

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS, NE

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



The Mission of First Presbyterian Church

To glorify God as we share the hope, joy and promise we are given through Jesus Christ.

We believe that God is calling First Presbyterian church to be a growing spiritual community in Central Nebraska by:

- Proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ in worship, prayer, education, fellowship, and service; honoring the Presbyterian tradition while seeking new and creative ways to spread the good news,
- Inspiring and renewing people of faith for their individual service and leadership in the church and community,
- Teaching biblical truths that equip people of all ages and diverse circumstances for life in the world,
- Nurturing the spiritual friendships and fellowships that bind people and generations together, and
- Reaching out to our community, nation, and world as a continuation of Jesus Christ's ministry on earth.

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings Sharing the love of Christ in the heart of Hastings since 1873

Head of Church: Jesus Christ

Senior Pastor: Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett

Director of Children & Family

Ministries: Stephanie Brader

Organist and Music Coordinator: Linda Vollweiler

Calvin/Westminster Choir Director: Linda Johnson

Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors: Tim and Teresa Canady

Praise/Alleluia Bells Choir Director: Dr. Susan Oliver

Accompanists: Mary Plock and Alice Throckmorton

Parish Associate and Spiritual Formation: Kili Wenburg

Ministers: Members of the Church

Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Heitmann

Interim Director of Adult Education &

Fellowship: Sharon Brooks

Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Robin Koozer

Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster

Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen

Church Office Administrator: Jean Matheny

Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey

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First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska

2019 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION AGENDA

Sunday, January 27, 2019

First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary

Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett, Moderator

Karen Doerr, Clerk

OPENING PRAYER – Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett

MINUTES

Approval of minutes from congregational meeting held January 28, 2018 (See pg. 23)

STATE OF THE CHURCH ADDRESS & PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT

- Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett, Senior Pastor

CLERK'S REPORT – Karen Doerr, Clerk of Session

FINANCIAL REPORT – Dianne Christensen, Chair of Trustees

FOUNDATION REPORT – David Dirks, Chair of Foundation

2018 CONGREGATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

– Kim Creech, Chair of Nominating Committee

ELECTION OF CHURCH OFFICERS FOR 2019 – Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett

Deacons (5)	Session (4)	Trustees (4)
Peter Lainson	Harold Korb	Stepahnie Bliss
Steve Wolford	Kay Georgiana	John Northrop
Amy Hermes	Kris Horton	Harvey Freetley
Kenton Grams	Scott Shardlow	1 OPEN space for a 2-yr term
Kathy Reimer		

ELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2019 - Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett

Sally Smith, Vonda Essex, Al Meyer, Kim Creech, Tammy Nowka, Carole Storer

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT, CLOSING PRAYER – Rev. Damen Heitmann, Associate Pastor

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Annual Report 2018

2018 was my first full year serving as Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Hastings. The work continues to be rewarding and I feel rather fortunate to be a part of this beloved community. Allow me please to give you some highlights from the year that was.

I spent Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings working with our Senior High youth. We currently average around 13 students in attendance on either day and we spend our time in bible study, discussion, silly games, prayer, and fellowship. If you are unfamiliar with our Senior High students I encourage you to chat with them a bit as they consistently bring joy into my life and offer me a fresh perspective from which to view the world. We recognized graduates, led worship on Youth Sunday, roasted marshmallows, laughed, cried, and vented when needed. Our youth are equal parts curious, thoughtful, energetic, and compassionate. I doubt that any of them will read this report but it is an honor to journey with them in this stage of their life.

Evidence of their compassion was on full display during our 2018 Go & Serve service trip. In July 2018 fourteen students and six adult sponsors traveled to Camp Courageous in Monticello, IA to spend a week in service to others. Camp Courageous is year-round respite care and recreational facility for individuals of all ages with disabilities and it has become a favorite Go & Serve location over the years. During the week our students worked from 7:30 in the morning until 9:00 at night doing their best to support, care for, and form relationships with the campers. As one of the adult sponsors told our students, "I wish that all of your parents could have seen you this week because they would be so incredibly proud of you." Go & Serve continues to be a faith forming and life altering experience for our youth and I'm happy to play a small part in it. Though it should also be noted that the program owes a great amount of its success to all those who serve on the Go & Serve committee, assist with fundraising, or join in for the trips. It is a ministry of the whole church and I offer my sincere thanks to all involved.

I've also, this past year, continued in my role as staff liaison to the Global Mission and Local Social Witness committee of the church. No doubt that you can find their report enclosed but I would be remiss if I failed to mention their hard work, dedication, and commitment to the gospel of love. These are the folks who assist us and challenge us and offer us opportunities to live out our calling to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Throughout the year I've also had the opportunity to assist in leading worship through prayer, leading liturgy, preaching, and the occasional guitar tune. From time to time I've also joined the deacons in delivering home communion, led Tuesday bible study, helped out as a table parent, and experimented with new forms of worship. It has been a pleasure to be among you during 2018.

Peace and all good,

Damen Wesley Heitmann

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN & YOUTH

Annual Report 2018

“Tears of Joy and Sadness”. For me, the last day of our 2018 Special Needs VBS ended with tears. I’ll never forget the closing prayer offered by one of our Special Needs VBS participants. “Dear God, thank you for this special VBS...please, let us have this VBS again next year.” Tears of joy? Yes, because love, stories, acceptance, compassion, understanding, and the word of God was shared by both students and volunteers in our three afternoons together. Tears of sadness? Yes, because why should any child feel that they have to ask for VBS again next year. Jesus wants all his children included and that is exactly what we will continue to do!



As many of you know, this is just one of the many stories of our children and youth that I could share. Because of the many volunteers and the support of our congregation, the Children and Youth Ministry here at First Presbyterian Church is thriving. During 2018, our ministry included children and youth Sunday School classes for ages 3-18 on Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 am (August-May). On Wednesdays (August-May), children and youth ages 4-18 could participate in our Wednesday Night Live (WNL) program. The Pre-K and Elementary age program was held from 4:00 pm-6:45 pm and included Recreation, Vocal & Bell Choir, Bible Study, and a Family-

time meal. Our 6th through 12th grade youth met from 6:00-6:45 pm for the Family-time meal, 6:45-7:30 pm for choir rehearsal, and 7:30-8:15 pm for youth group. In addition, and as highlighted previously, the church offered two Vacation Bible Studies (VBS) in late May. A traditional VBS and a Special-Needs VBS was held the week of May 21-25. Other special events included an Easter Egg Hunt in March, Bible presentations to Kindergarten, 3rd & 8th Graders in August, and a Middle School Youth Lock-In in March and November.

I participated in nine baptisms in 2018. We continued to support these families in several ways. In addition to offering the Sunday School program, newborn children through the age of 3 received a monthly newsletter titled *Splash*. Each month the newsletter provided age-specific, fun, and easy ideas for bringing faith into everyday life of infants and their families. The church continued to offer nursery care for children under the age of 5 on Sunday mornings during the Christian Education hour and the 10:30 am worship service.

Another highlight of my duties was organizing our Youth Acolyte program. An “Acolyte Training” was held in September for all the 4th-8th Graders and their parents. Each youth served as an acolyte an average of 2-3 worship services.

All of these programs would not be possible without the faithful, FPC volunteers! I have enjoyed learning more about the members/attendees of the church and finding ways that they can use their individual talents to help with our programming. As one step in keeping our children and volunteers safe, I led a FPC Child Protection Policy Training for all the volunteers in March. In addition, I executed a background check on every volunteer working with children.

I continue to be amazed by the “Community of Faith” here at First Presbyterian Church and look forward to another year of being a small part of the working hands and feet of Jesus.

-Steph Brader

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, ADULT EDUCATION

Annual Report 2018

Greetings from staff member **Kili Wenburg**, *Director of Adult Education* (January through Mid-November) and *Parish Associate for Pastoral Care and Spiritual Formation* (beginning in December).

Education continues to be a guiding priority of FPC-Hastings, but not just education for the sake of education. At FPC-Hastings, we seek education that leads to spiritual formation and service for the sake of the Kingdom of God. One particular Forum class stands out as encapsulating this approach. It was the first class of the fall. We met on a beautiful Sunday morning not at the church but at the Hastings Middle School Garden. Walking through that beautiful space, we recalled how God walked through the Garden of Eden with the first humans in the cool of the day. Jayson Stoddard, founder of the HMS Garden helped us to understand how this small corner of Hastings provides a place of learning, a place where hungry people find food, and a place where both adults and youth find purpose and connection. We gave thanks for the fertile Earth God created and found inspiration to, like Jayson, glorify God by serving our community.

Regular educational opportunities for adults in 2018 included the following:

- **Bible Study** (Tuesdays at noon, Wednesdays at 7 a.m.). These were mostly led by Pastor Greg and addressed scriptures for the following Sunday's worship. For Fall 2018, the Wednesday morning group studied a book by Marcus Borg, led by members of the group.
- **Sunday School** (Sundays, 9:15-10:15 a.m.). Adult Sunday School offerings included two classes: Heirs Apparent and The Forum. The Heirs Apparent class, led by Curtis Reimer, utilized DVD-based curricula to study topics such as happiness, Moses, and living with courage and hope in uncertain times. The Forum class featured weekly guest presentations on a wide variety of topics including ethical shopping, Christianity in the Middle East, the mobile phone's impact on the human spirit, and the plight of rural churches. Remember, you can find video recordings of most past Forum classes on the church web site!
- **Presbyterian Women**. This organization provides many educational, service, and fellowship opportunities. My role with them included providing briefings for monthly Bible study leaders.
- **Spirituality Lab** (2nd/4th Thursdays at 7 a.m.). Begun Fall 2018, this group learns and practices a new form of prayer or meditation at each session, followed by discussion of an interesting spiritual topic.
- **Other**. Many other educational opportunities for adults were available through the generous gifts of time and talent of volunteer leaders...THANK YOU!
 - Soup Group (1st/3rd Thursdays at noon) led by Jessica Allen-Pickett and Laurie Lofquist.
 - Grief Group (8-week Monday afternoon series) for men, led by Pastor Greg and Dale Behrens.
 - Financial Peace University (9-week evening series) led by Tim and Deb Johnson.
 - Memoir Writing Group (3-session series) led by Mary Ann Shorey.
 - Spanish Class (Thursday evenings at 6 p.m.) led by Bertha de dios Salvador.
 - New Member Classes (3-session series) led by Pastor Greg.

In addition to the more direct educational offerings I helped with, I also offered one-on-one spiritual direction sessions, occasional preaching, and I administered the Taize services.

Up until November, my role also included serving as staff liaison to the Congregational Life Committee. I am proud of this committee's work in providing a number of fun and innovative fellowship opportunities in 2018, in addition to facilitating church member connectedness through creation of the name tags and of a new pictorial directory, coming soon. For more on this committee's work, please refer to their report elsewhere in this booklet.

Finally, I enjoyed continuing to work with the United Harvest Mobile Food Pantry, serving as staff liaison to the coordinating team, and contributing to the formalization of the mission through creation of a "Joint Venture Statement," legally describing the structure of the relationship between FPC and FUMC.

As of December 2018, my work on behalf of FPC changed, and I am now your "Parish Associate for Pastoral Care and Spiritual Formation." I am grateful to Pastor Greg and the Personnel Committee for approving my request for a reduction in hours and a refocusing of my energies to more one-on-one ministry. My new primary focus is pastoral care, but you'll also still find me facilitating the Taize services, offering spiritual direction sessions, leading the Spirituality Lab, and offering PW lesson leader briefings.



REPORT OF CLERK OF SESSION

Annual Report 2018

The following congregational data provides a brief snapshot of First Presbyterian Church in 2018.

Membership, December 31, 2017	677
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During the year, we received:

Profession of faith, reaffirmation, restoration	11
Certificate of Transfer	3
Confirmation	7

Losses:

Certificate	5
Death	8

Membership, December 31, 2018	685
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Youth/Young Adult/Adult Baptisms	4
Infant Baptisms	4
Weddings	0
Funerals	8

Average worship attendance:

8:30 service (Celebrate Band/Taize)	33 (29 Sundays)
10:30 service (Traditional)	205 (52 Sundays)

Active Officers:

Elders	13
Deacons	15
Trustees	9

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Doerr, Clerk of Session

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE

Annual Report 2018

It was another great year for the Congregational Life Committee. The committee experienced slight membership changes over the course of the year. Unfortunately, some awesome members moved out of state, but new members helped to fill the void. At this time, we have more members than we have had in the past and hope to keep growing.

At the end of last year, individual “name tags” were created for each church member, and those name tags can now be found in a beautiful display case created by church (and Congregational Life Committee) member, Mr. Brian Johnson.

Originated in 2017 and continued in 2018, the committee oversaw regular events aimed at building relationships within the church family: “fourth Sunday fellowship” times and “fifth Sunday” potluck luncheons. Every fourth Sunday of the month, a committee of the church was asked to host a coffee and cookie fellowship time following the 10:30 worship service. Additionally, if a month included a fifth Sunday, a luncheon followed the worship service. The luncheons each featured a special theme, such as taco bar in April and soup/baked potato bar in September.

The committee helped to celebrate Easter by having an Easter Egg Hunt for young people. Committee members “stuffed” hundreds of Easter eggs to ensure that children had a great experience. Due to inclement weather, the event was moved inside. This did not dampen the spirits of the thirty young people who attended the event. A great time was had by all.

In August, the committee put on the First Annual Sodbusters Tailgate Party. The attendance for this event exceeded expectations, and we are excited to schedule it again for next year.

Presbyterian “Guys’ Night Out” that was held at Hastings College in early November. Again, a fun time was had by those in attendance.

To honor the Presbyterian Church’s Scottish ancestry, the Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan took place in November. It was an amazing event. Scottish regalia was donned by several church members and they paraded into the church replete with banners and bagpipes! Worship was followed by a Scottish-themed meal attended by over 100. What a fantastic and memorable day!

First Presbyterian Church’s “photo directory” needed to be updated, so the committee hired a photographer who did “family photo shoots.” Church members were able to load their photos on flash drives and take them home with them. The official directory will be digital and easy to access for all church members.

Finally, the Congregational Life Committee always works to increase church membership. Once again, a list of “inactive members” was shared and committee members wrote personal messages to encourage those on the list to worship with our closely knit community.

We look forward to a fantastic 2019.

Respectfully,

The Congregational Life Committee

BOARD OF DEACONS

Annual Report 2018



The Board of Deacons is a vital ministry within the church, which focuses on the care and compassion of the members of our congregation. It is comprised of fifteen Deacons and Pastor Greg Allen-Pickett.

Members of the congregation are divided into parishes, with one Deacon assigned to each parish. The Deacons ensure the members within their parish stay connected with the church through various ways.

Those who serve on the Board of Deacons are naturally caring people who enjoy reaching out to others and spreading kindness. They visit members who are ill or

in the hospital, but they also visit or send a card to members who are celebrating a birthday, recognizing the birth of a baby, retiring, or any other occasion.

Each Deacon is assigned one or two members called VIP's (Very Important People). We connect with them by phone, a card, or even a visit at least once a month. These are members who are homebound, reside in a retirement center or nursing home or are unable to get out easily. Once a month the Deacons assist Pastor Greg by serving communion to these members as well.

Sunday after service, we deliver the alter flowers to someone who may be celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or any other occasion. Sometimes we surprise someone in the congregation who may deserve a beautiful bouquet, just because.

We provide transportation for those who request a ride to church, whether it be one time, or if they would like a ride each week. We also collect and deliver the donations for the food pantry.

One of the most rewarding acts of love and compassion as a Deacon, is planning and organizing the luncheon for a memorial service for a beloved member of our congregation. Being able to reach out to the family and extend our heartfelt sympathy in the loss of their loved one is a beautiful way to connect with those grieving. This year especially, we lost several members of our congregation within a short time frame and although we grieved as well, we came together to assist the families in their time of need.

A few months ago, during a Sunday service, a member of the Board of Deacons noticed that the wife of a couple who regularly attends the service together was not in attendance, but the husband was. This deacon recognized that she may be home ill or even in the hospital. The deacon reached out to the husband who told them she was at home that week. Later that day, the deacon delivered flowers to the wife who was so grateful that someone cared enough to miss her at church and be concerned with her wellbeing.

The Board of Deacons share the love of Christ with compassion, empathy, and service to the church and community.



2018 BUDGET AND ACTUALS
2019 BUDGET

2018 Budget & Actual Expenses and 2019 Budget for First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

Offerings and Income	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	Budget 2019
General Fund estimates - Current yr	\$ 527,067	\$ 573,880	\$ 575,000
Other Income	\$ 9,600	\$ 18,902	\$ 21,610
Per capita receipts	\$ 5,625	\$ 2,852	\$ 2,750
Pooh Corner/Annex Rental/Building Use	\$ 14,700	\$ 15,142	\$ 16,750
Transfer In - General Fund	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ -
Total Offerings and Income	\$ 586,501	\$ 640,776	\$ 616,110
(Note that we had \$461,133 in pledges in 2018 and received \$573,880 or 24% more)			
The Mission - Local and Global Community Outreach			
Mission Co-Workers	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 5,000
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 200	\$ 400	\$ 200
Hastings College	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Adult Mission	\$ 2,000	\$ 65	\$ 2,000
Open Table	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 2,500
Omaha Presby Sem Found-Kessler Scholarship	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200
Refugee Resettlement	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200
Local Mission - Discretionary	\$ 3,000	\$ 403	\$ 500
Youth Outreach	\$ 700	\$ 900	\$ 700
Pooh Corner Utilities	\$ 8,380	\$ 8,380	\$ 9,000
Subtotal-Community Outreach	\$ 21,180	\$ 16,848	\$ 22,800
Gathering to Worship			
Chancel Choir Director - Salary	\$ 6,130	\$ 6,130	\$ 6,300
Calvin/Westminster Choir Director - Salary	\$ 6,130	\$ 6,130	\$ 6,300
Chancel and Calvin/Westminster Bell Director	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,200
Children's Bell Choir Director - Salary	\$ 3,400	\$ -	\$ 3,500
Children's Choir Director - Salary	\$ 4,800	\$ 4,800	\$ 5,000
Organist	\$ 13,500	\$ 13,500	\$ 13,850
Music Coordinator	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,150
Accompanists - Salaries	\$ 3,211	\$ 3,311	\$ 3,400
Pulpit Supply	\$ 600	\$ -	\$ 300
Special Worship Services	\$ 350	\$ 938	\$ 350
Communion Supplies	\$ 250	\$ 64	\$ 250
Seasonal/Liturgical Décor	\$ 350	\$ -	\$ 350
Copyright License Fees	\$ -	\$ 470	\$ 1,500
Worship Enhancement - Flowers	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,568	\$ 2,500
Worship Services - Radio Broadcast	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,380	\$ 3,000
Worship Services - Video Supplies	\$ 100	\$ 56	\$ 100
Cleaning - Choir robes, etc.	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ 700
Books/Subscriptions - Worship & Music	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 100
Misc Committee Expense - Wor & Music	\$ 250	\$ 1,820	\$ 250
Subtotal - Gathering to Worship	\$ 55,871	\$ 53,167	\$ 58,100

Christian Education - Teaching the Word to our children, youth and adults	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	Budget 2019
Director of Child & Youth Education	\$ 26,250	\$ 23,072	\$ 26,985
Director of Adult Ed & Spiritual Formation	\$ 18,060	\$ 16,181	\$ 18,565
Dir. Of Child and Youth Education - Cont Ed	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000
Curriculum and Supplies	\$ 7,450	\$ 4,297	\$ 7,250
Background Checks	\$ 500	\$ 200	\$ 500
Middle School and High School Youth Group	\$ 2,000	\$ 675	\$ 2,000
Wednesday Night Live	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,335	\$ 5,000
Library Books, Subscriptions and Supplies	\$ 1,400	\$ 873	\$ 1,400
Nursery Workers	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,316	\$ 1,600
Campus Ministry	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ 200
Retreats & conferences	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500
Church Officer Training	\$ 800	\$ -	\$ 800
Camp Scholarships	\$ 1,500	\$ 160	\$ -
Adult Education Materials and Speakers	\$ 1,450	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,950
Subtotal - Teaching the Word	\$ 68,610	\$ 51,309	\$ 67,750
Caring for our Congregation	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	Budget 2019
Parish Associate Wages	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,370	\$ 2,500
Parish Associate Mileage Reimburse	\$ 500	\$ 257	\$ 500
Deacon's Fund	\$ 500	\$ 411	\$ 500
Deacon's Card/Postage Fund	\$ 100	\$ 3	\$ 100
Parish Nurse expenses	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500
Name Tags	\$ 100	\$ 105	\$ 100
Special Events/Membership Recognitions	\$ 750	\$ 650	\$ -
Adult New Member gifts	\$ 50	\$ 157	\$ 150
Baptismal gifts	\$ 200	\$ 56	\$ 200
Outreach/Marketing and Welcome Brochures	\$ 1,200	\$ 624	\$ 1,200
Friendship Pads/Pew Cards	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ 150
Subtotal - Caring for our Congregation	\$ 6,350	\$ 3,634	\$ 5,900
Stewarding Church Facilities for Mission, Ministry, Education and Worship	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	Budget 2019
Custodian - Salary	\$ 32,240	\$ 33,397	\$ 33,142
Custodian - Health Insurance and Retirement	\$ 9,484	\$ 10,274	\$ 10,667
Utilities - Gas, Electric, Water, Annex Utilities	\$ 37,000	\$ 42,821	\$ 44,000
Telephone and Internet	\$ 7,795	\$ 7,891	\$ 7,800
Maintenance & Repairs, landscaping, sprinkler	\$ 23,100	\$ 15,700	\$ 20,100
Custodial Supplies	\$ 2,500	\$ 4,701	\$ 4,000
Contract Svcs - Exterm, Trash, Lawn, etc	\$ 15,000	\$ 20,962	\$ 16,000
Kitchen supplies	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,444	\$ 3,000
Property/Liability Insurance	\$ 27,000	\$ 28,092	\$ 27,000
Copier Lease Expense	\$ 13,500	\$ 11,843	\$ 14,000
Van - Gas, Maintenance, Insur, Fees	\$ 200	\$ 218	\$ 220
Annex Maint., Repair, Contract Services	\$ 12,500	\$ 13,172	\$ 13,500
Subtotal - Church Facilities	\$ 181,869	\$ 192,515	\$ 193,429

The Mission - Proclaiming the Gospel in Word and Deed	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	Budget 2019
Head of Staff - Salary	\$ 54,400	\$ 54,400	\$ 55,923
Head of Staff - Housing Allowance	\$ 27,200	\$ 27,200	\$ 27,962
Head of Staff - Pension/Medical Insurance	\$ 32,325	\$ 35,668	\$ 32,893
Head of Staff - Travel, Prof. Expenses, Con Ed	\$ 5,400	\$ 5,700	\$ 5,400
Associate Pastor - Salary	\$ 27,500	\$ 27,500	\$ 27,500
Associate Pastor - Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000
Misc Expense - Personnel Committee	\$ -	\$ 319	\$ 500
Subtotal - Proclaiming the Gospel	\$ 150,987	\$ 150,787	\$ 160,178
Congregational Administration for the ministry and mission of the church	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	Budget 2019
Administrative Specialist - Salary	\$ 36,582	\$ 35,700	\$ 32,608
Admin Specialist - Pension/Health Ins	\$ 20,272	\$ 16,010	\$ 10,162
Office Staff Professional Development	\$ 1,000	\$ 545	\$ 1,000
Stewardship Expenses	\$ 700	\$ 385	\$ 500
Office supplies	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,920	\$ 4,000
Computer software/support	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,620	\$ 1,600
Office New Equipment	\$ 500	\$ 637	\$ 700
Postage - Gen & Admin	\$ 800	\$ 1,195	\$ 900
Newsletter postage	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,071	\$ 1,200
Office Expense - Fees, etc.	\$ 60	\$ 356	\$ 350
Online Payment Fees	\$ 100	\$ 184	\$ 200
Professional Services - Audit	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,055	\$ 250
Federal withholdings matching/SECA	\$ 17,612	\$ 18,078	\$ 18,586
Website Maintenance	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ 1,500
Subtotal - Congregational Administration	\$ 85,464	\$ 81,756	\$ 73,556
Mission - Supporting the mission work of the Presbyterian Church	Budget 2018	Actual 2018	Budget 2019
PC(USA) Per Capita	\$ 21,600	\$ 21,600	\$ 21,775
Synod Benevolence	\$ 4,200	\$ 4,200	\$ 4,200
Presbytery Benevolence	\$ 35,350	\$ 35,350	\$ 30,000
Theological Education Fund (PCUSA)	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000
Subtotal - Mission support	\$ 63,150	\$ 61,150	\$ 57,975
Total Expenses	\$ 634,881	\$ 622,624	\$ 650,773
Total Offerings and Income	\$ 586,501	\$ 640,775	\$ 616,110
Difference	\$ (48,381)	\$ 18,151	\$ (34,663)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS FOUNDATION ACTIVITY REPORT

Annual Report 2018

Fund Return Recaps and Percentages
12/31/2018

Fund Name	Fund #	9/30/2018 Balance	Earnings	12/31/2018 TOTAL	% of Total	Distributions This Quarter	990 Form Prep Fee	Manual Fees	Total Changes	12/31/2018 Balance	New %
Essex	0	1,377.59	(119.58)	1258.01	0.0513%	0.00	0.00	(1.44)	(1.44)	1,256.57	0.0520%
Music	1	1,570,501.39	(137,285.99)	1,433,215.40	58.4472%	0.00	0.00	(1,714.40)	(1,714.40)	1,431,501.00	59.1719%
Property Develop	2	431,099.41	(37,682.15)	393,417.26	16.0437%	-30,000.00	0.00	(470.60)	(30,470.60)	362,946.66	15.0026%
Christian Education	3	311,488.62	(27,227.21)	284,261.41	11.5923%	0.00	0.00	(340.03)	(340.03)	283,921.38	11.7360%
Scholarship	4	261,589.19	(22,870.62)	238,718.57	9.7351%	0.00	0.00	(285.56)	(285.56)	238,433.01	9.8558%
Irva Smith Endow	5	51,579.81	(561.62)	51,018.19	2.0805%	0.00	0.00	(56.30)	(56.30)	50,961.89	2.1065%
Designated Uses	6	55,079.89	(4,814.45)	50,265.24	2.0498%	0.00	0.00	(60.12)	(60.12)	50,205.12	2.0753%
		2,682,715.70	(230,561.62)	2,452,154.08	100.00%	-30,000.00	0.00	(2,928.45)	(32,928.45)	2,419,225.63	
Session/Trustees	7	1,048,710.30	(31,457.44)	1,017,252.86		0.00	0.00	(1,168.66)	(1,168.66)	1,016,084.20	
		3,731,426.00	(262,019.06)	3,469,406.94		(30,000.00)	0.00	(4,097.11)	(34,097.11)	3,435,309.83	

Total Interest To Allocate:

FROM W/P'S:
HERITAGE
EDWARD JONES
LPL
ACCURED INTEREST
LPL ADMIN FEE
AMORTIZATION
C SCHWAB
RAY JAMES

LESS INTEREST ON CONT
PLUS INTEREST ON DIST
LESS INTEREST ON MM only

Less special allocation-Key Soc
TOTAL INTEREST TO ALLOCATE:

Total Gains/(Losses) to Allocate:

FROM W/P'S:
LPL UNREAL
LPL REAL st TOTAL
LPL REAL LT TOTAL

Realized gain Unger stock
RAY JAMES UNREAL
RAY JAMES REAL
SCHWAB UNREAL

INVESCO REAL
INVESCO UNREAL
subtotal manually allocated
TOTAL GAIN/LOSS

Fund	4th Q Return	YTD Return
Funds 0-6	-8.60%	-4.08%
Fund 7	-3.00%	-2.11%
2- \$500 Essex Scholarships were given out this fall.		
	\$50,000	Endowment by Irva Smith came in June.
	\$30,000.00	Property Devel Withdrawal Dec, 2018
	\$11,724.65	18 YTD Fees are 44 BP
	\$4,685.63	18 YTD Fees are 45 BP

The 4th quarter wiped out 2018 gains. However, so far in January, the 2018 loss has been about wiped out by the January, 2019 gains. Per our discussion at the late October meeting, the assumption was used that the Irva Smith fund money was considered to be in an income fund for the remainder of the 4th quarter. Thus the fund had a loss for the 4th quarter, but it is still over \$900 above the initial \$50,000 balance.

* Will starting Property Development endowment (Fund#2) made that amount and growth always available for projects.
** Will starting Scholarship Fund #4 made \$125,000 the corpus, not counting what the corpus has inflation-adjusted grown to since 1987.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS ENDOWMENT FUND
ACTIVITY REPORT

Annual Report 2018

Balances in the 6 endowed funds managed by the foundation as of December 31, 2018:

Essex Scholarship Fund	\$1,257
Music Fund	1,431,501
Property Development Fund	362,947
Christian Education Fund	283,921
Scholarship Fund	238,433
Designated Uses	50,205
Total	\$2,368,264

These funds earned -4.08% for the year before fees of \$11,724.65 (44 basis points.)

The Foundation received the Irva Smith \$50,000 endowment and was directed to pay income to fund various youth activities. The December 31, 2018 balance was \$50,962 as the funds were placed so as to insure a distribution in the event of equity market volatility.

At its January 29, 2019 quarterly meeting, the Foundation Board members will finalize the distribution to the church's 2019 operating fund based on the 2018 results. Based on the 3% distribution formula used, a total of \$71,025 would be distributed for 2019 from the above endowed accounts to the church. (Music, \$42,945; Property Development, \$10,888; Christian Education, \$8,518; Scholarships, \$7,168; Designated Uses, \$1,506.)

The Foundation paid \$375 for the preparation of its 990 Tax Form to the IRS.

The Foundation also manages on an Agency basis funds for the Session/Trustees. The December 31, 2018 balance in that account was: \$1,016,084. This fund earned -2.11% for the year before fees of \$4,724 (45 basis points.)

Dave Dirks, Moderator

GLOBAL MISSION & LOCAL WITNESS COMMITTEE

Annual Report 2018

The committee meets the second Tuesday of the month and is responsible for developing our congregation's relationship to the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly's state, regional, national and international mission initiatives and those for our Ecumenical Partners in correspondence with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) by supporting, interpreting, and communicating the story of their work to our congregation.

This committee is also responsible for developing our congregation's relationship to the local ecumenical ministries and to develop, promote, and oversee our own concrete programs of Christian social witness in Hastings, Adams County and the surrounding areas with special attention to the areas of justice, peacemaking, ecology, hunger, housing, refugees, immigration and social services both religious and secular.

Four Session representatives participated on the committee with one serving as moderator.

Responsibilities and Activities this year:

- Partnered with the First United Methodist Church to coordinate the United Harvest Food Pantry. This year, the program involved more than 200 volunteers from the Hastings Community in setting up the operation in the Annex, serving an average of 450 family units with 30-40 food items and coordinating the delivery of items to shut-ins in an average of 25 homes per month. Cooperated with Hastings College students in a research study of hunger in the community
- For the 15th year, members of the Open Table team, Jeni Howard, Lily Kingsley and Meg Stewart-Magee gathered food donations, skillfully shopped for food items, set up the Fellowship Hall, and coordinated members of the congregation after Sunday late services to pack and deliver approximately 4800 lunches during July. Many of those lunches included hot entrees and salads offered at Catholic Social Services during the week.
- Worked with the Oversight Committee for Pooh Corner to review the contract, organize space, renovations, and operations in the FPC educational wing. Pooh Corner was designated as one of three daycare/preschool programs in Hastings to receive funds from the Sixpence grant
- Welcomed migrant workers with a potluck dinner on the Fourth of July and provided more than 200 long-sleeved shirts through Proteus
- Partnered with Presbyterian Women to collect and deliver feminine hygiene products to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota
- Continued Thursday night classes in Spanish language and culture
- Initiated cooperation with a traditional Mexican folk dance program in the Annex
- Welcomed the Hastings Food Pantry to use the Annex
- Coordinated with the Hastings Public Schools summer band program to provide scholarships for student participation
- Helped promote the CROP Walk
- Funded an Adult Mission Fund
- Volunteered for Project Homeless Connect
- Financially supported the Young Adult Mission Worker, Kailen Soncksen
- Identified and sought congregational support of Presbyterian missionaries and mission partners (Kirsten Hamner, Living Waters International and Frontera de Cristo)
- Encouraged and supported local refugee families

- Contributed \$500.00 to the Studio 200 program at Hastings College to support a food pantry there
- Promoted, interpreted and coordinated, with the administrative specialist, all special denominational offerings, especially: One Great Hour of Sharing, Christmas Joy, Peacemaking, and Pentecost
- Promoted, coordinated and interpreted the twelve communion offerings received each year with the assistance of the administrative specialist and with Session approval

Communion Offerings--2017

January: Healthy Beginnings

February: FPC Youth sponsored the Souper Bowl of Caring (Hastings High School Food Bank)

March: Sixpence

March 27/April: Easter/One Great Hour of Sharing

May: Open Table

Pentecost Sunday (Helping Children 60% to PCUSA-- and 40% to Teen Adventure Camp)

June: Habitat for Humanity

July: Open Table

August: RiteCare

September: Revive Ministries

October: World Communion Sunday: Peace and Global Mission Offering (25% to Hearts and Hands Against Hunger of Hastings, formerly Kids Against Hunger)

November: Crossroads

December 4: Mary Land Living Center

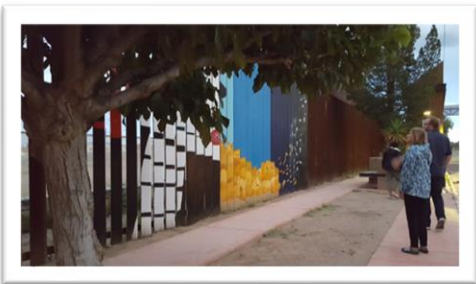
Poinsettias (extra \$ to Salvation Army for Utility Assistance)

Christmas Eve, December 24, Christmas Joy Offering

The recipients of these offerings are determined by the committee and presented to the Session twice a year for approval. This committee is charged with the responsibility of keeping the congregation informed and involved in the work of both religious and secular organizations providing services and ministries of compassion and justice in our community and commending them for special financial and volunteer support.

- Managed the Hands Around the World Mission Store located in Memorial Room.
- Participated in special offerings or drives for such ministries as Giving Tree (50 tags) and Happy Nappies with Catholic Social Services (1,000 disposable diapers)
- Developed the annual mission budget and presented the committee's budget to the Budget Committee
- In October, Pastor Greg, Sharon Brooks, Jan Ham, Jeanne Hastings, Jeni Lloyd, Margaret Marsh and Denny Storer took a mission of discovery trip to Frontera de Cristo in Arizona. FPC has a connection with folks at Café Justo to supply coffee sold in the Hands Around the World Shop
- Initiated a Coat Drive, giving away more than 390 coats, no questions asked
- Assisted collection of more than 300 pairs of socks to go to fire victims in Northern California

Members of the Committee are: Chuck Bauer, Sharon Brooks, Anne Bohlke, Mary Fisk, Jan Ham, Damen Heitmann, Susan Hoff, Jeni Howard, Pamela Lainson, Pam Lay, Constance Malloy, Jane Marsh, Phil Odom, Meg Stewart-Magee, Denny Storer and Julie Thomsen.



HEARTS & HANDS AGAINST HUNGER

Annual Report 2018

Hearts and Hands Against Hunger has been feeding starving children for 10 years. During this time 6 million meals have been packed and distributed worldwide to hungry and starving children. Last year we packed close to 800,000 meals and had over 3000 volunteers.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have supported this project by packing meals or with your monetary donations. We would also like to thank First Presbyterian Church for supporting this project by allowing Hearts & Hands to use the First Presbyterian Annex. The Annex has been the perfect place to host the packing events.

Orphanages ask us to please continue to send the food packets for their children. After the Fuego volcano eruption in Guatemala we received messages saying how thankful the children and families were for the meals sent and that people were in dire need of more food. Last year with the help of Orphan Grain Train, meals were shipped to twenty-one countries and many locations in the United States.

During 2018, over sixty different groups participated in packing events. Our volunteers continue to amaze us. It is heartwarming to see all ages packing meals side by side; young children putting on expiration stickers and their grandparents sitting next to them running the sealers. Everyone is able to serve and participate in the vital ministry of feeding the hungry.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeanne Hastings
HHAH Committee Member



Girls On the Run



Hastings Middle School Students

Groups that packed meals at Hearts & Hands Against Hunger During 2018

Southern Valley FFA – 30*

Mary Lanning Hispanic Diabetes Group – 50

YWCA AmeriCorps, Senior Action, Community Action RSVP – 12

Hastings Public Library Employees – 15

City Employees & Major Corey Stutte – 10

Trinity Lutheran School, Grand Island – 32

St Paul Lutheran Hastings Confirmation Youth – 42

Hastings High School National Honor Society – 68

Heartland Run Away Camping Group - 12
 St Michael 4th & 5th Graders Hastings Catholic Schools – 72
 YWCA Youth Leadership Academy -
 St. Paul's Lutheran Church/Holstein – 38
 Hastings Middle School 8th Graders – 260 students
 Assumption Church Roseland CYO – 45
 St Cecilia Middle School – 119
 St Paul Lutheran Youth Group – Minden – 36
 Clay County Minute Milkers 4-H, Adams & Clay Jr Leaders -48
 St Paul Lutheran Church Blue Hill
 MLMH Cath Lab – 20
 Ashley B Birthday Party – 24
 Adams Central & Blue Hill Future Business Leaders of America – 34
 Evangelical Free Church – 20
 Sodbuster Baseball Team – 28
 Eight Man Football Camp, Seratoma – 61
 MLMH Diabetes Camp, Hot Shots – 30
 Hastings College Scholar Camp – 18
 Knights of Columbus – 46
 Rosedale/Doniphan United Methodist Church – 41
 Daughters of the American Revolution-10
 Hastings Catholic God Teens-22
 Right to Life-15
 Knights of Columbus-13
 Lawrence Youth Group-30
 First United Methodist Youth Group-20
 Lutheran ELCA Cluster Churches--Immanuel Glenvil, Zion-Clay Center, Immanuel-Hastings,
 Zion-Sutton, Good Samaritan All Saints Chapel, Faith Lutheran-Hastings--41
 Bluffcenter 4-H Club 18
 Girls On the Run – 39
 National Weather Station Employees-14
 Mary Lanning Home Health Care – 65

***The number following the organization is the number of participates**

Hastings & Surrounding Area Home School Students-35
 St. Ann's Doniphan CCD/CYD- 12
 Roseland Sacred Heart-25
 Blue Hill Holy Trinity CCD-11
 Trinity Lutheran Blue Hill – 12
 First Christian Church, Hastings-32
 Hastings College 100,000 Meal Packing Event- 584
 St Cecilia High School-89
 First St. Paul Lutheran Youth, Hastings-30
 Blue River Coatings-16
 Webster County Junior Leaders – 38
 Silver Lake High School -105
 ESU#9- 22
 Mary Lanning Diabetes Support Group - 35

LIBRARY YEAR END

Annual Report 2018

The First Presbyterian Church library has over 5,000 volumes of fiction and nonfiction. These include major holdings in religion and theology, as well as collections of fiction, biography, large print and juvenile titles. In 2018, circulation was 237 items, down from 310 in 2017. Suggestions for increasing the usage of the library and for additions to the collection are always welcome.

Eighty-eight books were added to the collection in 2018. Of these, 46 were gifts and the rest were purchased with income from the Ann Binfield and C. G. & Idilla Jeffrey Wallace memorial funds. Of the 88 books, 24 were fiction, 41 were nonfiction and 23 were children's books.

The library also subscribes to 4 journals. They are Christian Century, Horizons Magazine, Presbyterian Outlook, and Presbyterians Today. Back issues are kept for 2 years.

Library use is open to all church members and friends, and is on the honors system. The checkout period is two weeks and books are always due on a Sunday, since that is the day the majority of members come to the church. Fines are not collected for overdue books. However, if you fail to return a book in a timely fashion, you will receive a notice.

Donations of items to the library are always accepted, with the understanding that if the librarian deems that they are not useful or appropriate for our library they will be donated to the Hastings Public Library book sale. Suggestions of items for purchase are always welcome.

The library is a member of the Church and Synagogue Library Association and receives a quarterly newsletter from this organization. Copies are available on the CSLA website.

We are preparing to automate the library catalog and check out system. This will likely be a long term project, possibly taking up to a year to complete. The current card catalog will be available until the switch is complete. Volunteers will be needed to input the data on each book in the library collection. The computer on which to store the catalog has been purchased, so we will begin inputting the data on the collection in the near future. If you would like to volunteer to help with this, please contact me.

Sue Medsker-Nedderman

Librarian

MEMORIALS AND GIFTS COMMITTEE

Annual Report 2018

The Memorials and Gifts Committee has been working very diligently to administer memorial monies for approved requests. The following were approved:

- Cabinet for Member Name Tags and Name Tags/Holders
- Roses for Newborns
- Go & Serve
- Camp Scholarships

Monies from the following funds were used for the requests:

- Norma Hoffman
- Betty Payne
- Dixie Kerr
- Irva Smith

The year-end total for the Memorial funds is \$62,076.33. A total of \$17,515.00 was received and a total of \$2,569.76 was expensed. A total of \$28,741.41 are designated funds.

The Committee gratefully acknowledges gifts received in loving memory of:

- Ty Chapel
- Mary Jo Emmons
- Edith Farnham
- Irmice Heeren
- Barbara Jackson
- Shirley Johnston
- Penny Lungren
- Larry Nowka
- Jack Osborne
- Pamela Osborne
- Irva Smith
- Rogene Wenburg
- Don Whitcomb

Throughout the year, memorials and gifts are thankfully accepted for designated or undesignated areas.

Moderator: Mary L. Olsen
Session Representative: Kay Georgiana
Trustee Representative: Kathy Utter
Tammy Nowka
Wihlma Price
Katherine Sachtleben

MINUTES OF A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
First Presbyterian Church
Hastings, Nebraska
January 28, 2018

The annual meeting of the congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, Nebraska was held on January 28, 2018 in the sanctuary. Moderator, Rev. Gregg Allen-Pickett confirmed that a quorum was present and opened the meeting with prayer.

MINUTES: The minutes from congregational meetings on January 22, 2017 and January 29, 2017 were reviewed. Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as written. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried.

STATE OF THE CHURCH ADDRESS: The Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett provided a state of the church address. Highlights included that the church welcomed 41 new members; attendance is up 10% (229 to 252) for the year; a 16% increase in pledges from 2017 – 2018 and that the church finished the budget year with a surplus due to the generosity of the congregation.

ANNUAL REPORT: The Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett presented the 2017 annual report of First Presbyterian Church, Hastings. Motion was made and seconded to accept the report as presented. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: The annual report of the Clerk was presented as follows:

Membership, December 31, 2016	644
During the year, we received:	
Profession of faith, reaffirmation, restoration	23
Certificate of Transfer	14
Confirmation	4

Losses:	
Certificate	1
Death	7

Membership, December 31, 2017	677
-------------------------------	-----

Young Adult/Adult Baptisms	0
Infant Baptisms	7
Weddings	1
Funerals	7

Age Distribution of Membership	Male	Female
25 & Under	44	48
26 – 45	54	78
46 – 55	32	42
56 – 65	53	72
66 – 75	58	78
Over 76	36	82

Average worship attendance:

8:30 Celebrate Band/Taize service	41 (23 Sundays)
10:30 Traditional Service	211 (52 Sundays)

Average weekly Sunday School attendance:

Youth (Nursery to grade 12)	42
Teachers	12
Adult Education – Bible Study	20
Adult Education – Heirs Apparent	10 – 15
Adult Education – Forums	20 - 30

Average Wednesday Night Live attendance:

Youth	54
Teachers	13

Active Officers:

Elders	13
Deacons	16
Trustees	9

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Clerk's Report as presented. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried.

TERMS OF CALL: The terms of call for the Rev. Greg Allen Pickett was presented as follows:

Effective Salary:	\$81,600
Cash	\$54,400
Housing Allowance	\$27,200
Other Terms:	\$36,487
Medical & Pension	\$32,325
Social Security Supplement	\$4,162
Travel & Mileage Reimb	\$2,400
Prof. Exp. & Con. Ed.	\$3,000

Total Compensation: \$118,087

Leave:

Continuing Education	2 weeks
Vacation	4 weeks

Motion and a second to approve the Terms of Call for the Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett for 2018. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Trustee Dave Fisher presented the budget for 2018. Motion and a second to receive the budget as presented. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

FOUNDATION BOARD: The Foundation report is printed in the annual meeting report booklet. A brief explanation was provided by moderator, Dave Dirks.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT:

The following individuals are presented to the congregation for election to the named boards:

For Session: Brian Johnson, Pat Kern, Erik Nielsen and Neil Riley.

For Deacon: Teresa Canady, Linda Hall, Marni Soderquist, Peg Thomson, and Lorna Zajack.

For Trustees: Sue Horton, Ted Schroeder, Roger Sunderman and C.L.Wimer.

Motion and second made that the entire slate be accepted unanimously. Upon a voice vote, motion carried.

For the 2018 Congregational Nominating Committee, the following slate is recommended: Member appointed from each board: Session, Deacon and Trustees.

Representing the congregation: Al Meyer, Richard Johnson, Tammie Nowka, Sally Smith and Vonda Essex.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the slate of committee members as presented. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried.

Having no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Rev. Damen Heitmann, Associate Pastor.

Respectfully submitted

Karen G. Doerr

Clerk

MUSIC

Annual Report 2018

It has been another busy and exciting year in the life of the music department at First Presbyterian Church. Our talented music staff includes Robin Koozer, Byron Jensen, Linda Johnson, Tim and Teresa Canady, Susan Oliver, Mary Plock, Alice Throckmorton, and Linda Vollweiler. Our music ensembles include: Praise Choir, Alleluia Choir, Praise and Alleluia Ringers, Calvin/Westminster Choir, Calvin/Westminster Ringers, Chancel Choir, Chancel Bells and Celebrate Band. The latter group leads our contemporary worship service every other Sunday at 8:30 a.m. A Taize service led by Kili Wenburg is offered at 8:30 a.m. every other Sunday opposite the Celebrate Band. Mary Plock, pianist and several other musicians share their talents at this service.

At First Presbyterian Church we proclaim the good news of the gospel. Our music directors and musicians choose music to glorify God. Please consider joining one or more of our ensembles even if you don't read music well. We welcome new participants of all ages, backgrounds and music levels.

In 2018, our choirs and bells participated in more than 60 services (including Celebrate Band) On December 9th at the 10:30 a.m. service the Chancel Choir combined with the Calvin Westminster Choir (Linda Johnson, director) to present "Small, Dancing Light," written by Terry W. York and Taylor Scott Davis. This cantata featured an Advent devotional guide. Many persons used this study during Advent not only to prepare for listening and participating in the cantata but to enrich their lives. The choirs were accompanied by an orchestra directed by Dr. Robin Koozer. This was truly a beautiful and meaningful addition to the Advent season. On Dec. 24th several Chancel Choir members went to College View Assisted Living. Choir members led the singing of carols and Pastor Greg conducted the service.

Money from the Langenberg Legacy Program continues to support the music program. Hastings College students serve as Langenberg Section leaders in Chancel Choir. It also supported instrumentalists for Christmas, orchestra members, Easter and other special services. We are very fortunate to have so many musicians willing to give their time and talents to participate in these services. The pipe organ in the sanctuary continues to have extensive updates to the pipes in the organ chamber thanks to the Langenberg fund.

The Langenberg Lesson Program reimburses families and students \$250 per child per semester for private lessons. Requirements are that parents are members of FPC and students are active participants in the music program. This is a wonderful way for students to have the opportunity to take lessons. 22 students and 12 families took advantage of this program in 2018. Please encourage your children to participate.

As we begin 2019, I would like to thank the music directors for their outstanding leadership, all the solo and ensemble musicians, Pastors Greg Allen-Pickett and Damen Heitmann, and the FPC members. Without all of you the music program would not be the outstanding program it is.

In Christ,
Linda Vollweiler, Coordinator of Music

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OFFICERS

Annual Report 2018

Elders 2018:

Sharon Brooks, Karen Doerr, Kay Georgiana, Harold Korb, Kraig Lofquist

2019

Chuck Bauer
Anne Bohlke
Mary Fisk
Jessica Meeske

2020

Brian Johnson
Pat Kern
Erik Nelsen
Neil Riley

2021 (*Proposed*)

Harold Korb
Kay Georgiana
Kris Horton
Scott Shardlow

Clerk of Session:

Deacons 2018:

Kim Creech, Jeanne Hastings, Jeff Howard, Kenton Grams, Scott Kummer

2019

Dana Odom
Lori Schroeder
Joan Shaw
Lindsey Stout
Dawna Whitcomb

2020

Teresa Canady
Linda Hall
Marnie Soderquist
Peggy Thomson
Lorna Zajack

2021 (*Proposed*)

Kenton Grams
Steve Wolford
Kathy Reimer
Peter Lainson
Amy Hermes

Trustees 2018:

Dianne Christiansen, Paula Crozier, Kathy Utter

2019

Neal Hoff
Ted Schroeder
Ken Stein

2020

Sue Horton
**Roger Sunderman
C. L. Wimer
***1 OPEN space for a 2-
year term (Replaces Roger
who is unable to continue)*

2021 (*Proposed*)

Stephanie Bliss
John Northrop
Harvey Freetley

Congregational Nominating Committee

2018

Moderator: Kim Creech
Trustee Rep: Paula Crozier
Deacon Rep: Mark Hemje
Session Rep: Sharon Brooks

At-Large Members

Sally Smith
Vonda Essex
Al Meyer
Tammy Nowka
Richard Johnson

At-Large Members (2019 *Proposed*):

Sally Smith, Vonda Essex, Al Meyer, Kim Creech, Tammy Nowka, Carol Storer

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Annual Report 2018

The Personnel Committee met three times in 2018 to take care of the staffing matters of the church. We did experience a few staffing changes over the course of the year. These changes, however, have led to a staff and leadership team that continues to bless our congregation.

The most significant staffing change of the year was the transition of our office staff over the summer. We are thankful to have Jean Matheny as Office Administrator and Deb Hamburger as Bookkeeper. While this division of duties and change in staffing did not affect the overall budget, these individuals have proven to be a great fit for our church. Both Jean and Deb have taken on their responsibilities with great care as they provide incredible support for the staff and members of First Presbyterian Church.

There was also a change in both the pastoral care of the church as well as the music coordinator position. In May, Kili Wenburg and Pastor Damen assumed pastoral care responsibilities to assist Pastor Greg in serving the needs of the congregation. Also, Linda Vollweiler, our church organist, took on the role of Music Coordinator in July.

The final staffing transition of 2018 included a change in the duties of Kili Wenburg. After much prayer and discernment while serving as Director of Adult Education and Spiritual Formation, Kili transitioned into the role of Director of Pastoral Care and Spiritual Formation. With that, Sharon Brooks was hired as the Interim Director of Adult Education and Fellowship.

The Personnel Committee expresses much gratitude and appreciation to all our staff members who continue to be such a blessing to all. The love and hope that we strive to share as a light in our community would not be possible without the good work that you complete every day. Thank you on behalf of the congregation.

Susan Oliver – Moderator
Tom Ratzlaff
Tim Redline
Rich McKenzie
Pat Kern
Karen Doerr – Clerk of Session

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Annual Report 2018

Presbyterian Women met the first Wednesday of February, April, May, September, October, November, and December. As it is stated in the "Presbyterian Women's Purpose", we meet to nurture our faith, to support the mission of the church worldwide, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women. All women of the church are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

In 2018, PW contributed financially to church mission projects including the PW Thank Offering, the PW Birthday Offering, the Least Coin Offering, Sixpence, Living Waters of the World, the Hunger Fund, and the CROP Walk. In addition, members donated bras to "Save the Girls", feminine hygiene products for Pine Ridge, plastic sleep mats for local homeless shelters, Hygiene Kits for Presbyterian Disaster, and cookies for the UCC Bloodmobile.

Gifts of Women Sunday was March 4. Kili Wenburg gave the sermon. Members of PW read the scriptures, served communion, and served as ushers and greeters. Rogene Wenburg and Chris Junker were recognized and honored with PW Life Time Pins for their service to the church.

During their May Salad Luncheon, Church Women United honored Dawna Whitcomb as Outstanding Young Woman. Mary Jeanne Cooke was honored as one of the Key Women of the community of church women. At the World Community Day, Margaret Marsh received an award for her work.

PW programs for 2018 included a presentation on the trip to Frontera de Cristo, Mike Moritz on weather, Hannah Jenson on her work in the Dominican Republic, Jo Seiler on quilts she made during her time in Lincoln, Sarah Nottage-Tacey on her work in China, and the Adams Central Madrigals. In March, our PW served the meal at Sermons a la Carte. Kili Wenburg preached.

In October, at the annual Salad Luncheon, we celebrated PW's 30th Anniversary. In November, we held a memorial service for the women in our church who had died during the past year.

Circles met for Bible study and fellowship each month, January through May and September through December. Kili Wenburg met with lesson leaders each month, giving suggestions and methods for presenting the lesson.

The Quilters Group met each Tuesday at 1:00 pm in the Annex. They worked on several quilts including one for the Go and Serve Bid Board.

One of our projects was the plastic sleep mats for the homeless. This involved straightening plastic bags, cutting them into strips, and then looping the strips into balls of plarn. The plarn could be knitted, crocheted, or woven into mats like the ones in the picture. We made about ten mats. Each mat used about 500 plastic bags.



General checking account							
Balance forward December 31, 2017							\$1,986.99
Receipts:							
	Apportionments from circles			\$2,600.00			
	Birthday Offering			\$570.00			
	Bible study books			\$220.00			
	Least Coin			\$49.30			
	Luncheon receipts			\$701.00			
	Collections			\$1,175.00			
	PCUSA Hunger Fund			\$132.46			
	Sermons a la Carte income			\$296.75			
	Cookbooks			\$35.00			
	Thank Offering			\$454.00			
	Total income			\$6,233.51			
Expenses:							
	Birthday Offering			570.00			
	Church Women United - dues			\$40.00			
	Collections remitted - Mother's Day, Father's Day			\$1,175.00			
	FPC for postage, copies			\$100.00			
	Free the Girls expenses			\$311.37			
	Gifts for speakers			\$246.77			
	Honoraria			\$250.00			
	Honorary memberships			\$190.00			
	J Boeve memorial funds - FPC for Joy Offering			\$1,229.43			
	Kitchen equipment			\$335.71			
	Least Coin			\$49.30			
	Library books			\$100.00			
	Luncheon expense			\$38.99			
	Miscellaneous - supplies, subscriptions, study books			\$343.03			
	PCUSA Hunger Fund			\$132.46			
	Pres. Central NE - mission pledge			\$1,500.00			
	Pres. Central NE - presbytery/synod support			\$225.00			
	Sermons a la Carte expenses			\$199.63			
	Thank Offering			\$454.00			
	Total expenses			\$7,490.69			
Balance on hand December 31, 2018							729.81
Regular savings account				290.00			
	Interest			0.26			
	total			290.26			290.26
Frances Anderson Memorial Fund				2,758.86			
	Interest			3.78			
	Total			2,762.64			2,762.64
Total assets on December 31, 2018							3,782.71

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Annual Report 2018

Assigned the task of the administration of the Church's property, the Board of Trustees

- monitors the church budget;
- selects and reviews insurance policies;
- monitors building security;
- serves as the maintenance committee of the property;
- supervises snow plowing, lawn mowing, waste removal, and other ongoing contracts;
- oversees upkeep of lawns, sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots;
- repairs or replaces equipment, as needed;
- sends representatives to Foundation, Scholarship, Memorial Gifts, FPC/Pooh Corner, and Nominating Committees; and
- approves the use of facilities by FPC groups, members and community organizations.

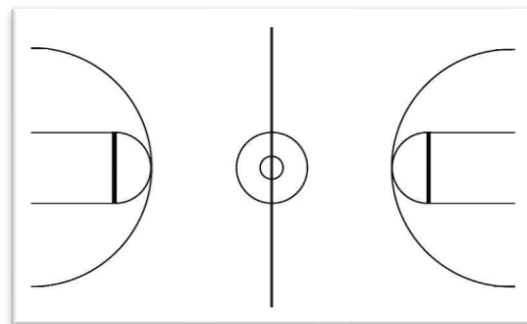
Our major Building and Grounds projects this past year included updating the heating and cooling system in the classrooms above the Memorial Room; renovating 2 classrooms, an office, and all hallways on the first floor of the education wing; replacing the air conditioning unit that serves the Fellowship Hall; and repairing and replacing concrete in the Annex parking lot.

The Trustees are extremely thankful for the addition of Tony Calhoun as facilities manager in 2018. He has proactively and efficiently lightened our responsibilities in Building and Grounds matters. It has also been a pleasure working with Jean Matheny and Deb Hamburger as they assist with administrative and financial matters.

None of our work would be possible without the generosity of you, the members and friends of our congregation. We are grateful for your gifts of time, talent and money, given in response to God's continual gracious and loving gifts to us.

Now a question for you: What measures 84' x 50' and in 2018 provided space for an ongoing youth basketball program, the Cub Scouts' pinewood derby, the Go and Serve Garage Sale, a funeral meal serving 400 people, the distribution center for monthly United Harvest events, among a myriad of other activities. Give up? It is the gymnasium in the Annex. This 4200 square feet of space has allowed us to host a number of activities that would not have been possible in our main church building. We are fortunate to be able to use this additional space for church and community wide activities that fit the mission outreach of our church.

Dianne Christensen, 2018 Moderator



WORSHIP, ARTS, AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

Annual Report 2018

The Worship, Arts, and Music Committee is one of the main committees overseen by the session. Our duties are to watch over and direct the worship and music life of the church, in accord with the Presbyterian Directory of Worship; to maintain the instruments owned by the church; and to carefully utilize the Langenberg funds in conjunction with the Trustees and Session.

The music staff consisting of Linda Vollweiler, Music Coordinator and Church Organist; Dr. Robin Koozer, Chancel Choir Director; Dr. Byron Jensen, Chancel and Calvin/Westminster Hand bell Director; Linda Johnson, Calvin/Westminster Choir Director; Mary Plock, Calvin/Westminster Accompanist; Tim and Teresa Canady, Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors; Alice Throckmorton, Praise/Alleluia Accompanist; Susan Oliver, Praise/Alleluia Hand bell Director; and the Celebrate Band; work very hard to provide a year of wonderful music for First Presbyterian Church.

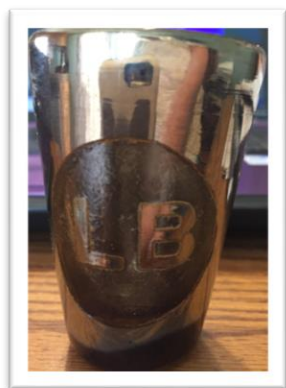
Services were arranged so there was an 8:30AM and a 10:30AM service most Sundays, held in the Sanctuary. The 10:30AM service remains the Traditional Service. Taize services are held at 8:30AM the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, while Celebrate Services are held at 8:30AM the 2nd and 4th Sundays. If there is a 5th Sunday, the 8:30AM service will be a Traditional Service. The Taize and Celebrate Services provide an alternative to the traditional service and we would like to thank the organizers of both services for their dedication and hard work.

May 20, 2018, we celebrated Pentecost in the park with St. Mark's Episcopal Church. We worshipped with 1st Methodist Church August 12, and again October 7, for World Communion Sunday. A pet blessing service was held September 30. Bagpipes helped lead the Kirkin of the Tartans service November 11. The Chancel and Calvin/Westminster Choirs accompanied by an orchestra presented "Small, Dancing Light", a cantata for Advent. Christmas Eve, we celebrated a service at 2:00 at College View. At 5:30, we held our Family Service, 7:30 our Traditional Service, and 11:00, a Contemplative Service.

The Chancel Choir sang the National Anthem at the Sodbusters baseball game August 5. June 9, our choir took part in an Interfaith Choral Festival led by Eric Dozier. The clinic was followed by a public concert. This was one of several activities partly funded by Langenberg Funds Those funds also supported Legacy Lessons. Some funds were used for needy Hastings Public School students for the summer band and orchestra program.

Pastor Damen led a new kind of get-together August 12. The Gathering was held at Prairie Loft. It was an evening of stories and scripture with original music from Hannah Jensen.

Our church will be supporting a new Fine Arts and Creative Learning Program which will begin in January, 2019, for the community.



This has been an exciting year of worship. We hope to continue with more exciting events in 2019.

Members of Worship, Arts, and Music

Moderator-Mary Fisk (Session); Session Representative-Erik Nielsen: the Music Staff; Members: Dr. Louie Eckhardt, Ginny Locke, Becky Meyer, Lydia Meyer, Mary Olson, and Alice Throckmorton.

A special thank you to Tom Krieger for providing glass blown communion cups for our Confirmation class. He has done this for several years. Some of the students have commented, "I love that it has my initials". "It's a neat



gift". "It was a really cool gift". "Pretty". "I like the colors. It makes it look rustic and man-made. I will always have something to remember my confirmation. It is Unique and no one else has anything like it."



I think it is cool that it has our initials on it
I like the colors and makes it look rustic and manmade
I like that I will always have something to remember my confirmation
I like that it is unique and no one else has anything like it

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE ANNEX

Mondays

1:00p-3:00p

Pickle Ball

3:30p-8:30p

Red Tide Boys and Girls Basketball

Tuesdays

1:00p-3:00p

Quilters

7:00p-8:00p

CCC Dog Obedience Class-NE room

Wednesdays

9:45a-11:45a

Red Tide Boys and Girls Basketball

4:00p-8:00p

Jr. & Sr. WNL (during school year)

Thursdays

6:00p-7:00p

Spanish Class-NW room

5:30p-7:30p

Life Source Dance-NE room

Other Activities at the Annex throughout the Year

FPC Walking Group – Monday thru Friday

Basketball Tournaments & Games

Boy Scout Troop 200 Overnights/Pine Wood Derby/Conditioning

Family Birthday Celebrations

Family Dinners

Family Reunions

Volleyball Tournaments & Games

Feeding Ministries at the Annex

Hearts & Hands Against Hunger - Food packing (see report on page 19)

United Harvest - Monthly Mobile food Pantry serving 400+ Families

Hastings Food Pantry - Storage and Sorting Facility