April 7, 2019
“Celebrating the Gifts of Women”

PRELUDE
"How Firm a Foundation"
Linda Vollweiler, Organist

arr. Hayes/Wagner

INTROIT
“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”
Girls and Women of the Calvin, Westminster, and Chancel Choirs; Directed by Robin Koozer

WELCOME
Greg Allen-Pickett

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Adapted from Psalm 29)
Joy White

Let us praise the God of glory and of strength!

Let us worship the God of grace who fills the world with diverse beauty!
For the voice of God goes out across all the earth to all people: women and men, old and young, rich and poor, and people of every race, nationality, and color!
Let us come to God’s house where all are welcome! Come, let us worship God!

*HYMN
“For All the Faithful Women”

OPENING PRAYER
Kris Horton

God of Grace and Glory, from time immemorial you have moved across the face of the earth, pouring out mercy, ladling compassion and favor, sending the rain on the just and unjust alike. In Jesus Christ, you showed us the love that knows no bounds, the grace that has no limits. Your spirit blows through the world still – extending your favor and splintering the barriers we erect between us. Out of your infinite riches you give your people grace to see your face in others, to trust your faithfulness and to lead others into your love. We are a grateful people, humbled by your lavish gifts. Meet us now in this hour of worship, that we may be opened to your Word and to the joy of serving you. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION
Constance Malloy

Not one of us is perfect.
No, not one.
Not one of us is full of grace.
No, not one.
There is no one who knows God’s fullness or rests completely in God’s grace.
Therefore, let us approach God’s throne together.
Let us confess our sins.
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you know us better than we know ourselves. Find in us, we pray, the pockets of resistance and the patches of coldness that keep us closed to your movement among us. Root them out and open us that we may be agents of your grace and channels of your love. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our sin from us. As near as hands and feet and breath, so near does God stand with us. As close as the Spirit’s tether can draw, so close does God bring us together. Friends, believe the Good News; in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Glory Be to the Father”

*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.)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SPECIAL PRESENTATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

May your holy Word enter our minds and bring us understanding. May your holy Word enter our hearts and bring us love. May your holy Word enter our lives and change us. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.


ANTHEM “All Things Bright and Beautiful” John Rutter

2ND SCRIPTURE READING – Mark 9:14-24 Colleen Schukei

SERMON “Lightbulb Moments”

*HYMN “We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding” 191

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY “Sonata in C Major” John Breval

Eleanor Oliver, Cello; Mindy Rowan, Piano

*DOXOLOGY “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” 606
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of awe and glory, receive these gifts as symbols of our trust in you. Bless the givers, multiply these offerings and the blessings they represent. Guide the use of these generous gifts according to your will. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

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 SONGS “Within Our Darkest Night” & “By Your Cross”  (See Insert)

We drink the cup together as a sign of unity in the Body of Christ.

(While communion is being served we’ll join together to sing songs in the style of Taizé.

The music is repetitive so that the message can go from your voice to your head to your heart.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

In this feast you have made us one with you, O God. Enliven us with your Holy Spirit that we may be united in ministry in every place. Send us, in your marvelous light, into the world, ready to serve others and work for peace. We pray this in the triune name of God. Amen.

*HYMN

“Sing of God Made Manifest”  156

(During the singing of the final hymn, we will take a second offering to benefit Mentoring Works.)

*CHARGE AND BLESSING CELEBRATING WOMEN WHO CARRY GOD’S LOVE AND GRACE INTO THE WORLD

For Rahab’s red cord which saved the lives of refugees and for all who risk their lives to give refuge to your people,

We thank you, O God.

Jill Kramer

(Adapted from a litany written by Jana Childers for the Presbyterian Women)
For Ruth’s loyalty and Esther’s courage, and for all who serve others with love,
We thank you, O God.
For Deborah’s leadership and Miriam’s dance and for all those who lead with grace and strength,
We thank you, O God.
For Sarah’s faithfulness and for all who follow God’s call,
We thank you, O God.
For Hagar and all the unnamed women who survived to do your will in the wilderness,
We thank you, O God.
For the alabaster jar woman, the Samaritan woman at the well, and for all who challenge conventions and norms that separate people and hold people back,
We thank you, O God.
For Mary Magdalene’s heart, and for all who linger at the cross,
We thank you, O God.
For all the grace-filled women who, like Mary the Mother of Jesus, carry your love into the world.
We thank you, O God.
May we be inspired by their example and filled with God’s Holy Spirit as we leave this place and carry God’s message of love, grace, and mercy into the world. Amen!

Benediction Response
Come! Live in the Light! (vs 2)

Postlude
"Allegro"
Handel

(*Indicates the congregation shall stand as they are able.)

Come join us for Palm Sunday Worship Next Week & Invite Your Neighbors, Family, and Friends!

8:30 AM – Celebrate Service (Contemporary Style)
9:15 AM – Sunday School for All Ages
10:30 AM – Traditional Service with Procession of Palms
7:00 PM Church@Campus. (Hastings College French Memorial Chapel)
April 7, 2019:
The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM is given in memory of O. J. McDougal by the family.

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 Jean in the office at 402-462-5147 or jean@fpchastings.org.

Need a ride to church on Sundays? Request a ride by calling Deacon Moderator Joan Shaw at 402-460-8195 or the church office at 402-462-5147.

Flowers are given in memory of Kevin Charles Heineman, Mary Alice & Joe Heineman, by family and friends.

2019 Offering Envelopes are located on the built in wood shelf in the hall by the church office and on the welcome stand in the Memorial Room.

Ushers Today: Sally Smith, Susie Graham, Elaine Specht, Peggy Thomson, Jo Seiler, Tara Davis, Grace Brader (Attendance Award)
Peggy Thomson, Jo Seiler, Tara Davis, Grace Brader

April Ushers (Team #2): Al Meyer – Captain, Duane Huber, Steve Illingworth, Brian Johnson, Laurie Johnson, Clyde Sachtleben, Carter Wenburg

Greeters Today: Marilyn Nielsen, Pamela Lay, Flossie Sanderson, Jean Barber, Carol Wheeler, Alice Throckmorton

Acolytes: Lincoln Welsch (Attendance Award), Seth Schwarz

Nursery: Kim Bogan, Andrea Franzen, Laura Peterson, Abigail Shetler

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jim Cooke</th>
<th>FPC Prayers for:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katharine Davis</td>
<td>Jim Harrenstein</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zelma Fobben</td>
<td>John Harrington</td>
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<td>Celia &amp; Wayne Ganow</td>
<td>Jeff &amp; Ashley Hermann</td>
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<td>Celia &amp; Wayne Ganow</td>
<td>Steve Thelen (Pamela Lay’s brother-in-law)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Celia &amp; Wayne Ganow</td>
<td>Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler’s son)</td>
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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.

Have you ever wanted to visit the Holy Land? Now is your chance!!
The total package includes roundtrip airfare, all accommodations, meals, and eight days of sightseeing. Questions? Please call the office, time is running out! 5 spaces still available!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon, Apr 8</td>
<td>1:00p-3:00p</td>
<td>Pickle Ball in FPC Annex Gym</td>
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<td>6:00p-8:00p</td>
<td>Mexican Dance Troupe in FPC Annex NW Classroom</td>
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<td>7:00p-9:00p</td>
<td>Scouts-Boy Troop 200 in Scout Room</td>
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<td>7:30p-9:30p</td>
<td>Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal</td>
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<td>Tues, Apr 9</td>
<td>10:30a-11:30a</td>
<td>Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>12:00p-1:00p</td>
<td>Bible Study in Anderson Room</td>
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<td>1:00p</td>
<td>Quilters meet in FPC Annex</td>
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<td>5:30p-6:30p</td>
<td>Congregational Life in Parlor</td>
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<td>5:30p-6:30p</td>
<td>Trustees in Anderson</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5:30p-8:00p</td>
<td>Pickle Ball in FPC Annex Gym</td>
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<td>7:00p-8:30p</td>
<td>Knit Wits in the Parlor</td>
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<td>Wed, Apr 10</td>
<td>7:00a-8:00a</td>
<td>Bible @ Breakfast in the Parlor</td>
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<td>12:05p-1:00p</td>
<td>Episcopal Pro Cathedral</td>
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<td>-Pastor Greg speaking</td>
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<td>4:00p-6:00p</td>
<td>Pre-K thru 5th Grade Bible Study,</td>
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<td>Recreation Time, Choir/Bells (WNL)</td>
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<td>4:30p-5:30p</td>
<td>Grief Group in the Kessler Room</td>
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<td>6:00p-6:45p</td>
<td>WNL Family Meal Time</td>
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<td><em>All are welcome!</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:20p-6:50p</td>
<td>WNL Calvin Middle School and</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Westminster High School Bells</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:30p-8:00p</td>
<td>Wood Carvers meet in Church Basement</td>
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<td>6:45p-7:30p</td>
<td>Chancel Choir</td>
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<td>6:50p-7:30p</td>
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<td>Westminster High School Choir</td>
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<td>7:30p-8:15p</td>
<td>Chancel Bells</td>
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<td>7:30p-8:15p</td>
<td>WNL Bible Study and Fellowship:</td>
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<td>*Middle School (6th – 8th) Youth Group</td>
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<td>7:30p-8:15p</td>
<td>WNL Bible Study and Fellowship:</td>
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<td>*High School (9th - 12th) Youth Group</td>
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<td>Thurs, Apr 11</td>
<td>12:00p-1:00p</td>
<td>Spirituality Lab in the Library</td>
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<td>4:15p-5:15p</td>
<td>Global Mission Committee in Parlor</td>
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<td>5:00p-6:00p</td>
<td>Personnel Committee in Anderson</td>
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<td>5:30p-8:00p</td>
<td>Pickle Ball in FPC Annex Gym</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:00p-7:00p</td>
<td>Spanish Class in Annex NW Classroom</td>
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<td>7:00p-9:00p</td>
<td>Scouts-Girl Troop 200 Scout Rooms</td>
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<td>Fri, Apr 12</td>
<td>10:00a-12:00p</td>
<td>Mahjong Ladies in Youth Activity Room</td>
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<td>Sun, Apr 14</td>
<td>8:30a-9:15a</td>
<td>Celebrate Style Worship Service</td>
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<td>9:15 a</td>
<td>Sunday School (All Ages)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:30a</td>
<td>Traditional Worship Service with</td>
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<td>Processions of Palms</td>
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<td>7:00p-8:00p</td>
<td>Church@Campus HC French Memorial Chapel</td>
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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.-12:30 p.m. for a Lenten message followed by lunch. ($4.00 per person)

- **April 10** Pastor Greg Allen-Pickett (First Presbyterian Church); Lunch by the Presbyterian Women

**Heir’s Apparent Adult Sunday School** A new study series, "Joy Stealers: Overcoming Obstacles to Hope and Happiness" begins April 7. Via streaming video and conversation, Pastor Rob Refroe offers five transformational decisions, with the help of the Holy Spirit, that will offer us a clearer path to joy. **Grab a cup of coffee and join us in the Anderson Conference Room in the Educational Wing at 9:15 am.**

**The Forum**

- **April 14** “The 1st 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. **Presenter:** Bruce Sheffield

- **April 28** “Mission & History of Pacha Soap” Pacha (rhymes with cha-cha) means “Earth” in Quechua, the language of the Peruvian people. When Andrew worked alongside them on a service project while a student at Hastings College, he began to wonder what he could do to help them develop a source of income. The rest... is still making history. **Presenter:** Andrew Vrbas

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Do you have students headed for college this fall? Check the Church website for the 2019 Benfield and Essex Scholarship applications. The deadline is April 22.
Knitters and Crocheters If you like knitting and/or crocheting, join us for our knitting/crocheting fellowship group, the Knit Wits. We 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. Join us for refreshments, fellowship, and fun!

Bible @ Breakfast (Wednesday’s at 7 a.m. in the Parlor) The current study is the development of the apocalyptic imagination in biblical history. Our focus on Wednesday will be Isaiah 1-11. Come join this series with Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh studying from scripture in the Old and New Testaments.

2nd Semester Grief Group 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 will meet at 4:30-5:30 from March 6 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.

Hastings Food Pantry-Your Donation Needed On the first Sunday of every month, please bring items to place in the blue bins in the Memorial Room for the Hastings Food Pantry. Non-perishable foods and paper products are always needed to keep the Pantry resupplied. Deacons will deliver the items to the pantry supply center.

Presbyterian Women
There will not be a 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 Wednesday, April 10, from 12:05 p.m.-12:30p.m. for a Lenten message given by Pastor Greg 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-Gayle Fandry; Lesson-Mary Jeanne Cooke)
- Circle III will meet April 17 – 1:15 pm in the Library
  (Hostess-Marie Rasmussen; Lesson-Sue Medsker-Nedderman)

Spirituality Lab Learn and practice together a different form of prayer or meditation at each gathering. Come find the information and support you need for a more interesting and fruitful prayer life. 7:00 a.m., in the Library (New Location).

- 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?
**Church @ Campus** 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.

**Hands around the World Store** - New SPRING shipments have arrived with coffee, tea, spices, scarves, and Easter decorations. Our products from SERRV, Equal Exchange, and Just Coffee are Fair Trade.

**Soup Group for Women** has been cancelled for the rest of this semester.

**VBS 2019 Monday, June 3 - Thursday, June 6, 9:00am-12:00pm.**

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 [https://fpchastings.org/children/](https://fpchastings.org/children/). Please contact Stephanie at stephanie@fpchastings.org or 402-462-5147 with any questions or if you’d like a printed registration form.

**To register your child to attend VBS go to** [https://fpchastings.org/children/](https://fpchastings.org/children/) 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**

**Special Needs VBS 2019** will be held **Tuesday, June 4 – Thursday, June 6 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm**. 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 [https://fpchastings.org/children/](https://fpchastings.org/children/). 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, e-mail stephanie@fpchastings.org or call Stephanie at 402-462-5147.
**March 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 March, twelve (12) children had 100% Sunday School attendance. Twenty-six (26) children had 100% Wednesday Night Live attendance. The two children whose names were drawn for March’s recognition are Henry Black (Sunday School) and Ian Erickson (WNL). Thanks be to God for our faithful attenders!

**Flood Relief Volunteer Opportunities**

We will be traveling to Wood River, NE TODAY to lend a hand as they continue the clean-up process from the flooding.

Supplies to bring: tools, ladders, shop vac’s, sheet rock tools, power screwdrivers, etc.

→ **Sunday, April 7**

*For those who want to work hanging drywall and other “construction” type labor:*

- ✓ Depart from church parking lot at 12pm after worship.
- ✓ Return to Hastings around 6pm

**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 can be dropped off in the common office area as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your help. Questions? Contact Stephanie Brader at 402-462-5147.

**Donations for Crimson Cupboard at Hastings College**

LocalGlobal is hosting a food drive for the month of April to collect donations for the Crimson Cupboard at Hastings College. The Crimson Cupboard is the college's food pantry for food insecure students. It has been a highly used resource this year and is running low on supplies. They are most in need of peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit, canned vegetables, soup (canned or packaged), canned beans, canned meat, and any other nonperishable items. If you’d like to support this endeavor you are welcome to drop items in the collection bin in the Memorial Room any time between now and April 28th. Any donation is greatly appreciated.
Please Join Us for an

EASTER EGG HUNT

Hosted By: First Presbyterian Church

Saturday, April 20 at 2:00pm

Located at Alexander Park
(just north of First Presbyterian Church)
Alternate location in case of rain: First Presbyterian Church

Age Divisions: • Age 0-2 years • Age 3-5 years • Kindergarten-2nd Grade

**Please bring your own basket for collecting eggs and candy.

For more information contact Stephanie at 402-462-5147 or stephanie@fpchastings.org

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Easter Vigil

April 19-21

Beginning after Good Friday
Evening Service until 6:30 a.m.
Easter Sunday

Please sign up for times in the Memorial Room
**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: □ Yes □ No

I will leave my Lily at the church: □ Yes □ No

**(All lilies left will be delivered to a member of the church who is unable to attend services.)**

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**HOLY WEEK**

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings

**April 14 – Palm Sunday**

- 8:30 a.m. Celebrate Worship Service
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School (All Ages)
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
- 7:00 p.m. Church @ Campus (French Memorial Chapel)

**April 17 – International Day of Farmers/Ranchers Struggles**

- Noon Soup Luncheon & Prayer Service for Farmers/Ranchers
- WNL Activities as Scheduled

**April 18 – Maundy Thursday**

- 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

**April 19 – Good Friday**

- 12:00 p.m. Good Friday Service
- 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service
- 8:00 p.m. Easter Prayer Vigil (continues until 6:30 a.m. Easter Sunday)

**April 20 – Easter Egg Hunt**

- 2:00 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt at Alexander Park (North of the church)
- Easter Prayer Vigil (continues until 6:30 a.m. Easter Sunday)

**April 21 – Easter Sunday**

- 6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Worship Service in the Hastings College Football Stadium/Lynn Farrell Arena Press Box
- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast in the HC Press Box
- No Sunday School (All Ages)
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service