

The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 25.03, Weeks of February 2 and February 9, 2020

NOTABLE NOTES

FROM THE CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

Christmas has come and gone. The Advent flags of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love have been stored away, out of sight. May the signs of Christmas, whether by banner or personal engagement, never leave our hearts or minds. Last December fifteenth, while the Advent candles were lit, we recited in unison: "We stop, leaning to remember, with gratitude and joy, all that God has already done for us, through us, and around us."

Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love encompass the spirit of Christmas. As we move forward into 2020, we are compelled to proceed in the spirit of Christmas. Unfortunately, it is not our way to celebrate Christmas year round. What we can do is drop the last syllable from Christmas, making it Christ. The Spirit of Christ is with us, within us, and guiding us, year round.

As we stop, leaning in with gratitude and joy, we are thankful and grateful for the many servants of God that gave of their time and talents to prepare the Church for Christmas and for carefully taking down the greens and lovingly storing them away. We are also grateful for the prayers of the people towards successful completion of God's works.

To volunteer as you are able to the service of the Lord at First Presbyterian Church is a commitment between you and God. You and our friends that join us in congregation are the Church. Its beauty and strength are as mighty as your efforts set forth.

Please consider becoming even more involved in your Church and enjoying the fellowship as we gather in service in the Spirit of Christ.

For more information about opportunities, contact any member of the Congregational Life Committee or the church office.

The Congregational Life Committee

FPC Prayers for:

Jim & Mary Jeanne Cooke	Kristine Cook (Katharine Davis' sister)	Family of Al Behl
Cheryl Ann Elfond	Zachary, Noble, Cale Henderson	Family of Darrel Lloyd
Celia & Wayne Ganow	Irina Erickson's Mom	Janet Schawang
Jim Hahne	Jeff Howard	Alden Talbert (Bill's Dad)
Jim Harrenstein	Gretchen Lainson	Family of Virginia Malouf
Jane Horton	Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)	Family of Zelma Fobben
	Family of Norm Giesler (Melissa Davis' father)	Georga and Duane Ochsner

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
- 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 PC(USA)

Dear Fellow Partners in Mission,

Happy New Year! It's hard to believe that we are standing at the threshold of a New Year and decade. Indeed, as John testified in the Book of Revelation, God is "making all things new" (Rev. 21:5.)

As we begin a new year, I'm writing on behalf of Presbyterian Mission to express our appreciation to you, your pastor, session, and congregation for your gracious and faithful support of our mission efforts. On Dec. 3, 2019, we received funds for YAV, National-Washington D.C. (Sara Babcock).

Your contribution changes lives for the sake of the gospel around the world. Thank you once again for your support, dedication, and partnership in furthering God's mission around the world. You are a valued partner.

-Bill McConnell, Mission Engagement Advisor,
Office of Mission Engagement and Support

FPC Mission Committee Update

- ❖ Friday, Jan 24th, the Mission committee delivered 20 hygiene kits to SASA and 314 diapers and wipes to Catholic Social Services.

As you can imagine, they were all very happy to receive these donations.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the many kindnesses these past months. Prayers, delicious casseroles from PW, flowers and meals, and cookies, etc. from individuals have helped so much.

Please remember us in your prayers as we face the future.

-With gratitude, Mary Jeanne and Jim Cooke

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all for thinking of us during the Christmas Season. Your wonderful cards and yummy snacks were greatly appreciated. - Thank you again, Pastor Greg, Pastor Damen, Kili Wenburg, Stephanie Brader, Deb Hamburger, Tony Calhoun, and Jean Matheny.

Lost and Found Reminder

Did you know the church has a lost and found area?

In fact, there are two places to look! We have things from sweaters and lonely gloves to neck ties to glasses. Please check the Lost and Found by the Pop Machine and also check the wood shelf in the hallway by the office. I will be sorting through it soon and either discarding or donating.



February Communion Offering goes to Scouting as it celebrates its anniversary. Scouting has been part of First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, for over a hundred years, and during that hundred years, the emphasis has been on teaching communication, service, citizenship, and leadership. By providing a place for the Scouts to meet, FPC has supported the program. The commitment of adult leaders from the community and the Troop's outreach to youth across the community make it an ongoing successful mission of FPC. The Scouts typically fund their own program and conduct fundraisers to support service projects. However, the cost of Scouting has increased dramatically in the past few years, making it difficult to keep the program affordable for all youth. We sincerely appreciate your support through your donations to the February Communion Offering.

The Faithful Advent Devotional Guide 2019 not only provided beautiful scriptural and prayer guidance from friends and members of our church for the advent season; it also resulted in abundant giving for four vital ministry partners in our community. Our congregation and friends responded generously to the call for items needed by Catholic Social Services, Crossroads Shelter, SASA, and Hastings Food Pantry.

On Thursday, overflowing van and car loads of these donations were sorted and delivered to the four agencies. They were received with great thankfulness and surprise. Many current residents at Crossroads helped unload our van and car load of new pillows, blankets, sheet sets, and personal items. One woman who was helping us kept saying, "This is from God."





FRAUD ALERT

If you receive an email or a text message that looks like it is from Pastor Greg, Pastor Damen, or one of the other church staff asking you to buy gift cards, please report it to the church office. The phone number and email address will be incorrect.

Someone is sending these emails and text messages masquerading as Pastor Greg, stating that he is visiting someone in the ER or the hospital and needs help to order or purchase a gift card. Pastor Greg will never ask a church member to purchase a gift card by sending you an email or text message, so please don't respond. Thank you!



Brooks's 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's 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, on compassion, and 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 Brooks's Bookshelf and other places to donate on our website at brookssbookshelf.org Follow us on Facebook & Instagram!

-Kindly, Brooks Borrell & Family



FPC is starting a medical equipment library where members can borrow equipment that is needed on a temporary basis. These items will include walkers, bath chair, crutches, toilet riser, knee scooter, etc. If you have any equipment cluttering your basement that you would like to donate or if you have a temporary need for such an item, please contact Erica Brooks at ericalynn128@gmail.com.

Looking Ahead...



American
Red Cross

The **next Red Cross Blood Drive** will be **Monday, March 30, 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.



Church Camp

experiences help children and youth mature socially, emotionally, intellectually, morally and physically. This is supported by research conducted by the American Camp Association.

Highlands Presbyterian Camp & Retreat Center Summer Camp brochures are now available on the wood shelf next to the church office door. Scholarship Applications are also available.

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

PRAYING *Our* GOODBYES

Starting Thursday, February 6, we will host a **weekly grief group**. The group will meet every Thursday for 8 weeks, 5pm-6pm, in the Anderson Room. If someone you know has lost a loved one in the past year, please share this information with them and invite them to come. We will use the book *Praying Our Goodbyes* by Joyce Rupp. Please contact Pastor Greg for more details.



We will be holding a **New Members Class** in February, meeting 5pm-6:30pm on Wednesday, February 5, 12, and 19, in the Lydia Room (formerly known as the Adult Ed Classroom). This is a great opportunity for people who are interested in learning more about the Presbyterian Church and exploring membership, and dinner is provided! Please contact Pastor Greg for more details.



SAVE THE DATE

VBS

TRADITIONAL

JUNE 1-4

9:00-12:00

SPECIAL NEEDS

JUNE 1-3

1:00-3:00

Watch for more information in the coming months!

Let's Roll



With First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 29

1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Skate Island, Grand Island

Rides available - Drivers needed

Admission \$5.50 - Skate rental \$1

Need More Information??

Contact Julie Thomsen

@ 402-984-8754

EVERYONE WELCOME



2:00PM | FEB 8
JIMMIES VS. BRONCOS
LEGACY ROOM @ LYNN FARRELL ARENA

IT'S A GUYS GATHERING

Join us for food, basketball and fellowship
as we watch the Hastings College Broncos
in action!

PLEASE RSVP TO THE CHURCH OFFICE
BY FRIDAY, FEB 7

PURCHASE YOUR TICKET AT THE DOOR



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.

Those interested in receiving food should bring boxes or bags. To volunteer, 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.

February 15, 2020		
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
A, B	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM



Mark Your Calendar

What's Happening at FPC --- February 2 – February 15, 2020

Sun, Feb 2	8:30a-9:30a 9:15a-10:15a 10:30a	Taizé-Style Worship in the Chapel Sunday School All Ages Traditional Worship
Mon, Feb 3	8:15a-9:15p 1:00p-3:00p 1:00p-4:00p 6:00p-8:00p 7:00p-8:00p 7:30p-8:30p	Walkers in PEACE Center Pickle Ball in PEACE Center Gym Food from the Heart Food Prep Mexican Dance Troupe in PEACE Center Scout Troop 200-Boys/Girls Chorus of the Plains
Tues, Feb 4	8:15a-9:15p 10:30a-11:30a 12:00p-1:00p 1:30p-4:00p 5:30p-8:00p 5:30p-7:00p	Walkers in PEACE Center 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 WAM Meeting in Anderson
Wed, Feb 5	8:15a-9:15a 7:00a-8:00a 9:30a-10:10a 11:00a-11:45a 11:45a-1:20p 4:00p-6:00p 5:00p-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	Walkers in PEACE Center Bible @ Breakfast in the Parlor HC Chapel at French Memorial Chapel PW Coordinating Team in the Library PW Luncheon Pre-K thru 5th Grade Bible Study, Recreation Time, Choir/Bells (WNL) New Member Class in Adult Ed Classroom 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 (6th – 8th) Youth Group</i>
Thurs, Feb 6	7:00a-8:00a 8:15a-9:15a 12:00p-1:00p 5:30p-8:30p 6:00p-8:00p 6:00p-7:00p 7:00p-8:00p	Retreat in the Real World in Adult Ed Classroom Walkers in PEACE Center Soup Group in the Library Pickle Ball in PEACE in Center Gym Mexican Dance Troupe in PEACE Center NE Classroom Spanish Class in PEACE Center NW Classroom Cub Scout Pack Meeting in Fellowship Hall
Fri, Feb 7	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies in the Youth Room
Sat, Feb 8	2:00p-?	Guys Gathering at Lynn Farrell Arena

Sun, Feb 9	8:30a-9:15a 9:00a-9:45a 10:30a	Taizé-Style Worship in the Chapel Sunday School All Ages Traditional Worship Service
Mon, Feb 10	8:15a-9:15a 1:00p-3:00p 5:30p-6:30p 6:00p-8:00p 7:00p-9:00p 7:30p-9:30p	Walkers in PEACE Center Pickle Ball in PEACE Center Gym Foundation Board in Anderson Mexican Dance Troupe in PEACE Center Scout Troop 200-Boys/Girls Chorus of the Plains
Tues, Feb 11	8:15a-9:15a 10:30a-11:30a 12:00p-1:00p 1:30p-4:00p 5:30p-8:00p 5:30p-6:30p 6:00p-7:00p 7:00p-8:30p	Walkers in PEACE Center 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 Congregational Life Meeting in the Parlor Trustees Meeting in the Anderson Room Knit Wits in Parlor
Wed, Feb 12	7:00a-8:00a 8:15a-9:15a 9:30a-10:10a 4:00p-6:00p 5:00p-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 Walkers in PEACE Center HC Chapel at French Memorial Chapel Pre-K thru 5th Grade Bible Study, Recreation Time, Choir/Bells (WNL) New Member Class in Adult Ed Classroom 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 (6th – 8th) Youth Group</i> WNL Bible Study and Fellowship: <i>High School (9th - 12th) Youth Group</i>
Thurs, Feb 13	7:00a-8:00a 8:15a-9:15a 4:00p-5:00p 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 Walkers in PEACE Center Mission Meeting in the Parlor 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, Feb 14	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies in the Youth Room
Sat, Feb 15	9:30a-2:00p	United Harvest





2020 Offering Envelopes Are Now Available

They can be found on the wood shelf in the hall outside the office as well as on the Welcome Stand in the Memorial Room.



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 1st & 3rd 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.



Shop Hands Around the World for your Fair-Trade Items

Our products come from artisans who live in poor areas around the globe. Purchasing their goods helps them to feed their families, send their children to school, and improve their lives by becoming economically self-sufficient. Handcrafts include baskets, scarves, jewelry, woolen hats and mittens, holiday decorations, gourmet chocolates, spices, teas, coffee, and more. Purchasing products from the store also supports our local mission, United Harvest. We give \$100.00 from the store each month to this outreach, which helps to feed those in need in our community. We are open from 9:00-12:00 every Sunday.



Donation Station Has Moved Looking to donate items to Hastings Food Pantry, Happy Nappies, Pine Ridge, Brooks's 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. 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!



Heirs Apparent Adult Sunday School Class meets at 9:15am in the Anderson Room. Grab a cup of coffee and join us.



Bible @ Breakfast meets every Wednesday at 7 a.m. in the Parlor. Come join us for coffee, conversation, and study.

FORUM JAN 26, FEB 2, FEB 9

**MYTHS,
MISNOMERS,
& FAITH
WITH DR.
DAN
DEFFENBAUGH**

Rediscovering the Truth of the Older Testament

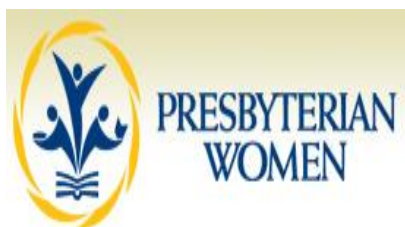
**3-PART FORUM SERIES
9:15 AM
LYDIA ADULT ED ROOM**



Soup Group for Women meets the 1st and 3rd 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. 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 February 5, 2020. Please RSVP to your Circle calling chairman and to the Office by February 3, 2020
- Circle III will prepare lunch and act as kitchen helpers.
- Circle I will be responsible for setting tables, centerpieces, devotions, nametags, cashier, and hunger cups.
- Margaret Marsh will present the program on *The Census*.

- ✓ Circle I will meet February 19-9:30am in the Parlor
(Hostess: Darlene Payne and Jane Bauer, Lesson: Peggy Thomson)
- ✓ Circle II will meet February 19-9:30am in the home of Susie Graham
(Hostess: Susie Graham, Lesson: Joy White)
- ✓ Circle III will meet February 19-1:15 pm in the Library
(Hostesses: Katharine Davis, Lesson: Kathy Reimer)

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 Thursday 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.

¹¹ And this is the testimony:
God has given us eternal life,
and this life is in his Son.

¹² Whoever has the Son has life;
whoever does not have the Son of God
does not have life.

1 John 5:11-12