McDougal
Renee Miller
Robyn Nedderman
Victoria Nieves
3rd Sister Shari
Renalda Wenburg

GIVEN BY:

Anne Bohlke
Anne Bohlke
Anne Bohlke
Anne Bohlke
Flossie Sanderson
Jim & Mary Lewis
Joy White
Bianca, Meghan & Morgan
Mary Olsen
Pamela Lay
Pamela Lay
Pamela Lay
Sue Medsker-Nedderman
Drew, Carol & Chris
Michael Meyer
Michael Meyer
The Koozer Family
Mary Fisk
Calvin
Mary Fisk
Susie Graham
Jim & Rogene Wenburg

DONATION IN MEMORY OF:

Dorothy Friedewald
Phyllis Hansen
Leona Hoff
Ethel McKain
Olive Madrid
Margaret Nedderman
Our Mothers
Our Mothers
Etta Swanson
Lyal Throckmorton

GIVEN BY:

Lynne Friedewald
Rogene & Jim Wenburg
Susan & Neal Hoff family
Susan & Neal Hoff family
Carla Fike
Bob Nedderman
Daveta & Dick Brader
Marie & Don Rasmussen
Alice Throckmorton
Alice Throckmorton

Announcements

May 13, 2018

The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is given by JoAnn and Les Seiler.

Today's service will be broadcast live on Facebook at 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.

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 Phyllis Glass & Dorothy Christenson.

The single red rose is in honor of Little Miss Mae Rose. She blessed the Hoff family with her birth on Friday, May 4th, 2018. Her parents are Sarah and Nick Hoff of LA, California. She has 2 brothers, Indiana Allen and Neal Henry. Grandparents are Pat and Barb Allen of New Carlisle, Indiana, and Susan and Neal Hoff of Hastings.

May 13, 2018:

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

Greeters: Barry & Peggy Thomson, Jan Ham

Acolytes: Ashton Essink, Norah Snell

Nursery: Kim Bogan, Abby Shetler

Prayers for: Lynn Barrows, Henry (Amy & Joe) Black, 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, 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.

Offerings for the **Open Table Sack Lunch Program** will be collected through May.

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 currently has a balance of \$1,851.64. Please make checks payable to FPC with 'Open Table' in the notation section. Glory be to God that we are able to fill this need; let's do it again! Your offering makes the difference!

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 **Parlor**. Feel free to bring a sack lunch. Participants should obtain a copy of the book through their preferred book outlet.

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.)

Summer Bible Study Schedule

FPC offers two regular weekday Bible studies: Tuesdays at noon and Wednesdays at 7 a.m.. During the summer, the Tuesday noon group will continue to meet as they have throughout the year. The Wednesday morning group will continue with their regular schedule *through May*. Beginning June 6, the Wednesday morning Bible study group will change time and focus: instead of meeting at 7 a.m., they will meet at noon; instead of studying the upcoming Sunday's scriptures, they will study a book (for details on the book, see article elsewhere in this newsletter about "Summer Book Club").

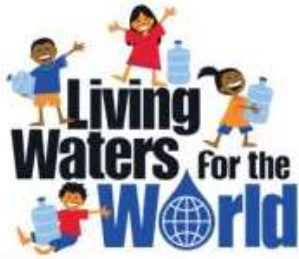
Next United Harvest: Saturday, May 19

At the April United Harvest distribution, an abundance of volunteers were present to make the mission a success! Volunteers are not asked to sign up in advance, so organizers never know whether there will be too many or too few workers. Therefore, even though there was more than enough help last month, this month may be very different, so please continue to support this important mission with your time and your prayers. It takes around 100 volunteers every month....is this the month you can help? If so, please come to the Annex gym at 9:30 or noon (workers for both shifts are needed!) and check in at the volunteer coordinator table. THANK YOU FPC for your continued service to the community through United Harvest!!

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.

Volunteers are still needed:



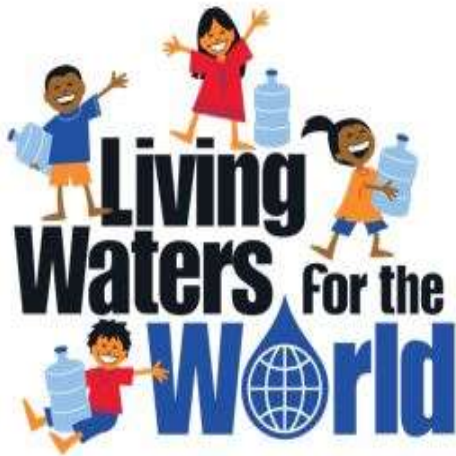
2018 VBS Volunteer Sign-Up

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 or 402-462-5147 with any questions or if you'd like a printed registration form.



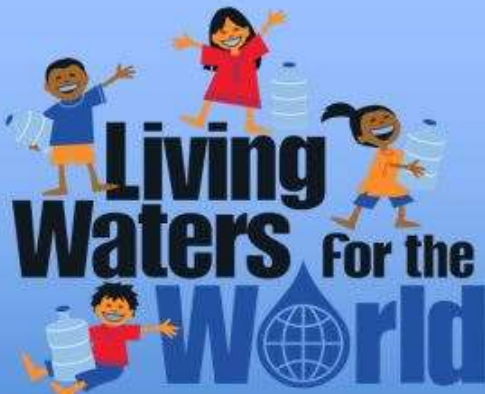
2018 VBS

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 4th 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



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, dropped off in PW's mailbox in the common office area, or mailed to FPC. Deadline is June 14th. Contact Mary Fisk with questions: 402-460-7880 or maryjanefisk@gmail.com.

Synod School 2018



"People having so much fun
while examining issues related to faith."

"Wonderful, thoughtful, energetic, fun-loving
teachers, staff and leaders."

"A place where the needs of the entire family are considered."

"Gives me the incentive to try new things in my church."

"The 'connectedness' and warmth of Christian community."



July 22-27, 2018

Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, Iowa

Discover Synod School!

www.lakesandprairies.org/SynodSchool
800-328-1880, ext. 207

**Dance Joyfully
Where'er You May Be**



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.

This Week --- May 14 – May 19, 2018

Mon, May 14	5:00p-6:00p	HSO Meeting in Anderson Conference Room
	5:30p-6:30p	WAM Meeting in Kessler Room
	6:00p-9:00p	Boy Scouts Court of Honor in Fellowship Hall
	6:30p-8:00p	Boy Scouts Endurance in Annex
	7:30p-9:30p	Chorus of the Plains Practice in Choir Room
Tue, May 15	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study in Anderson Conference Room
	1:00p	Quilters Meet in Annex
	6:45p-7:45p	Deacons Meeting in Anderson Conference Room
	7:00p-8:00p	CCC Dog Obedience Class in NE Classroom, Annex
Wed, May 16	7:00a-8:00a	Bible@Breakfast in the Parlor
	9:30a	Circle 1 Meets -Hostess: Sally Smith; Lesson: Elaine Specht
	9:30a	Circle 2 Meets -Hostess: Joy White; Lesson: Mary Lewis
	1:15p-2:15p	Circle 3 Meets in Library
	6:30p-8:00p	Wood Carvers Meet in Basement
Thu, May 17	5:30p-6:30p	Session Meets in Anderson Conference Room
	6:00p-7:00p	Spanish Class in NW Classroom, Annex
Fri, May 18	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies in Youth Activity Room
	2:00p-9:00p	Hastings College Baccalaureate
Sat, May 19	United Harvest Food Distribution	
	Volunteers Needed 9:00a-12:00p & 11:30a-2:30p	