



The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 23.03, Weeks Of: February 17 and February 24, 2019

NOTABLE NOTES FROM...

A REFLECTION BY AMY HERMES

The Battle of Church vs. Sports

How many of you have had the conversation with your spouse, friends, co-workers or even your children about the balancing act of extra-curricular activities and church? It seems everything is battling for space in the day and it keeps creeping into the time usually allotted for church. It starts gradually and then, before we know it, the activity has taken the place of church. I'm not here to tell you how to fix it or that my family is doing it right, because every week is a challenge and a struggle to find the balance, but what I do want, is to share this story with you...

My son, Collin, recently joined a traveling baseball team. While I had prepared myself for the extra practices, the countless hours sitting on bleachers, and the weekends traveling to different locations to watch him play this sport he loves, I had not prepared myself for the e-mail from the coach saying that during the cold winter months, practices would be Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons. What?!

This is a huge conflict with our church activities, and while I am okay with occasionally missing church for an event, I am not okay with *consistently* replacing church for a sports activity.

Do I just go with the flow and let this sport interfere with all I believe in or do I stand up for the church and open up a conversation? Will opening up a conversation put him in a bad position with the coach and the rest of his teammates? Will not going to all the practices lessen his chance of playing time?

So many unanswered questions, but the decision was made and an email was sent back saying that Collin has a conflict with the practice schedule, he has church obligations and won't be able to attend all of the practices. The response I got back warmed my heart and gave me some assurance that all will be well in the world of church/sports if we can just maintain this kind of communication and balance. The coach replied back, "Church obviously comes first so I understand and nothing will be held against him for missing practice."

Many of you have been faced with this same scenario and may have even dealt with it in the same way. I recognize that this is not always an easy conversation to have, but at the end of the day we all need to keep having the conversations, communicating our thoughts, and standing up for our church and our beliefs, because the church will be a part of our lives for years to come and deserves to have its place on our weekly calendar.

-Amy Hermes

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| FPC Prayers for: | | |
| Jim Cooke | Jim Harrenstein | |
| Tom Kubica | John Harrington | Zelma Fobben |
| Sharon Harvey | Steve Thelen (Pamela Lay's brother-in law) | Kathy (& Steve) Illingworth |
| Jeff & Ashley Hermann | Katharine Davis | Arlene Kort |
| Celia & Wayne Ganow | Brooks Borrell (infant son of Kim & | Judy Brown |
| Levi Kaiser | Jeremy Borrell, grandson of Bev & Ken Stein) | Weston Mullins |
| | Betty Siemoneit and family | Andy Barrows |
| <i>Please let us know if you would like to be added to, or removed from, the prayer list by calling the church office at 402-462-5147.</i> | | |

Need a ride to church on Sundays? Call Deacon Moderator Joan Shaw at [402-460-8195](tel:402-460-8195) or the church office at [402-462-5147](tel: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 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.

"When working with your attorney to **update your will and estate plan**, please consider including a gift to the First Presbyterian Church Foundation.

--Dave Dirks, Moderator of the Foundation

HOSPITAL REMINDER

Due to hospital privacy regulations, if you would like the church to know that either you or a family member will be hospitalized or have been admitted, please take a moment and call the church office at 402-462-5147. Remember... we don't always know what's happening unless you tell us!

2019 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.

A copy of any Sunday service is available on DVD disc upon request at no charge. Contact the church office at [402-462-5147](tel:402-462-5147).

| January Budget | General Fund Giving | PC(USA) | Communion Offering |
|----------------|---------------------|---------|--------------------|
| \$47,917 | \$42,845 | \$152 | \$472 |

February Communion Offering goes to Hastings Literacy Program

The Hastings Literacy Program offers FREE adult education services to adults 16 and above including:

- Literacy and basic skills
- Preparation for the GED test
- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Citizenship (by request)

In addition all of our classes include computer literacy skills, college preparation, and workplace readiness skills.

Soup Group Lunchtime Conversations for Women

All women of the church are welcome to join in casual lunchtime conversations on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 12:00-1:00pm in the Library. Bring a sack lunch if you wish.

❖ Feb 21 – Topic to be determined.

Heir's Apparent Adult Sunday School

A six-week series, "Creed: What Christians Believe and Why" is a study of historic Christian faith and how the Apostle's Creed matters in lives today. The study asks questions such as: How does belief affect us? What is the source of our belief?

Spirituality Lab

Learn and practice together a different form of prayer or meditation at each gathering. Join us to find the information and support you need for a more interesting and fruitful prayer life. 7:00 a.m., *The Upper Room Classroom (upper level Memorial Room)*.

❖ February 28: "The Jesus Prayer"

How do you understand the relationship of the trinity?

❖ March 14: Using the Lord's Prayer as guide for meditation

How do you use the Bible in your prayer/meditation?

❖ March 28: Writing prayer as a letter between myself and God

How is prayer different from other spiritual practices?

❖ April 11: Praying via mandala creation

How can we involve family in prayer?

❖ April 25: Prayer walking (using the labyrinth at Hastings College)

How do you understand the relationship b/w happiness and joy, and where do you find them in your life?

Bible @ Breakfast

Wednesday's at 7 a.m. in the Parlor. Bible @ Breakfast is focusing on the development of the apocalyptic imagination in biblical history. Come join this new series with Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh studying from scripture in the Old and New Testaments.



Knitters and Crocheters If you like knitting and/or crocheting, join us for our new knitting/crocheting *fellowship group*, the **Knit Wits**. We will meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, 7:00-8:00/8:30 p.m. in the Parlor. First gathering will be on February 12. Bring whatever project you're currently working on, or stop in for pointers on how to get started. We'll have refreshments, fellowship, and fun!

The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be Tuesday, **April 1, 2019**, from 12 noon – 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendar now! To donate or volunteer your time, please call Erica Brooks, FPC Parish Nurse, at [402-469-9285](tel:402-469-9285) or sign up at www.redcrossblood.org.



New Member Class Interested in joining First Presbyterian Church, or simply curious about what membership might mean? You are invited to attend our three-session New Member course, which will cover Presbyterian history and theology, as well as local structures and involvement opportunities. Classes will take place from 11:30am-1:30pm on three Sunday's, February 10, 17, and 24. Each session includes complimentary meal and child care. *Please contact the church office to RSVP (402-462-5147)*

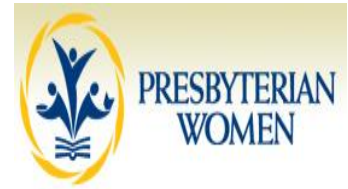


Pickle Ball?!!

Anyone interested in learning the hottest sport in America?!! FPC Hastings is starting a **FREE Pickle Ball** group. You are invited to come to the FPC Annex located at 7th and Lincoln Ave. every Monday from 1:00 to 3:00. Pickle Ball is a fun blend of ping pong, racquetball, and tennis. It is designed for all ages; a healthy activity for young and old alike. It is much lower impact than tennis, but just as fun! All equipment is available, you just need to show up. You will be excited to learn a new sport for the New Year! We promise you will not be disappointed.

February Presbyterian Women's Circle Meetings

- ✓ Circle I will meet February 20-9:30am (Hostess-Lynette Krieger; Lesson Elaine Specht)
- ✓ Circle II will meet February 20-9:30am (Hostess-Mary Jeanne Cooke; Lesson-Mary Lewis)
- ✓ Circle III will meet on February 20-1:15 pm (Hostess-Katharine Davis; Lesson-Jane Marsh)



Register NOW for 2019 Summer Camp--3rd through 12th Grade, PLUS Intergenerational & Family 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 glass shelf next to the church office door. Scholarship Applications are also available.

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

GRIEF GROUP FOR MEN AND WOMEN

Grief at the earthly loss of a loved one is an unavoidable part of the human experience.

The Apostle Paul assures us that as Christians, we do not grieve without hope (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

Our hope comes from our belief in the resurrection and eternal life, and our hope also comes from the people who stand by us in our grief, who reflect God's steadfast love for us.

That hope doesn't take away the very real pain we all experience, but in time it helps us to process our grief and carry on.

Find strength and comfort by gathering with others experiencing similar struggles with the loss of a loved one.

- Led by Pastor Greg, and Lanae Hall, PLMHP
- 8 Week Session: March 6 – April 24
- Kessler Room
- Using the book "Praying our Goodbyes" by Joyce Rupp.

Have you ever wanted to visit the Holy Land? Now is your chance!!

Pastor Greg and fellow travelers will be visiting the Holy Land October 4-12, 2019. The total package includes roundtrip airfare, all accommodations, meals and eight days of sightseeing. Flyers are located in the Memorial Room and the office. Questions? Please call the office.

In the "Foot steps of Jesus" Journey to the Holy Land



Spiritual Directors
Pr. Greg Allen-Pickett



Good Shepherd Travel

October 04 - October 12 2019

Package Price: \$3450.00 From Omaha, NE
Other Cities Available

Package Price Includes:

- * Roundtrip Airfare
- All nights accommodations in double occupancy luxury hotels
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily
- Eight days sightseeing in modern air conditioned private bus
- * English speaking government licensed Christian tour guide on duty
- * And much more

Hosted By:



GRACE TOURS

Follow us on
  

First Presbyterian Church
621 N Lincoln Ave Hastings, NE 68901
Phone: (402) 432-5147

Good Shepherd Travel
www.goodshepherdtravel.com
Toll Free: 1-844-659-5263



*Epiphany
Sermon Series:
A light for
all the world!*

"For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to all!" –Luke 2

Join us for an Epiphany Sermon Series as we learn how Christ shines as a light beyond his local context to the whole world, and how we are called to do the same!

1/6: "Outsiders Becoming Insiders" Matthew 2:1-12

1/13: "Saved to Serve the Whole World" Luke 3:15-22

1/20: "Jesus' first miracle" John 2:1-11

1/27: "A Mission Statement" Luke 4:14-21

2/10: "Called and Sent" Luke 5:1-11

2/17: "Fullness and Emptiness" Luke 6:17-26

2/24: "Unlimited Love" Luke 6:27-38

3/3: "Shine like Jesus!" Luke 9:28-43

Home Page Newsletter
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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 the Friday prior to publication. Submissions may be edited for length and suitability. You may send articles to the church office: fpc@fpchastings.org or call 402-462-5147.

⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." ⁶ When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ...¹⁰ Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." ¹¹ So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

Luke 5: 4, 6, 10-11