

Loving & Sharing for such a time as this

2021 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

October 25, 2020

PRELUDE

“God of Grace”

arr. Paul Manz

Linda Vollweiler, organist

(The prelude is an opportunity to worship God, a time of prayer, meditation, and reflection.)

WELCOME

Greg Allen-Pickett

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 90)

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past.

O LORD, have compassion on your servants!

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Have compassion on us so that we may have compassion on others.

Let us see your work of love clearly, and then let us be bold to be co-workers with you, enacting your love in the world.

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us.

Come, let us worship God who calls us to be God’s hands and feet in the world, to love and share for such a time as this!

*OPENING HYMN

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

12

Robin and Ann Koozer, Song Leaders

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful and gracious God, we gather here this day, coming together seeking your healing wisdom. Our lives are filled with anxiety and fear. We turn our backs on people in need and close ourselves away from opportunities to serve. Confusion and anger abound in our nation and in our hearts. Forgive us when we have chosen the pathways of greed and fear instead of the high way of peace and hope. Bind up our souls and calm our spirits. Teach us again to turn to you in love. Write the commandment to love our neighbor as we ourselves would want to be loved, as you have loved us. It is in Jesus’ name that we offer this prayer.

SILENT CONFESSION & QUESTION FOR CONTEMPLATION

When have I failed to love God and love my neighbor?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's love has been poured over us to heal and nourish our thirsting spirits.

Now we are challenged to go forth in peace and hope to a hurting world.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and loved, so that we may forgive and love one another.

Alleluia! Amen!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Glory to God”

582

*PEACE OF CHRIST *(Greet one another by sharing the Peace of Christ with those around you.)*

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

In the midst of frightening times when words of conflict soar to the heavens and anger seems to be the way to treat others and to respond to difficulty, may your Holy Word remind us who we are and how we are called to love one another. May your word help us to seek your peace and healing love. Amen.

1ST SCRIPTURE READING – Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

ANTHEM

“Offertory”

John Ness Beck

Robin Koozer, soloist; Linda Vollweiler, accompanist

2ND SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 22:34-40

MESSAGE

“Putting Love at the Center of our Lives”

Greg Allen-Pickett

Stewardship Sermon Series: “Loving and Sharing for such a time as this”

*HYMN

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

716

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (By Revs. Allen & Sara Ewing-Merrill)

We believe in God, Creator of the universe, Giver of every good gift, Author of life itself.

We believe in Jesus Christ, who reminded us of the coming of God's kingdom, who commanded us to care for those in need, who taught us to store up treasures in heaven, not on earth, and who gave us the example of self-giving love.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who inspires us to faithful stewardship of God's gifts, in whom we live and move and have our being, by whom all things are possible.

We believe that God has given us gifts to be shared freely and generously, in a spirit of love and joy. We acknowledge that we are merely stewards of all that is God's, caretakers of God's home.

We believe that faithful stewardship is an act of worship, a means of praising God who has blessed us so abundantly. We believe that God has great things in store for us, for it is in giving that we receive.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Simple Gifts”

arr. Russell Schulz-Widmar

*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR OFFERING AND PLEDGE CARDS

Gracious and loving God, giver of all that is good and true and beautiful and life-giving: these offerings and pledge cards represent our labor, they represent our lives, they represent our dreams. The pledges that we make on them are but tokens of the awesome gifts that have been given to us, and they are pledged in thanksgiving for all we have received, for all we have been inspired to be, for all we are challenged to become, in this place. May they be the first fruits of all we have and not what we have left over. May we see them as our offering to you, sacred, holy, yet earthy, filled with possibilities. May we hold this image in our hearts and minds so as we watch our offerings each week come to your table, we can see our very selves being part of this offering; it is us on the table, living sacrifices of love to you. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

*HYMN

“We Are One in the Spirit”

300

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple,
The church is not a resting place, the church is a people.
I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together!
All who follow Jesus, all around the world, yes, we’re the church together!

*POSTLUDE

Postlude on “Hymn to Joy”

arr. Gordon Young

Linda Vollweiler, organist

(The postlude serves as a musical blessing for worshipers as they transition out into the world.)

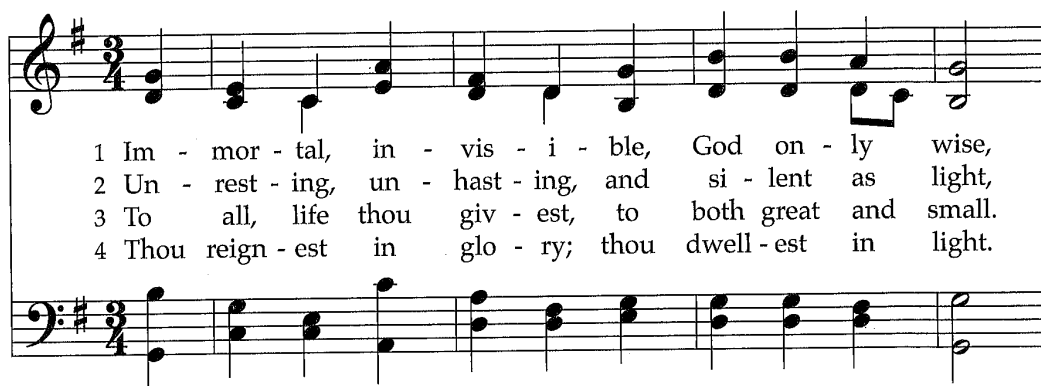
(*Indicates the congregation shall stand as they are able.)

COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP NEXT WEEK &
INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS!

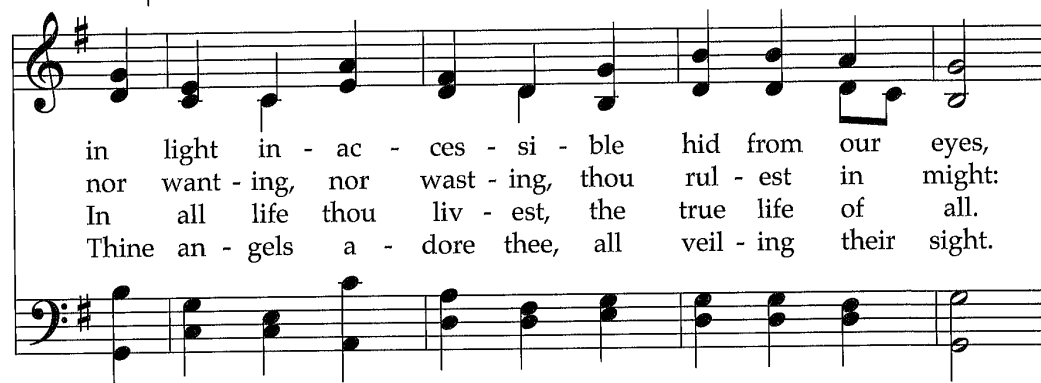
10:30 am Stay-at-Home worship

Broadcast live on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fpchastings and on KICS 1550 AM
(Please note, you do not need a Facebook account to view the service.)

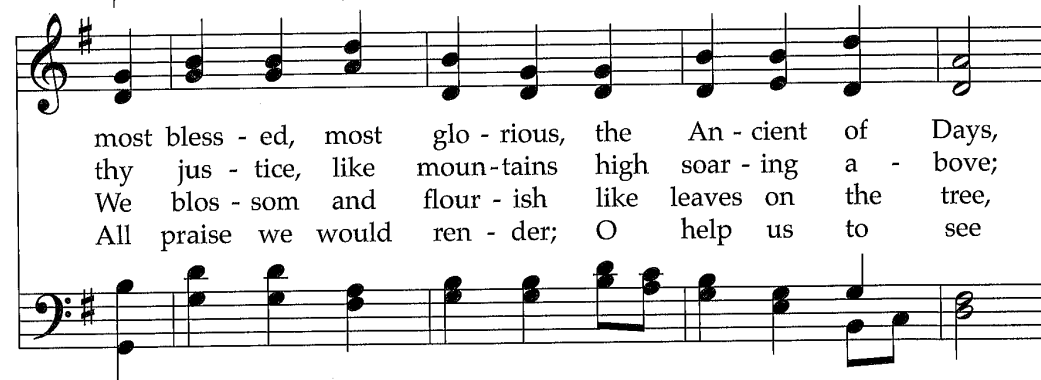
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12



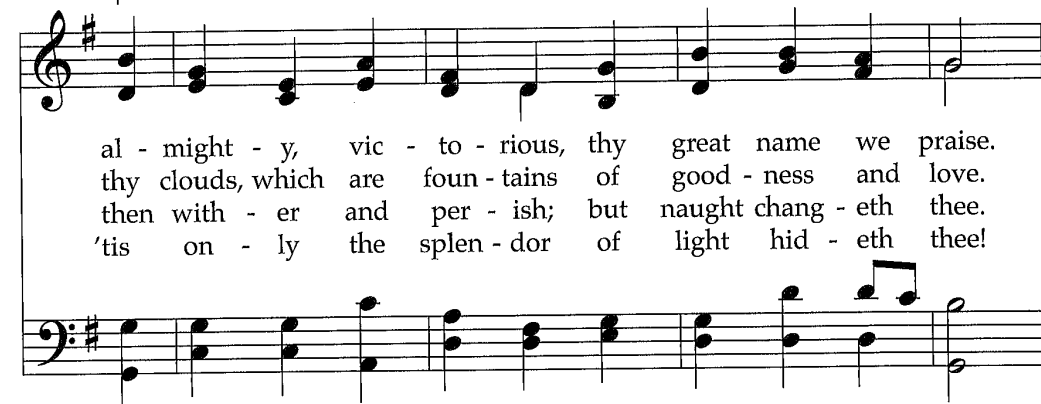
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B^b F B^b F B^b F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
F B^b E^b B^b Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, 7 with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm) Dm (G) B \flat

1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D) F (Bm) Dm

end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly
 Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es
 grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G) B \flat (D) F (A) C

cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn
 joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly
 spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm) Dm (F \sharp m) Am (Bm) Dm (G) B \flat (A) C (D) F

to you, of - fering up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall
 la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,
 shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm) Dm (G) B \flat (D) F

rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
 and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Doxology

The musical score is written for a two-part setting in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise *him, all creatures here below; praise *him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen." The music is a simple, hymn-like setting with a steady bass line and a vocal line that carries the melody.

**Or "God"*

TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

We Are One in the Spirit 300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Capo 1: (Em) Fm (Bm) Cm (Em) Fm

1 We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord;
 2 We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand;
 3 We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side;
 4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm

we are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord,
 we will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand,
 we will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side,
 and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's on - ly Son,

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm

and we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:
 and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
 and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride:
 and all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

Refrain (C) Db (Em) Fm

And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our

(Am) Bbm (Em) Fm (Am) Bbm (Bm) Cm (Em) Fm (Am/E) Bbm/F (Em) Fm

love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

A parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960s was very involved in the local Civil Rights movement and needed something for his youth choir to sing at ecumenical, interracial events. Finding nothing, he wrote this song in a single day.

October 25, 2020

The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is given in memory of Ardyce and John Bohlke by Anne Bohlke.

Flowers are given in memory of Mr. & Mrs. D. W. Clarke by the family. And also in memory of Ardyce & Jon Bohlke by Anne Bohlke.

Today's 10:30 "Stay at Home" Worship Service will be broadcast

- live on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fpchastings (You don't need an account.)
- on the radio during Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. on KICS 1550 AM.
- 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.

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.

<i>FPC Prayers for</i>		
Erica Brooks and family		Barry Thomson
Irina Erickson and family	Kristine Cook (Katharine Davis' sister)	Gretchen Lainson
Jim Harrenstein	Connie & Tom Kubicka (Chris Junker's parents)	Carol Medsker
Everly Hogan	Elaine Schumacher (Vicki Howard's Mom)	Tommy Thomsen
Jeff Howard	Melba Trehern (Lisa Unger's Mom)	Darlene Payne and family
Vern Kooy	Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)	Family of Jim Cooke
Pastor Greg and family	Cindy Pickett	Craig and JoAnn Williams

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.



Giving during our time of "Stay at Home" Church The church counts on your giving to carry on its work. As you participate in "Stay at Home" Worship, please take time to

1. mail your donation in,
2. drop by the church and leave your offering in the new locked "tithing box" located on the second brick column under the portico.
3. sign up for electronic fund transfers,
4. or give on-line at: <https://fpchastings.org/give-online/>

The church continues to play a vital role in responding to this virus, just as we did with the flood relief efforts in Nebraska. Thank you for your continued support and provision in this time.

In Memory Of

- ♥ Rev. Dr. James Cooke, who passed away 09/05/2020. Memorials may be given to First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, American Heart Association, or Hastings Area Habitat for Humanity. A memorial service will be held in the spring.
- ♥ Shirley M. Lee, who passed away 09/17/2020, and is the sister of Darlene Payne.
- ♥ Irina Belikova-Erickson's mother, who lost her battle with cancer on 10/01/2020.
- ♥ Dean Pickett, who passed away 10/13/20. Dean is Pastor Greg's father. Memorial gifts in his honor may be given to one of three causes he was very passionate about:
The American Cancer Society: <https://www.cancer.org/involved/donate.html>
The Presbyterian Church (USA) Peace and Global Witness Offering: <http://bit.ly/PresbyPeace>
Best Friends Animal Society: <https://bestfriends.org/>

November Communion Offering will go to Crossroads.

thinking
OF YOU

Thinking of You Notes With COVID-19 on the rise, a number of our retirement communities have closed to visitors again, which can lead to a sense of isolation. We want our members who live in these homes to know that they have a church family that loves them and is thinking about them. One way to do that safely is to send them cards. If you have a few moments, you can drop a card or note into the mail to help them feel connected and remembered. Please contact the church office for names and addresses. Even if you don't know them personally, a card or note can provide a real pick-me-up. Please join us in this important work.

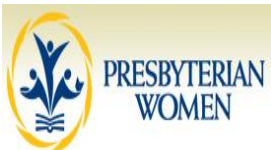
This Week at FPC --- October 26 – November 1, 2020

Session has voted that all in-person meetings must follow the following guidelines for the safety of our congregation and staff and to comply with the State-Directed Health Measures. 1.) 15 or fewer in attendance, 2.) 1 hour or less in length, 3.) Facemasks will be required, 4.) Social distancing of 6-ft. seating. All boards and committees will have the option to meet in person or continue to meet via conference call or some combination of both to be coordinated by the church staff representative.

Mon, Oct 26	8:30a-9:30a 5:30p-6:30p 7:00p-8:00p	Walkers in Gym/PEACE Center Foundation Board via ZOOM/Fellowship Hall Troop 200 Scouts in FPC Scout Room “Monday Check-in” Communication from Pastor Greg and Pastor Damen
Tues, Oct 27	8:30a-9:30a 10:30a-11:30a 12:00p-1:00p	Walkers in Gym/PEACE Center Staff Meeting via ZOOM Conferencing Bible Study via ZOOM Conferencing/Anderson
Wed, Oct 28	8:30a-9:30a 12:00 1:00p	Walkers in Gym/PEACE Center Noonday Bible Study via ZOOM Conferencing NO-Adult Bell Choir Rehearsal in Memorial Room NO-Choir Small Ensemble Rehearsal in Fellowship
	7:00p-8:00p 7:00p-8:00p	Middle School Youth Group in Youth Rm High School Youth Group in PEACE Center
Thurs, Oct 29	8:30a-9:30a 6:00p-7:00p 7:00p-8:00p	Walkers in Gym/PEACE Center Mexican Dance Troupe in NE Room/PEACE Center Cub Scouts in Fellowship Hall
Fri, Oct 30	Noon-6:00p 7:00p-8:00p	Red Cross Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall Spanish Class NW Classroom/PEACE Center DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
Sun, Nov 1	9:15a-10:15a 9:15a-10:15a 10:30a	Adult Ed Forum via ZOOM Conferencing 19/20 Confirmation Class in Fellowship Hall “Stay at Home” Worship Service



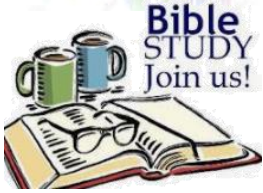
The next **Red Cross Blood Drive** is scheduled for **Friday, October 30, 2020**, from 12 noon – 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendar now! To donate or volunteer your time, please call Erica Brooks, FPC Parish Nurse, at [402-469-9285](tel:402-469-9285) or sign up at www.redcrossblood.org.



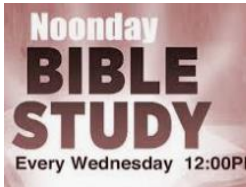
Presbyterian Women PW will **NOT** meet through the end of 2020. This means there will be **NO** Circle meetings and no monthly Luncheons until further notice. Members will receive monthly packets.



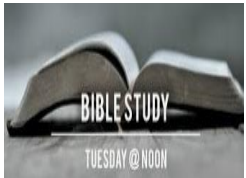
Forum Our regularly scheduled Adult Enrichment hour known as Forum meets most Sundays at 9:15. We won't be meeting in person just yet, but folks can join in the conversation live via Zoom. All Forum sessions will also be recorded and posted to the church's YouTube page so you can watch the session at any time. To join in for the discussion, please let the church office know, and we'll get you all set up!



Heirs Apparent Adult Sunday School, with Curtis Reimer leading, is starting soon via ZOOM conferencing. Contact the church office to receive the invitation.



Bible at Breakfast has a new time and name! Join us for Noonday Bible Study via ZOOM at noon with Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh as the leader. We will be looking at the Book of Revelation using the text *Revelation & the End of All Things* by Craig R. Koester. To join the study, contact sbbrooks52@gmail.com. All are welcome!



Tuesday Noon Bible Study with Pastor Greg

All are welcome to join this weekly study. The focus for the group discussion and study each week is on the verses to be used on Sunday during worship. The group gathers either by ZOOM Conferencing or in person in the Anderson Room. To join by ZOOM, contact the church office.



Update on Sunday School/Youth Group for the fall

Pre K-5th Grades: Families should have received a packet of materials in the mail to use as you follow along with video lessons to be posted weekly on our church website <https://fpchastings.org/children/>

6th-8th Grades Youth Group is meeting in-person on Wednesday evenings in the church basement youth room from **7pm-8pm**. All participants are asked to **wear a facemask**, and we will maintain proper distance from one another.

9th to 12th Grades Youth group is meeting in-person on Wednesday evenings in the PEACE Center youth room from **7pm-8pm**. All participants are asked to **wear a facemask**, and we will maintain proper distance from one another.

There will be no Sunday morning Sunday School or current 8th Grade Confirmation Class at this time. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions!



Love to Walk? During the spring through the early fall, we walk in the beautiful Heartwell Park, from **8:30a-9:30a** Monday through Thursday. Afterwards, we have fabulous Café Justo and good conversation. The First Presbyterian Church PEACE Center gym is a great place to walk during the winter months. (Group size limited to 15). Interested? Call or text Denny Storer at 402 460 8804 for more information on how to join the group and gain access to the PEACE Center on days the weather does not cooperate to walk outside.



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

Those interested in volunteering with the event should simply

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 local people. The institutions providing the food are equal opportunity providers.

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.

November 21, 2020		
S, T, U	May park and get number starting	9:45 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting	10:00 AM
A, B	May park and get number starting	10:15 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting	10:30 AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting	10:45 AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting	11:00 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting	11:15 AM
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting	11:30 AM

*Loving & Sharing
for such a time as this*

2021 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

You should have received a letter in the mail describing our annual stewardship campaign. Included in the letter is a pledge card and a “Time and Talent” sheet. You should also have received an email follow-up for those of you who receive emails from the church.

I hope you can sit down with your family over the next few weeks and prayerfully consider how God is calling you to support the work of First Presbyterian Church of Hastings in 2021.

We ask that you return the pledge cards and the Time and Talent sheets to the church by Sunday, October 25. That will be the last Sunday of our stewardship campaign, and we will say a prayer of blessing over the pledges as we prepare the budget for 2021.

It is vitally important that we do receive your pledge cards so that we can build our church’s budget for the coming year.

Thank you for your steadfast support of First Presbyterian Church of Hastings. May the stewardship campaign this year give you a chance to reflect on all the ways that God has been at work through the church over the last year, and may our pledges be a symbol of faith and hope that God is still at work in our church, even in these challenging times.