

The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175 Vol. 23.06, Weeks Of: March 31 and April 7, 2019

NOTABLE NOTES FROM ... PASTOR GREG

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

On Sunday 3/24/19 at the Congregational Meeting, the church adopted a slightly revised Vision Statement, a new Mission Statement, and a Five Year Strategic Plan. We went through an 8 month participatory process to create these documents that involved more than 100 members of the church.

My hope is that this Vision Statement, Mission Statement and Strategic Plan will be able to guide our work at First Presbyterian Church of Hastings so that we can continue to share the love and light of Christ both within our walls to our own members, and beyond our walls into the community and the world. Please read through the summary below and let me or your session members know if you have any questions. Thank you for all you do for our beloved church and community!

Vision (your purpose)

"Sharing the love of Christ from the heart of Hastings since 1873"

Mission (how you attain your purpose)

Welcoming all;

Living the love of God and neighbor;

Seeking to transform ourselves, our community, and our world to be more Christ-like through service, worship, prayer, education, and fellowship.

Key Action Areas (what most needs your attention in order to fulfill on your mission and vision) 1. *Membership Engagement and Spiritual Growth*

We desire for each member of First Presbyterian Church to grow deeper in their discipleship and faith. Much of that growth will come through increased participation in the life of the church, both on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. The strategic planning process identified that a low percentage of members are doing a disproportionate amount of the volunteer work at the church. This creates a threat of volunteer burnout, and it also creates an opportunity for more people to engage. We can simultaneously address the threat and the opportunity by intentionally focusing on membership engagement, and through further membership engagement, we will help our congregation grow spiritually

2. Messaging to the Internal and External Community

Our call as the church, the body of Christ, is to share the Good News to the World! Our church has a lot of Good News to share, so a key focus area for the next five years will be to improve how we communicate, both internally to our members and friends, and externally to the larger Hastings and Central Nebraska community. We hope to create a more cohesive and informed family of faith through the improvement in internal communication, and to seek to proclaim hope to our larger community which will result in FPC being known in the community as a force for good and a place of excellence. This will lead to increased engagement with existing membership and church growth through new members joining.

3. Service and Outreach

The "Greatest Commandment" tells us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Through the strategic planning process, our service and outreach efforts emerged as a top priority for the next five years. We are called to share the love and light of Christ both within our walls, and outside our walls, into the community and the world. We do this through all ministries of our church including our music ministries, our education ministries, our Deacons, our Trustees (in how we use our physical plant resources and our budget), our Go and Serve teams, our Mission Committee. This is the heartbeat of the church, and we seek to build upon an already strong legacy in this area over the next five years.

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Greg

Jim Cooke Katharine Davis Zelma Fobben Celia & Wayne Ganow **FPC Prayers for:** Jim Harrenstein John Harrington Steve Thelen (Pamela Lay's brother-in law) Arlene Kort family Danna Wolford & family

Sharon Harvey Levi Kaiser

Jeff & Ashley Hermann

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 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 <u>www.facebook.com/fpchastings</u> 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!

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

Crossroads Mission Dear Friends at 1st Presbyterian, Thank you for your very generous gift of \$750. And for your longtime faithful support. Your generosity has touched many lives by helping the homeless find help, resources, and most importantly, God's love. You are a blessing and we appreciate your friendship! God bless you all, the Crossroads Staff

Maryland Living Center Again, thank you so much for your continued support of Maryland Living Center! Your prayers, personal support, grout support, and financial support mean the world to us! Gods Blessings!

Mary Lanning/Healthy Beginnings The entire hospital family wishes to express appreciation for your charitable gift of \$552 to the Healthy Beginnings Cribs 4 Kids program at Mary Lanning Healthcare. Your gift will assist by providing a crib as well as education to help reduce SIDS and unintentional injuries that occur when children do not have a safe place to sleep.

PC(USA) Mission Thank you for your recent gift of \$2500 to Presbyterian World Mission. Supporters like you enable us to work in transformative ministries alongside global partners in more than 50 countries around the world. Our ministries focus on three critical global initiatives; alleviating poverty, sharing the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ, and working for reconciliation. We would not be able to pursue these priorities without generous gifts like the one you gave to us. We are stewards of a Presbyterian mission legacy that began nearly 180 years ago, and though the world and the say we do mission have changes, our commitment to sharing the gospel in word and deed remains the same. God continues to call us to be faithful witnesses in our world, and your support helps make this possible. -Rev. Jose Luis Casal. Director World Mission

Revive Ministries Thank you for your generous donation to Revive Ministries, Inc., Horizon Recovery & Counseling Center/The Unity Houses. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. Thank you for having us speak at your P.W. meeting and luncheon. Your support is truly appreciated

February Giving Update

Feb. Budget		PC(USA)	Communion Offering
\$47,917	\$37,690	\$124	\$592

New Arrival

We are delighted to announce the arrival of the newest member of our FPC family, Audrey Miller, daughter of Dana and Brett Miller. A meal train has been set up at

https://takethemameal.com/meals.php?t=LJHV6613

Jim Harrenstein Update Jim is now at home. His recovery is progressing. Cards are still appreciated.

April Communion Offering goes to Mentoring Works (formerly known as Big Brothers/Big Sisters) established in 1957 so that all children can achieve success in life.

Easter Egg Hunt Candy Donations Needed

First Presbyterian Church will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 20 at 2:00 pm for children thru 2nd 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 in advance for your help in making this event a success. Questions? Contact Stephanie Brader at 402-462-5147.

February Special Attendance Recognition

Children who routinely attend Sunday School and Wednesday Night Live will get a chance at a worship leadership role. Each month, all children preschool thru 8th grade with 100% Sunday School or Wednesday Night Live attendance will be entered into a drawing. Two children will be chosen each month. The children will get a chance to extend their faith growth to others by choosing to serve in one of the following worship roles:

- Acolyte (if under 4th grade)
- Usher
- Music soloist

- Call to Worship leader
- Prayer leader
- Children's Moment leader or helper

During the month of February, thirteen (13) children had 100% Sunday School attendance. Twenty-eight (28) children had 100% Wednesday Night Live attendance. The two children whose names were drawn for February's recognition are Lincoln Welsch (Sunday School) and Grace Brader (WNL). Thanks be to God for our faithful attenders!



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Hands Around the World Store - New shipments have arrived with coffee, tea, spices, scarves, and Easter decorations. Please stop by the store to see all of our New Spring merchandise. Our products are from SERRV, Equal Exchange, and Just Coffee are Fair Trade. Behind every product is a story of inspiration, hope, and change - of artisans being able to send their children to school, build a first home, and feel the security of becoming self-sufficient. Your purchase not only helps to lift artisans, farmers, and their families out of poverty, but also supports United

Harvest, a local mission, to which our store donates \$100.00 every month. Your purchase makes a difference!



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.



✤ <u>April 7</u> "Willa Cather's Journey of Faith"

There were many facets to Willa Cather's faith. Indeed, there were several distinct faiths present in Cather's life, as there are in all our lives. St. Paul seemed to think so, too, didn't he? This presentation will try to link her faith to her life and her times and so give us a way of seeing in one person's experience how, for all of us, our beliefs, our calling, our many roles, and our circumstances create

an evolving tapestry of faith, faith of many faces. *Presenters*: Charles Peek, Former President/long-time member of the Willa Cather Foundation board

✤ <u>April 16</u> "The First Native American Woman Physician & The Presbyterian Church" Susan La Flesche Picotte grew up on the Omaha Reservation and went on to earn a medical degree and build a hospital in Walthill, Nebraska. Her story, including her connection to the Presbyterian Church, is the subject of a PBS special, "Medicine Woman." Our forum will focus on an effort underway to preserve the hospital property and enhance opportunities to learn more about her work.

Presenters: Bruce Sheffield

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. (*Will not meet April 17th.*)



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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.

April 4 – Giving Unexpected Gratitude to Those Who Need it Most

April 18 – No Soup Group due to Maundy Thursday

- May 2 How Thanking Awakens our Thinking
- May 16 Expressing Gratitude

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., in the Library (New Location)*.

- ✤ <u>April 11</u>: Praying via mandala creation
 - How can we involve family in prayer?
- ◆ <u>April 25</u>: 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?



The next Red Cross Blood Drive will be **Monday**, **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 <u>402-469-9285</u> or sign up at <u>www.redcrossblood.org</u>.





Sermons a La Carte – 2019 Theme: The Way of Love Practices for a Jesus Centered Life

Please join us at St. Mark's Episcopal Pro-Chathedral on Wednesdays during Lent from 12:05 p.m.-12:30p.m. for a Lenten message followed by lunch (\$4. per person)

April 3 Pastor Steven Peeler (Lutheran church of the Good Shepherd); Lunch by the Women of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
April 10 Pastor Greg Allen-Pickett (First Presbyterian Church);

Lunch by the Presbyterian Women

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. 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!



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. ⊠Campisan 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.

2nd Semester Grief Group for Men and Women

Find strength and comfort by gathering with others experiencing similar struggles at the loss of a loved one. The grief group for men and women started March 6 at 4:30-5:30 and will continue through Wednesday, April 24 in the Kessler room. The 8 week study will be using the book "Praying our Goodbyes" by Joyce Rupp. Contact the church office if you are interested in attending.





Did you know that there's a lot more to your *Presbyterians Today* subscription than just a beautiful magazine that arrives by mail every other month?

In fact, PT's editors and writers are constantly publishing stories, photos, news, tips and more across multiple channels!

We invite you to check out — and bookmark — these resources:

Presbyterians Today's Facebook page

Join the thousands of people in the *Presbyterians Today* virtual community who like, follow and share posts, events, photos, videos and lots more. This is also a great place to engage in conversation with the editor and other readers.

Presbyterians Today on Twitter

If you love the immediacy of tweets, log into your Twitter account and follow PT - or join the conversation!

Presbyterians Today Blog

If you're looking for longer reflection pieces, seasonal devotional and worship resources, and latebreaking content, be sure to visit PT's blog, "One Church, Many Voices." (And if you think you might like to be an occasional PT blogger, shoot an email to our editor!)

Presbyterian News Service

Stay connected to breaking news from all across the church. If you'd like a daily or weekly email with links to all the stories, you can <u>sign up here</u>

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, and Thursday (during March) 5:30 to 8:00pm. 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.





Registration is now open for 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. The catalog is available online at

https://www.lakesandprairies.org/SynodSchool

Presbyterian Women.

There will be NO P.W. luncheon in April. Instead please attend the Sermons a La Carte – 2019 Theme: The Way of Love Practices for a Jesus Centered Life. Please join us at St. Mark's Episcopal Pro-Chathedral on Wednesdays during Lent from 12:05 p.m.-12:30p.m. for a Lenten message followed by lunch (\$4. per person).

- ✓ Circle I will meet April 17-9:30am
 - (Hostess-Jean Barber; Lesson-Peggy Thomson)
- ✓ Circle II will meet April 17−9:30am (Hostess-Sally Smith; Lesson-Mary Jeanne Cooke)
- ✓ Circle III will meet April 17 − 1:15 pm in the Library (Hostess-Marie Rasmussen; Lesson-Sue Medsker-Nedderman)





Scout Information Night First Presbyterian Church is sponsoring a new Scout Troop for girls. As a church, we have sponsored Scouts for about 100 years and we are currently sponsoring a Cub Scout Pack (kindergarten – 5th grade and a Scout Troop (11 to 17 years) of age. In February 2018 girls were admitted to Cub Scouts. In February 2019 girls were welcomed to join the Scouts and work on earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

Boys and Girls ages 11 to 18 are invited to attend an informational meeting to join Scouting BSA. Meet troop leaders April 2, 2019 at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you cannot make it to the meeting you may contact one of our Scoutmasters. Boys contact Tom Kleinjan at <u>scouting200hastings@gmail.com</u>, and girls contact Jessica Robinson at <u>troop200g@gmail.com</u>.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is the church saying, "We'll be there when you need us." Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. Your gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, food



for the hungry, and community development that helps people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities. To learn more about One Great Hour of Sharing, visit pcusa.org/oghs. This offering is collected every year on Ester Sunday.



Easter Egg Hunt Candy Donations Needed: 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 in advance for your help in making this event a success. Questions? Contact Stephanie Brader at 402-462-5147.

Happy Anniversary April

4/2/1983	Mike & Marcia Hogan	4/15/1961	Jim & Lois Hahne
4/6/2002	Danny & Jodi Graves	4/16/1947	Richard & Evelyn Viglicky
4/7/2001	Mark & Lorna Zajack	4/21/1979	Judy & Marty Hoch
4/8/1978	Paul & Belinda Nuss	4/21/2012	Clyde & Katherine Sachtleben
4/8/2006	Frank & Heather Cassidy	4/26/1975	Mary & Jorn Olsen
4/11/1987	Todd & Tammy Lay	4/26/1975	George & Colleen Adam
4/11/2006	Ashley & Joe Ehrich	4/29/1989	Dave & Sandra Dirks
4/13/1974	Bob & Mary Boerigter		

Happy Birthday April

			• • • •		
1-Apr	Karen Huber	10-Apr	Myah Juranek	22-Apr	Kenny Graham
3-Apr	r Brett Erickson 11-Apr		Carolyn Miller		Jenni Bauer
4-Apr	Galen Finley		Brianna Zubrod		Lindsey Telecky
	Wendy Propp		Mattie Eddleman		Walker Hermann
	Lyndsey Witte	12-Apr	Carol Medsker	23-Apr	Joan McCarthy
	Hannah Wray		Sarah Nottage-Tacey		Chad Rethorst
	Meredith LaMaster		Tom Portwood	24-Apr	Helen Vollweiler
6-Apr	· Norma Saathof	13-Apr	Kevin Junker		Tyrell Nichols
	Ruth Swingle		Darin Johnston		Norah Snell
	Will Locke		William Hermes		Job Ehrich
	Kenton Grams		Broden Hultine	26-Apr	Darleen Howard
	Michael Benorden		Riley Pontine		Elaine Specht
	Andrea Franzen	15-Apr	Harold Korb		Mike Hahne
	Zo Kreager	16-Apr	Laura McCarthy		Brett Miller
7-Apr	• Michael Brooks		Collin Hermes		Taylor Musgrave
8-Apr	Barb Harrington	18-Apr	Dean Meyer	27-Apr	Dave Johnson
	Irina Belikova-Erickson		Evelyn Smidt		Curtis Reimer
	Doug Ourada		Jim Baldwin		Thomas Kerr
9-Apr	· John Pershing	19-Apr	Charles Bishop	28-Apr	Cole McCoy
	Cathy Pershing	20-Apr	Robert Grams		Julie McCarthy
	Dennis McPherson		Belinda Nuss	29-Apr	Kristan Harrenstein
	Anne Halbert	21-Apr	Kathy Warriner	30-Apr	Alex Peterson
	Daniel Tut				Julia Reimer
	Launa Epp				

EASTER LILIES Easter lilies may be purchased in honor of or in memory of a loved one. The cost is \$12 each. Money raised over the cost will be donated to Adams/Clay County ARC (Advocate for the Rights of Citizens). Lily in memory of:				
Lily in honor of:				
Given by:				
I will take my Lily home after the Easter Sunday services: I will leave my Lily at the church: **(All lilies left will be delivered to a member of the church who is unable to attend services.)				



<u>Flood Relief Work Volunteer</u> <u>Opportunities</u>

Saturday, April 6 For those who want to work hanging drywall and other "construction" type labor: Meet in the Church Parking Lot at 7:30am to drive out to Wood River Come back to Hastings around 6pm

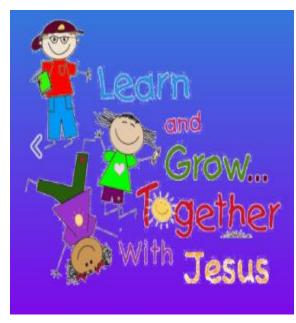
Saturday, April 6

For those that don't want to do construction, but want to help: Gather at church at 10:30am to get food together Depart church at 11am for Wood River Help serve lunch to our work crew and other residents of Wood River Return to Hastings around 2pm

Sunday, April 7

For those who want to work hanging drywall and other "construction" type labor: Bring your work clothes to church! Depart from church parking lot at 12pm after worship. Come back to Hastings around 6pm

<u>VBS 2019</u> <u>Monday, June 3- Thursday, June 6</u>



<u>9:00am-12:00pm.</u>

We are preparing for another great Vacation Bible School! This year, we are using Living Waters for the World's VBS curriculum: *Water All Around the World*. It is designed to enable children to understand the importance of access to clean water for health, and to make them aware of the way in which this access (or lack of access!) affects the lives of children in other countries. It also teaches the value of water in our own lives.

2019 VBS Volunteer Sign-Up

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 SOON as a volunteer at <u>https://fpchastings.org/children/</u>. Please contact Stephanie at <u>stephanie@fpchastings.org</u> or 402-462-5147 with any questions or if you'd like a printed registration form.

<u>**To register your child to attend VBS</u></u> go to <u>https://fpchastings.org/children/</u> for the best week of the summer! **Early drop-off option at 8:00am by pre-registration ONLY. Everyone welcome! Pre-school (must be toilet trained) through 4th Grade</u>**

<u>Special Needs VBS 2019 will be held Tuesday, June 4 – Thursday, June 6 from</u> <u>1:00 pm – 3:00 pm</u>

Our ecumenical Special-Needs VBS will be staffed by volunteer special education teachers and others familiar with children who have special needs...maybe even a teacher, para, or parent you know.

Registration is open to elementary-aged, special-needs children and siblings. Registration is limited so sign-up now at <u>https://fpchastings.org/children/</u>. If you would prefer a printed registration form, please contact Stephanie at the email or phone listed below. *All registrations must be received before May 29*.

Can't wait to see you there! For more information, email stephanie@fpchastings.org or call Stephanie at 402-462-5147.





5th Sunday Congregational Potluck - March 31

Food and Fellowship bring us all together for conversation on Sunday, March 31st following the 10:30 service. Please bring your family and friends, along with a food item to share.

In order to have a variety please consider: last names beginning with A-G—salad/vegetable;

H-M-main dish;

N-Z-dessert/bread.

Congregational Life Committee members will provide table settings and drinks.

CHURCH @ CAMPUS



Church @ Campus – Sleep In? Out of town? Wi-Fi Out of Whack? Whatever the reason, if you missed church on Sunday morning, you don't need to worry because during Lent you'll get a second chance (seasonally appropriate, eh?).

Beginning *Sunday, March 10 and continuing through Lent,* we'll be holding Sunday evening worship services on the campus of Hastings College at *7:00 pm in French Memorial Chapel.* The services will be similar to our regular 10:30 a.m. services. **Church @ Campus** is open to all who would like to come, so feel free to give it a try.

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: <u>fpc@fpchastings.org</u> or call 402-462-5147.

²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them And said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." ²⁸Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Then Jesus told him. "Because you have seen me, You have believed; Blessed are those who have not seen And yet have believed."

John 20:26-29