

# The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175  
Vol. 24.23, Weeks of November 24 and December 1, 2019

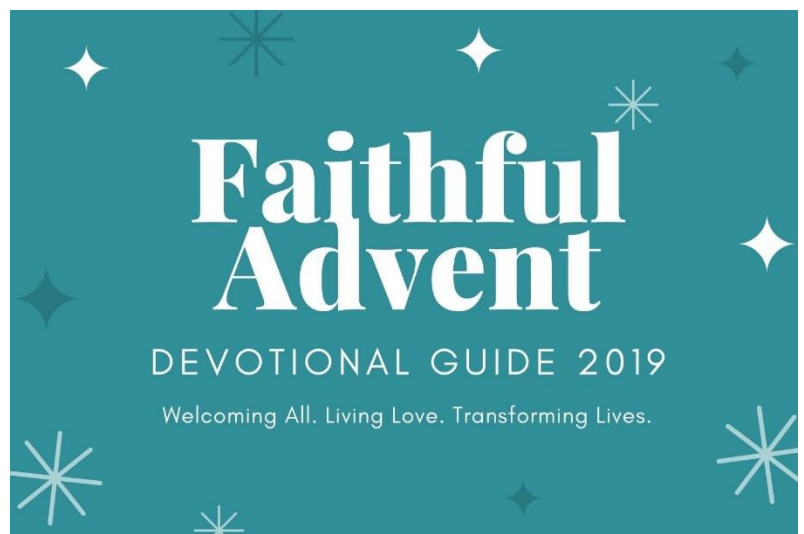
## NOTABLE NOTES

FROM PASTOR GREG

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

As the weather cools and the days get shorter, we are closing in on the month of December and the beginning of the Season of Advent. While the calendar year resets on January 1, the church year resets on Advent each year. This provides us an opportunity to reflect on the last year and prepare our hearts and minds for the year to come. Your church staff and many volunteers have been hard at work to help facilitate this season of hope and preparation.

Under Pastor Damen's leadership, we have developed an Advent Devotional guide called "Faithful Advent" for the whole church to use during December. The guide provides a **scripture and devotional reflection for every week** of Advent and **a daily prayer for each day** of Advent. The weekly devotionals have been written by Damen, Kili, Bill Nottage-Tacey, and me. The daily prayers have been written by a wide variety of church members including our Jr. and Sr. High Youth, Sara Babcock, members of the mission committee, and church staff.



One special feature of the Advent Devotional Guide is what we are calling a "Reverse Advent Calendar." Instead of opening a little box of an Advent calendar each day and getting a piece of chocolate or another small gift, we are encouraging every family in our church to give something to help our neighbors in need. We are partnering with Hastings Food Pantry, Catholic Social Services, Crossroads Shelter, and SASA to help us meet the needs of others. So each day of the Season of Advent, as you read the daily prayer, you are invited to pick up an item that has been requested by our local ministry partners. Bring those items to the church each week, and we will distribute them to help our neighbors in need. I can think of nothing more fitting to do during this season of Advent, a season marked by reflection, preparation, and hope. The *Faithful Advent Devotional Guide* will be available in the church office and in the Memorial Room November 24 and December 1.

As we prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate Jesus' birth and to wait in hopeful anticipation for His return, let us be the hands and feet of Christ to help our neighbors in need. Each time we pick up an item to be donated, may we reflect on John the Baptizer reminding us to "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." By collecting these supplies for our neighbors, we are making the world just a little bit more like God's kingdom. May we reflect on Emmanuel, God with us. May we trust that God is with us and God is inspiring and equipping us to share God's love with others.

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Greg

## FPC Prayers for:

Jim & Mary Jeanne Cooke	Jim Harrenstein	Family of Keith Meyer
Kristine Cook	Zachary, Nobel, Cale Henderson	Kathy Reimer
Cheryl Ann Elfond	Jane Horton	Janet Schawang
Irina Erickson's Mom	Jeff Howard	Joan Shaw & Family
Celia & Wayne Ganow	Family of Lee Kreager	Chris Wheeler
Norm Giesler	Gretchen Lainson	Alden Talbert (Bill's Dad)
Jim Hahne	Darrel Lloyd	

*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.*

## ANNOUNCEMENT

**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](http://www.facebook.com/fpchastings)
- on Channel 181 Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. and Sunday at 9:00 a.m.
- at Good Samaritan Village, the 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, for 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!

### **Hastings Food Pantry-Donations Needed**



On the first Sunday of every month, please bring items to place in the blue bins in the Donation Station located in Fellowship Hall 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.

**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).

### **Mission Committee Update**

- The committee delivered 180 diapers to Catholic Social Services on November 8.
- The Hastings Food Pantry received our generous donation of 14 bags and 1 box of food on November 5<sup>th</sup>. So many people will be blessed with this donation. Since 1982, the Hastings Food Pantry has been privileged to serve Hastings and the surrounding area with emergency food.

**Brooks' Bookshelf** Our son, Brooks, was born on October 10, 2018. Three days after his birth, he was diagnosed with Trisomy 21: Down Syndrome. He is a happy, strong, loving, unique individual and a true blessing to our family. He makes our lives better every day!

Brooks' Bookshelf was created in celebration of our amazing son. He is an inspiration to anyone who is lucky enough to know him! The bookshelf is a way to share the joy of reading and also spread the awareness of Down Syndrome. Bookshelves where children are welcome to take a book home will be located throughout our community!

Each bookshelf will include books of all interests with some specific books focused on kindness, compassion and a focus on individuals with unique differences. Books to range from picture/baby up to early readers.

Every story and every person is unique and beautiful. We hope that you'll find it in your hearts to donate a book or send a monetary donation to help us in this celebration.

Check out our Amazon wish list under Brook's Bookshelf and other places to donate on our website at [brookssbookshelf.org](http://brookssbookshelf.org) Follow us on Facebook & Instagram!

-Kindly, Brooks Borrell & Family

**November Communion Offering** will go to CASA, which is an acronym for Court Appointed Special Advocates who report to the court on behalf of a child who has been a victim of abuse or neglect.

**Dear Church Family,** A heartfelt thank you to all who sent cards and came to visit at Virginia Malouf's open house on Sunday, the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our family was so grateful to everyone who came to say hello and enjoy this special celebration of a lifetime.

The true highlight of the day, and hats off to Pastor Greg, who originally agreed to stop by and offer a prayer to our family, and then I asked him if he could hold communion for us as Mother had not taken communion for decades. Greg agreed. I cut the bread, got some juice, and it was beautiful as 25 or so visitors also took part. Special thanks go to Pastor Greg for his ability to adjust on the fly as I blindsided him with my request.

We are so blessed to have Pastor Greg and so many wonderful members in our congregation to share their time, talents, and resources with others. We love that we are a part of the FPC family

– Thanks again, and may God Bless you All!

### **To the Presbyterian Women of First Presbyterian Church**

Many thanks for your work in preparation and execution of our PW meeting, and I noticed some males assisting in various places. It was an inspiring meeting, and I was grateful for all aspects: the authentic Mexican food, the Hands Around the World Store, the music and worship in English and Spanish, assembling and donating School Kits.

May God bless us all as we continue to follow God's leading.

-Grace and Peace, Annabelle Wells, Moderator, PW of Central NE

### **Dear Friends,**

I want to thank those of you who helped or stopped by the Quilter's Paradise Sale! The \$339.75 raised for PW Missions is greatly appreciated. Zelma Fobben, who was an important part of PW and donated her quilting supplies when she moved, was honored.

-Mary Jeanne Cooke

## Looking Ahead...



### **ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS CORNER**

**The Christmas Season is rapidly approaching! Mark your calendar with these special church family events!**

- ♥ **Hanging of the Greens** – Saturday, November 23 @ 9:00am
- ♥ **Giving Tree** – Tags Available November 24
- ♥ **Christmas Caroling** – Date and Time to be Determined
- ♥ **First Sunday of Advent** - December 1
- ♥ **Second Sunday of Advent** - December 8
- ♥ **Christmas Caroling** – December 8, 1:15pm
- ♥ **Handel's Messiah Sing Along** – December 8, 2:00pm
- ♥ **Third Sunday of Advent** - December 15
- ♥ **Children's Christmas Program** – December 15, 10:30 Service
- ♥ **Fourth Sunday of Advent** - December 22
- ♥ **Christmas Eve Services** December 24th
  - 2:00p at College View Retirement Home
  - 5:30 Family Service 7:30 Traditional Service
  - 11:00 Evensong Service in the Chapel



Tags will be on the **Giving Tree November 24!** The Giving Tree in the Memorial Room supports clients of Assertive Community Treatments, people with severe and persistent mental illness who are living in our community. Most are without family support and live on disability or nothing.

Please take a tag from the tree, choose to give one or two items suggested on the tag, wrap the gifts and place the tag back on them. Return gifts to the tree by Tuesday, *December 10th* so that ACT staff members can deliver the gifts in time for Christmas. Monetary donations may also be given to the church office, with checks payable to ACT.



Third Saturday of the Month  
Annex Building  
Lincoln and 7th St. Hastings

Sponsored by:  
First United Methodist Church  
First Presbyterian Church

A mobile pantry is a traveling food pantry that delivers food to families in need through a one day distribution. Our goal is to provide food where there is a high need, but resources are limited. The mobile food pantry is available to all free of charge. The institutions providing the food are equal opportunity providers.

December 21, 2019		
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	9:30 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
A, B	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM

Those interested in receiving food should bring boxes or bags. Those interested in volunteering with the event should simply show up on the date of the next distribution and check in at the volunteer sign-in table. Volunteer shifts are 9:30-12:00 and 12:00-2:00. Plastic bags can be brought to the church office and donated to the cause.



The **next Red Cross Blood Drive** will be **Tuesday, January 6, 2020**, 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](http://www.redcrossblood.org).



**Donation Station Has Moved** Looking to donate items to Hastings Food Pantry, Happy Nappies, Pine Ridge, Brooks' Bookshelf, and/or SASA? The Mission committee has moved the ongoing collection tubs for these projects into the **Fellowship Hall**. If you stop by to take a look, you'll find clearly marked bins with lists of the items for which these agencies are looking. Thank you for your continued support of these vital ministry partners.



**Pickle Ball?** You are invited to come to the FPC P.E.A.C.E Center located at 7th and Lincoln Ave. every Tuesday, 5:30-8:00pm and Thursday, 5:30-8:00pm. Pickle Ball is a fun blend of ping pong, racquetball, and tennis. It is designed for all ages as a healthy activity for young and old alike. It is lower impact than tennis but just as fun! Equipment is available; you just need to show up!



**First Presbyterian Church-Hastings has an "APP" for you!** Our directory of names, contact information, and corresponding family photos is ready for you to create your login at <http://instantchurchdirectory.com>. Use the email address from your 2018 listing to gain access. Only members will be able to create a login and load an app on their phones.



**Food from the Heart Program** The women of our church have started a mission of giving to our friends and families. Our plan is to get together on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month at 2:00pm. We will prepare the food for casseroles to be placed in the church freezers. Everything will be ready to go when volunteers arrive. It would be nice to have 5-6 people help prepare the meals. To let Nancy Grams know you are coming to help prepare the casseroles or if you have any questions, call or text at 402-705-8179. The finished casseroles in the freezer are for anyone to take and give away. Feel free to share with non-members also. We care about everyone, so enjoy.



## Go & Serve Bid Board Donations Needed



Each year, the senior high youth group of First Presbyterian Church has the opportunity to go on a Go & Serve mission trip. The goal of this trip is to engage students in service projects that work toward the betterment of others while strengthening their own faith.

To help offset the costs of taking trips to various destinations we hold an annual silent auction (Bid Board). This year our silent auction will be held December 1-15. We are always looking for items to put up for auction and are hoping you can help with a **New or Gently Used** donation. Popular items from the past include: themed gift baskets (movie night, animal lover, game night, etc.), gift certificates, professional services, child care, and yard assistance.

Please deliver your donation to the designated cart in the church's common office area **before Sunday, December 1**. Also, please fill out the following form and attach it to your donation.

**New/Gently Used** Item Being Donated

\_\_\_\_\_

Donated By: \_\_\_\_\_

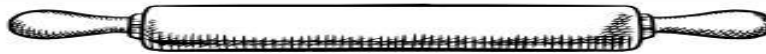
Phone & Email: \_\_\_\_\_



**Go & Serve Cinnamon Roll Sales** As chili season gets underway and out-of-town company season approacheth, it's time to turn your attention to cinnamon rolls! For some (Damen), it's never not time to think about cinnamon rolls. The Go & Servers will once again be embarking on their cinnamon roll fundraiser. Let your hearts rejoice! To place an order, please complete the form below and return it to the church office or place it in the box on the table in the office workroom.

- 1) All of the cinnamon rolls **will be frozen** so that you can bake them whenever you'd like. They bake easily at home, and this simplifies the process for us.
- 2) We're doing two pick-up Sundays. Please indicate on the form when you'd like to pick-up your rolls.
- 3) The cost of the rolls is \$12 per pan, and they come 6 rolls to a pan. Included with each pan is a bag of frosting.

You can pay when you pick up your rolls. With your support, Go & Serve continues to play a vital role in the faith formation of our senior high students. Thank you for all you do on behalf of our youth!



GO & SERVE CINNAMON ROLL FUNDRAISER  
Phone #:

Name:

Email:

Pick-Up Date (circle one):    Nov. 24    must turn in form by Nov. 15  
    Dec. 15    must turn in form by Dec. 6

Number of Pans:  
 (\$12 per pan, 6 rolls per pan)



Thank you for your support of Go & Serve!



FPC --- November 24, 2019 – December 7, 2019

Sun, Nov 24	8:30a-9:30a 9:00a-9:45a 10:30a	Taizé Contemplative-Style Worship in the Chapel Sunday School Traditional Worship
Mon, Nov 25	1:00p-3:00p 6:00p-8:00p 7:00p-8:00p 7:30p-8:30p	Pickle Ball in PEACE Center Gym Mexican Dance Troupe in PEACE Center Scout Troop 200-Boys/Girls Chorus of the Plains
Tues, Nov 26	10:30a-11:30a 12:00p-1:00p 1:30p-4:00p 5:30p-8:00p 7:00p-8:30p	Staff Meeting Bible Study in Anderson Room Quilters meet in P.E.A.C.E. Center Pickle Ball in P.E.A.C.E. Center Gym Knit Wits in the Parlor
Wed, Nov 27	7:00a-8:00a <del>9:30a-10:10a</del> <del>4:30p-8:30p</del>	Bible @ Breakfast in the Parlor NO-HC Chapel at French Memorial Chapel NO WNL Activities due to Thanksgiving Break
Nov 28-29	<del>8:30p-4:30p</del>	THANKSGIVING BREAK - CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
Sun, Dec 1	8:30a-9:15a 9:00a-9:45a 10:30a	Taizé Contemplative-Style Worship in the Chapel NO-Sunday School-Thanksgiving Break Traditional Worship Service 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent
Mon, Dec 2	1:00p-3:00p 2:00p-4:00 6:00p-8:00p 7:00p-9:00p 7:30p-9:30p	Pickle Ball in PEACE Center Gym Food from the Heart Prep in the Kitchen Mexican Dance Troupe in PEACE Center Scout Troop 200-Boys/Girls Chorus of the Plains
Tues, Dec 3	10:30a-11:30a 12:00p-1:00p 1:30p-4:00p 5:30p-7:00p 5:30p-8:00p	Staff Meeting Bible Study in Anderson Room Quilters meet in P.E.A.C.E. Center WAM meet in Anderson Pickle Ball in P.E.A.C.E. Center Gym
Wed, Dec 4	7:00a-8:00a 9:30a-10:10a 11:00a-11:45a 11:45a-1:20p 4:00p-6:00p  6:00p-6:45p  6:20p-6:50p  6:30p-8:00p 6:45p-7:30p 6:50p-7:30p  7:30p-8:15p 7:30p-8:15p  7:30p-8:15p	Bible @ Breakfast in the Parlor HC Chapel at French Memorial Chapel PW Coordinating Team in the Library PW Luncheon Pre-K thru 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Bible Study, Recreation Time, Choir/Bells (WNL) WNL Family Meal Time <i>All are welcome!</i> WNL Calvin Middle School and Westminster High School Bells Wood Carvers meet in Church Basement Chancel Choir WNL Calvin Middle School and Westminster High School Choir Chancel Bells WNL Bible Study and Fellowship: <i>Middle School (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>) Youth Group</i> WNL Bible Study and Fellowship: <i>High School (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>) Youth Group</i>
Thurs, Dec 5	7:00a-8:00a 12:00p-1:00p 5:30p-8:00p 6:00p-8:00p 6:00p-7:00p 7:00p-8:00p	Retreat in the Real World in the Adult Ed Room Soup Group in the Library Pickle Ball in P.E.A.C.E. Center Gym Mexican Dance Troupe in PEACE Center Spanish Class in P.E.A.C.E. Center, NW Classroom Cub Scout Den Meeting in Fellowship Hall
Fri, Dec 6	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies in the Youth Room
Sat, Dec 7	9:00a-4:00p	YWCA Christmas Parade of Homes



**Soup Group for Women** meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, 12:00-1:00pm in the Library. Bring a sack lunch if you wish for lunch and Fellowship.



**Knit Wits.** Join us for our knitting/crocheting *fellowship group*, 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!

**Presbyterian Women** meet for food, fellowship, and programs the first Wednesday of the month at 11:45am in Fellowship Hall.



- The next luncheon will be December 4. Please RSVP to your Circle calling chairman and to the Office by December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The program will be Jon Marquez and the Hastings High School Choir
- Circle II will prepare lunch and provide kitchen helpers. Circle III will set tables, provide centerpieces, devotions, nametags, Hunger Cups, and act as Cashiers.

- ✓ Circle I will meet December 18-9:30am (Hostess-May Wierenga; Lesson-Christmas Celebration)
- ✓ Circle II will meet December 18-9:30am (Hostess-Joy White; Lesson- Christmas Celebration)
- ✓ Circle III will meet December 18-1:15 pm (Hostess-Nancy Grams; Lesson- Christmas Celebration)



**Forum Adult Sunday School Class** meets at 9:15am in the Adult Ed Room

- ❖ November 24.: HC Updates
- ❖ December 8, 15, 22: Gift of Music



**Adult Classes**

**Heirs Apparent Adult Sunday School Class** meets at 9:15am in the Anderson Room. The first study for the semester will be on Simon Peter.

Grab a cup of coffee and join us.



**BIBLE Study**

**Bible @ Breakfast** meets every Wednesday at 7 a.m. in the Parlor. Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh will be leading a study on the "Rise of the Apocalyptic Imagination." There is no specific study book designated.

## Happy Anniversary

12/01/2001 Molly & Tom Johnsen  
 12/18/1965 Charles & Margaret Hermes  
 12/21/1973 Willis & Jane Horton  
 12/21/1975 Robert Nedderman & Sue Medsker-Nedderman  
 12/21/2002 Chris & Inde Wissing  
 12/23/2006 Rick & Heather Gosda



## Happy Birthday

12/01	Michelle Wells	12/11	Danna Wolford	12/21	Justin Osborne
	Peter Duang		Phyllis Salyards		Matt Nieman
	Louie Eckhardt		Kevin Ellerbee		Barbara Sunderman
	Diane Phelps		Chima Uche	12/23	Briella Borrell
12/03	Jeanne Hastings	12/12	Traci Boeve	12/24	Mari Anderson
	Sandra Wimer		John Brooks	12/25	Emily Funkey
	Abigail Shetler	12/13	Mark Scheidegger		Tracy Brooks
	Justin Musgrave		Nyaguor Duang	12/26	Laura Marvel-Wunderlich
12/04	Conner Kidd	12/14	Mary Fisk		Sophia Pankratz
	Madilyn Graves		Darrel Lloyd		Lisa Marvel
	Tyson Dailey	12/15	Kelly Barnett	12/27	Halligan Little
	Diane Mullen		Blake Norris		Margaret Koontz
12/05	Tyson Kerr		Nnamdi Uche	12/28	Jim Cooke
12/06	Connie Franzen		Pat Kleiber		Jim Wenburg
	Dave Rethorst		Nnenna Uche		Thomas Cooke
	Damon Nievas	12/17	Esther Allen-Pickett	12/29	Indiana Hoff
12/07	Ricki Frasier		Lindsey Stout		Landon Benorden
	Tanner Bauer		Marilyn Nielsen		Carolyn Nowka
	Lynette Krieger	12/18	Shannon Welton		Connie Kubicka
	Lindsley Reznicek		Wayne Ganow	12/30	Laura Peterson
12/08	Steve Wolford		Deb Jensen		Al Meyer
	Pam Schlichtman	12/19	Sue Bradley		Maliya Fitzgerald
12/09	Sophia Hemje		Tom Ratzlaff		Levi McCoy
	Dave Dirks		Donald Buhr		Riley Propp
12/10	Todd Pankratz		Kili Wenburg		
		12/20	Bill Redinger		
			Eleanor Jorgenson		



**First Presbyterian Church**  
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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 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 Thursday prior to publication. Submissions may be edited for length and suitability. You may send articles to the church office: [fpc@fpchastings.org](mailto:fpc@fpchastings.org) or call 402-462-5147.

<sup>9</sup> That if you confess with your mouth,  
“Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart  
that God raised him from the dead,  
you will be saved.  
<sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart  
that you believe and are justified,  
and it is with your mouth  
that you confess and are saved.”

Romans 10:9-10