



The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 23.04, Weeks Of: March 3 and March 10, 2019

NOTABLE NOTES FROM...

REVS. SCOTT and ELMARIE PARKER

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be a Christian in the Middle East? What does it take to practice your faith in Syria, Iraq or Lebanon?

We have an exciting opportunity to host a remarkable couple who have spent the past six years in Beirut, Lebanon as PC(USA) Mission Workers. This is a rare opportunity to hear first hand about the experiences and views of the Middle East Council of Churches and of the people who are living through the unrest and war in Iraq and Syria.

On Monday, March 11th, Rev. Scott and Rev. Elmarie Parker will be sharing their observations, experiences, stories and mission. *Please join us in Fellowship Hall at 6pm* for a middle eastern meal followed by the presentation and discussion. A free will donation will taken at the door for the meal and the presentation. All are welcome, and we are hoping many will be able to join us. If you are interested and think you might be able to attend, *please notify Jean in the office* or sign up in the Memorial Room on Sunday. This will help us estimate the amount of food and seating needed.

Below is information about the Parkers taken from a flyer they sent to our church.



REVS. SCOTT and ELMARIE PARKER

Scott Parker serves with the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) as PC(USA) Associate for Ecumenical Partnerships and Communications. As a Writer in Residence, Scott uses written storytelling to communicate the experiences and views of the Middle East Church and peoples with Presbyterian constituents in the United States. In addition, Scott has been asked by MECC to lead their efforts in responding to children traumatized by the unrest and war in either Iraq or Syria and now seeking refuge in Lebanon. Out of this invitation has come the "Strong Kids, Strong Emotions" program.

Elmarie Parker serves as Regional Liaison to Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon. The heartbeat of her work is to help deepen and strengthen the relational ties between the church in her region and the church in the United States and to develop the practical ministries that are birthed from these relationships. This often takes shape through PC(USA) group solidarity and learning visits facilitated by Elmarie to Syria/Lebanon or to Iraq. Additionally, Elmarie supports other PC(USA) Associates serving in this region in communications, information sharing, mentoring/guiding, encouraging, and reflection.

FPC Prayers for:

Jim Cooke
Tom Kubica
Sharon Harvey
Jeff & Ashley Hermann
Celia & Wayne Ganow
Levi Kaiser

Jim Harrenstein
John Harrington
Steve Thelen (Pamela Lay's brother-in law)
Katharine Davis
Brooks Borrell (infant son of Kim &
Jeremy Borrell, grandson of Bev & Ken Stein)
Betty Siemoneit and family

Zelma Fobben
Kathy (& Steve) Illingworth
Andy Barrows
Judy Brown
Weston Mullins

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.

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 wood shelf by 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).

Maryland Living Center

Thank you so much for your generosity! The money you donated to us will be used to provide the necessary items to set our residents up for success. It's through the help of community

members like you that we are able to change the lives of so many youth. So from all of us here at the Maryland Living Center...**THANK YOU!**

FPC Global Mission & Social Witness team and the Go & Serve Youth delivered 12 sets of bath towels, wash clothes, and Pacha soap to the Maryland Living Center and 9 sets to SASA during the month of February.

Living Waters for the World

Thank you for your gift of \$500. Because of your generosity, children, and their families will have life-saving clean water to drink.

Hastings Food Pantry

We want to thank you for your generous donation of 2 totes of groceries and paper products given to the Hastings Food Pantry on Feb. 13th. We appreciate it so much! What a tremendous gift! So many people will be blessed with this donation! It is going to such a wonderful cause as it is helping needy people in our community! It is only because of the donations of caring people like you that we are able to meet the needs of the hungry in our community since 1982.

Jim Harrenstein Update - Jim has been moved to a cardiac rehab facility in Lincoln. He would love to receive cards or notes of encouragement. The address is: Select Specialty Hospital - Lincoln; 2300 South 16th St; 7th floor Room 714; Lincoln, NE 68502

In Loving Memory of

- ❖ **Craig Balnicke** who passed away February 04, 2019. Graveside services were held at Parkview Cemetery in Hastings on February 16.
- ❖ **Arlene Kort** passed away February 24, 2019. Services will be held at FPC at 2:00pm on March 1, with a reception to follow.

March Communion Offering goes to Open Table Program

The Open Table program was created in 2004 to provide a daily sack lunch to people, no questions asked, no judgments made.

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.



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.

Heir's Apparent Adult Sunday School

"Liking Jesus: Intimacy and Contentment in a Selfie-Centered World" is a study that looks at how social media works in relation to our emotions, relationships, attitude, beliefs and our biblical values.

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)*.

- ❖ 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) The current study is on the development of the apocalyptic imagination in biblical history. Come join this class with Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh studying from scripture in the Old and New Testaments.

The Forum

- ❖ March 3 "Bagels and Banners"
Banners draped from the railings in our Memorial Room provide an intriguing set of symbols connected with the history of Presbyterian creeds. Come learn more about what and who they represent.
Presenter: Rev. Dr. William Nottage-Tacey
- ❖ March 17 "Habitat for Humanity"
Anchored in our community for a number of decades, Habitat for Humanity engages the skills of many people. When the weather cooperates, the team will be ready for a new build. How does this process work? Come learn from a panel of seasoned volunteers.
Presenters: Members of the Board of Habitat for Humanity



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!

Welcome New Members!

Bob and Kathy Amyot



Chris Dowdy



Danny and Jodi Graves



Dacia Hawner



Judy Hoch

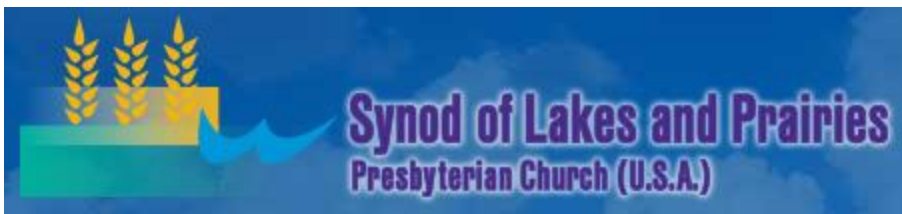


Bill and Sharon Talbert



John and Lois Meeske





The Synod School 2019 catalog is in the mail – or possibly in your mailbox – but registration won't begin until March 1. That gives readers an opportunity to review activities and classes planned at this

summer's Synod School that runs Sunday through Friday, July 21-26. Deirdre "Dede" Johnston, professor of communication at Hope College in Holland, Michigan, will be the convocation speaker, and Shawna Bowman, associate director of field education and experiential education at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, will be the worship leader. For those who haven't received a copy of the catalog, the catalog is available online at <https://www.lakesandprairies.org/SynodSchool>



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.



Naming Contest!!!

It is time to give the "Old Middle School Annex" a new name that reflects all of the vital ministry, mission and fun that happens there!

Please submit your name suggestions to the Church office by Sunday, March 3.

The congregation will vote on the new name on Sunday, March 10.

Presbyterian Women.

The monthly luncheon, March 6, is open to all Presbyterian women. Please call the office to add your name to the reservation list. Circles please let your calling person know if you plan to attend.

Circle III will prepare lunch and act as Kitchen helpers. Circle I is in charge of setting the tables, centerpieces, devotions, nametags, cashier, and Hunger Cups. The program will be given by Revive Ministries.

- ✓ Circle I will meet March 20-9:30am
(Hostess-Darlene Payne; Lesson-May Wierenga)
- ✓ Circle II will meet March 20-9:30am
(Hostess-Bonnie Grams; Lesson-Pam Lay)
- ✓ Circle III will meet March 20 – 1:15 pm
(Hostess-Nancy Grams; Lesson-Katherine Davis)



Register NOW for 2019 Summer Camp Grades 3 - 12,

PLUS Intergenerational & Family camps for Adults/Children age 5-12!

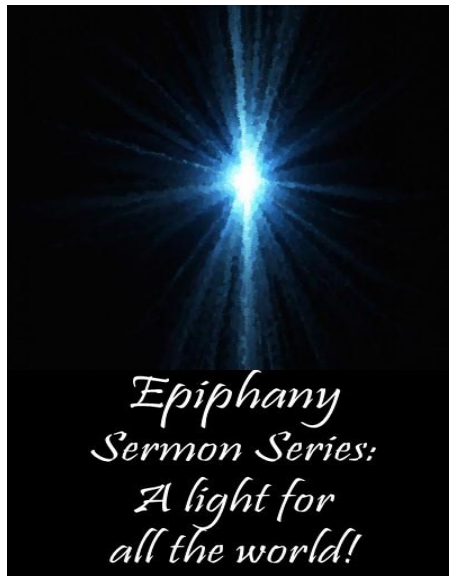
Benefits of Christian Camping...



☑ Campers can grow in their spiritual development in a fun, positive environment. ☑ Camp is an extension of your local church ministry program ☑ Child development experts believe that residential camp experiences help children and youth mature socially, emotionally, intellectually, morally, and physically.

(Supported by research conducted by the American Camp Association)

Highlands Presbyterian Camp & Retreat Center Summer Camp brochures are available on the built in wood shelf in the hall by the church office. Scholarship Applications are also available. Contact Stephanie at stephanie@fpchastings.org with any questions.



*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

Epiphany is the celebration of God’s manifestation or self-revelation to the world in Jesus Christ. In particular, we celebrate the revelation of God’s promise and purpose to the nations of the world, as the magi came from the East to worship to the Christ child, and God’s covenant of grace is extended to all who believe the good news of Christ Jesus. The symbolism of light is important: not only because of the star that guided the magi, but as it relates to the bright dawning of God’s self-revelation in Christ.

An excerpt from the *Companion to the Book of Common Worship* (Geneva Press, 2003, 94-95)

The word “epiphany” (from the Greek *epiphaneia* or *theophaneia*) means “appearance” or “manifestation” of God, and has roots in the word for sunrise or dawn. In ancient times, an epiphany meant either a visible manifestation of a god or the solemn visit of a ruler venerated as a god.

For Christians, Christmas marks the coming of God to us; Epiphany celebrates the appearance of the Lord in the midst of humanity. The Christmas stories of the birth of Immanuel declare the divine entry; Epiphany extols the revelation of God to the world in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

In our celebrations of Christmas and Epiphany we rejoice in the dawning and the arising of Light in darkness. ... Epiphany not only discloses the Savior to the world but also calls the world to show forth Christ, to be witnesses to God’s true Light. The timeless mystery of the incarnation, God in flesh, leads us forth to show and tell of Christ as God’s gift of grace and salvation for all persons. Some call this ongoing epiphany the work of Christmas.

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, 4:30-5:30pm
- Kessler Room
- Using the book "Praying our Goodbyes" by Joyce Rupp.
- Contact Pastor Greg if you are interested in attending

Happy Anniversary

March 2019

Jeff & Ashley Hermann	3/8/2014
Douglas & Diana Sabadu	3/13/2005
Mark & Dianne Scheidegger	3/6/2003
Terry & Linda Hall	3/30/1996
Chris & Janna Johnson	3/19/1983
Brian W. & Laurie Johnson	3/20/1982
Jim & Carol Harrenstein	3/22/1980
George & Joy White	3/19/1972
Eldon & Cathy Mitzelfelt	3/13/1971

Happy Birthday

March 2019

3/1 Sandy Siemoneit	3/12 Maggie Nielsen	3/24 Cindy Springer
Lam Dieth	3/13 Kirk Dielman	Kelley Swanson
3/2 Cheryl Lockwood	Joshua Brooks	3/25 Mary Boerigter
Tony Eddleman	3/14 Joyce Harrenstein	Dayna Grimmatt
3/3 Joan Shaw	3/15 Tommy Thomsen	Kaylee Baldwin
3/4 Kim Hermann	Darlene Payne	John LaMaster
Kim Maul	Linda Donohue	3/26 Frank Cassidy
3/5 Peggy Thomson	Jennifer Boeve	Jenni Welsch
Alli Gustafson	3/16 Tyson Schroeder	Nathan Halbert
3/6 Carver Abbott	3/17 Shirley Maul	3/27 Erik Nielsen
Annie Davis	3/18 Kathleen Nelson	Grace Canady
3/7 Todd Welton	Douglas Sabadu	3/28 Erlene Gessford
Austin Telecky	Jessica Springer	Frank Georgiana
3/8 David McCarthy	Cole Shardelow	Stacy Eddleman
3/9 Evelyn Viglicky	3/19 Bill Boyd	Ignatius Ewool
Lesa Cropley	Suzan Hall	Allison Kern
3/10 Les Seiler	3/20 Ryan Bauer	Arich Fruehling
Beth Funkey	Tyler Musgrave	3/29 Glenn Hunnicutt
Stan Essink	3/21 Irene Lindau	Libby Knapple
Justin Stein	Eden Dieth	3/30 Olivia Knoedler
Henry Black	3/22 JoAnn Finley	Ben Pehl
3/11 Phyllis O'Dey	Mark Zajack	3/31 Delores Levander
Mimi Webster	Stephanie Adam	Mary ann Shorey
Amy Black	3/23 Samuel Reimer	Deb Freeburger
	Ruth Tut	Hannah Jensen

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. The first deposit is due March 4. Questions? Please call the office.

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



Spiritual Directors
Pr. Greg Allen-Pickett



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:



First Presbyterian Church
621 N Lincoln Ave Hastings, NE 68901
Phone: (402) 462-5147

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



Home Page Newsletter
First Presbyterian Church
621 North Lincoln Avenue
Hastings, NE 68901
Phone: 402-462-5147, Fax 402-462-6818
Email: fpc@fpchastings.org
Website: www.fpchastings.org

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 twice monthly 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.

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Isaiah 60:1-6