

First Presbyterian Church Hastings



February 28, 2021
10:30 a.m.
Second Sunday of Lent

PRELUDE

"Fugue in C Major"
Linda Vollweiler, Organ

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

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

WELCOME

Greg Allen-Pickett

CHORAL INTROIT

"Let Us Go into the House of the Lord"

Koozer

Chancel Choir – Robin Koozer, director (prerecorded 2/25/18)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

Praise and glorify the Lord!

God has done wondrous things in our lives!

The journey has just begun.

We are ready for the road. We are eager for the journey.

Lift up your hearts and spirits to the Lord.

We raise our spirits and hearts in great joy! Come, let us worship the Lord who invites us to follow Jesus!

*OPENING HYMN

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"
Robin & Ann Koozer, Song Leaders

611

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Guiding Lord, even though we sometimes hesitate on our Lenten journey, we vow to join you on this journey toward the cross. Today we face the challenge that true commitment brings. Are we willing to offer our whole selves to you in service? We would like to think that we can do that, but we are aware of how many times we have turned away from loving you with our whole hearts and loving our neighbors as ourselves. Instead, we have focused on our own desires. Remind us again of the commitment you would have us give if we are to become disciples. Forgive our stubbornness and fears. Lead us forward, gracious Lord, on this path toward the cross.

SILENT CONFESSION

Question for contemplation: What do I need to repent of in this Season of Lent?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The journey of discipleship is never easy,

But we can be assured that we will not be on this journey alone.

Place your trust in Jesus. It is in his name that we are forgiven.

Amen.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE “Glory be to the Father”

581

*PEACE OF CHRIST (Greet others by exchanging the Peace of Christ.)
The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TIME WITH CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Your Holy Word stops us in our tracks, O Lord, with your reminder that discipleship is not a “sometime” thing. Your Word reminds us that we are called to place our whole lives in your care, to follow you, to serve you by caring for others, not just once in a while, but always. May your Word speak to us this morning, reminding us of this call. May your Word help us to place our trust and our lives in your care. Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 22:23-31

ANTHEM “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”
Praise and Alleluia Choir, Tim and Teresa Canady, directors (Prerecorded 3/4/18)

2nd SCRIPTURE READING Mark 8:31-38

SERMON “The Power of Sacrifice: What Matters Most” Greg Allen-Pickett

*HYMN “Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said” 718

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, Father, Creator, who gives us steadfast love and shares with us our joy. Our God sustains us in our weakness and empowers us with His strength. We trust God.

We follow Jesus Christ, God’s Son. His death is our victory, His resurrection is our hope; in Him, the Word became flesh; in Him, we find forgiveness, renewal from failure, reconciliation from brokenness, and release from despair. We are saved through Him.

We are guided by the Holy Spirit, God’s presence in the world. That same Spirit calls us to be the Church, to celebrate the sacraments of baptism, to love, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen. We are empowered through Him.

We are disciples, pilgrim people. As we begin this Lenten journey once again, we commit to walk together in love and to live in fellowship, in life, in death, in life beyond death. God is with us! We are not alone! Thanks be to God!

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Fugue in C Major" *Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy*

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

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God, you have given us everything. What can we give in return for our lives? Take these gifts and turn them into something special. Take our lives and be our guide. Help us to deny ourselves, pick up our cross, and follow Jesus. May that be our offering to you this day and every day. 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**

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

726

***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**

"Hymn of Praise"

Johannes Brahms (adapted from Symphony No. 1)

Linda Vollweiler, Organ

(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 In-Person worship Service

(Please click on this link and register <http://bit.ly/FPCH-Res28> or call the church office: 402-462-5147. If we hit the maximum capacity of 120 family units/individuals, you will be added to the reservation list for the following week.)

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.)

611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-lect thy rays;
 3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.

Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pening to the sun a - bove.
 stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro - ken praise.
 Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way.
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash - ing sea,
 Ev - er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife.

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

This well-known melody was created to provide a choral setting for J. C. F. von Schiller's poem, "An die Freude" (To Joy), as the final movement of the composer's *Ninth Symphony*. The author, a prominent Presbyterian pastor and author, wrote the words with this tune in mind.

Glory Be to the Father

581

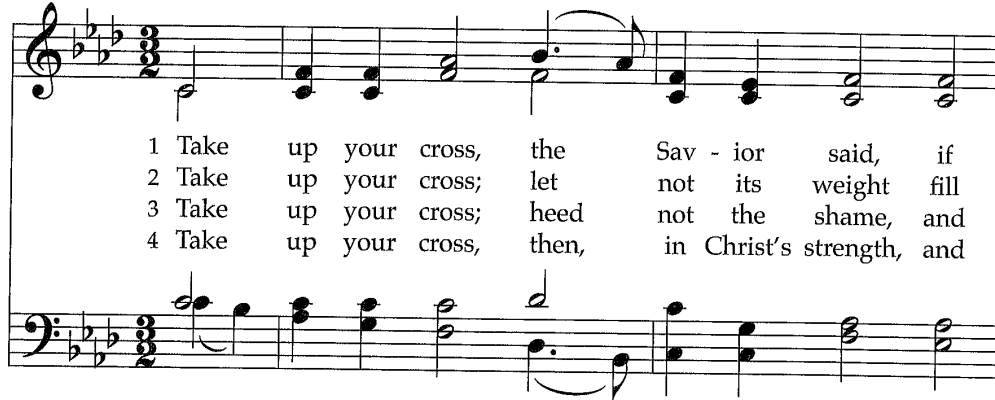
Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

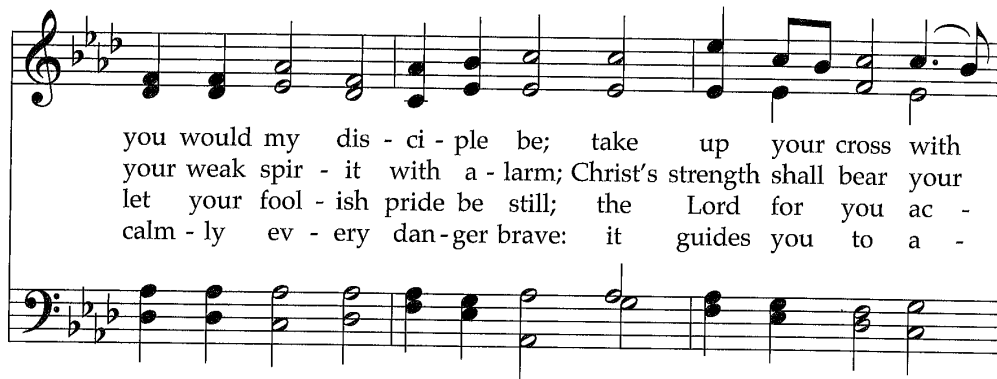
gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

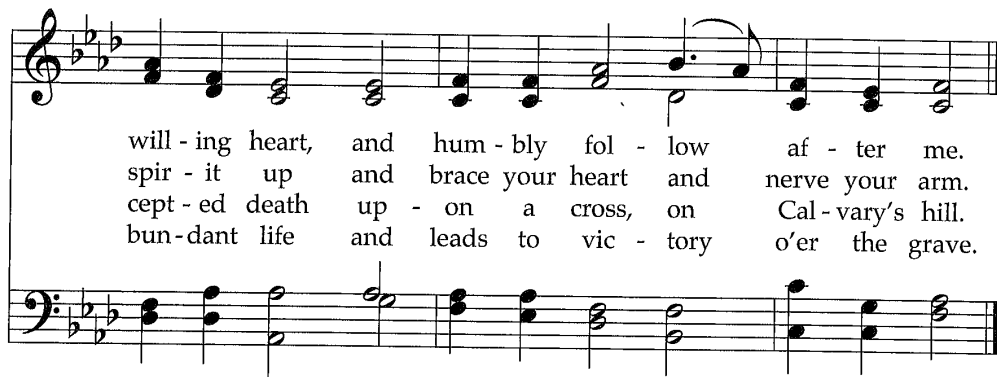
Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said 718



1 Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, if
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill
 3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and
 4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and



you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
 your weak spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your
 let your fool - ish pride be still; the Lord for you ac -
 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -



will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
 spir - it up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.
 cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.

Written by a nineteen-year-old in Connecticut, this challenging text has been widely printed on both sides of the Atlantic. It is strengthened by its resolute repetition of the same four words at the beginning of each stanza and by the appropriately stark shape note tune.

606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise *him, all crea-tures
here be-low; praise *him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise
Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

**Or "God"*

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

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus)(A)
 Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

February 28, 2021

The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. service on KICS 1550 AM and is given in loving memory of Michele L. Northrop by the Northrop family.

Flowers are given in memory of Mrs. Besse Byrne Foote, Mrs. Gwendolyn Foote Beck, Dr. & Mrs. E. C. Foote, Dr. & Mrs. E. C. Foote, Jr.

Ushers

February 28: Chanda Essink, LaVern Franzen, Dick Brader, Daveta Brader, Julie Thomsen, Kathy Amyot, Neil Riley

March 7: Chanda Essink, Dick Brader, Daveta Brader, Julie Thomsen, Erica Brooks, Ted Schroeder, Susie Graham

Today's 10:30 "In-Person" 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.



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. Thank you for your continued support and provision in this time.

FPC Prayers for

Lois Hafer	Jack Stinson (Julie Thomsen's dad)	
Cindy Pickett	Connie & Tom Kubicka (Chris Junker's parents)	Rachael Lay
Jeff Howard	Elaine Schumacher (Vicki Howard's mom)	Norris Swan
Gretchen Lainson	Melba Trehern (Lisa Unger's mom)	Tommy Thomsen
JoAnn Williams and Family	Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)	Carol Medsker
	Rev. Cheryl Ann Elfond	Mary Jeanne Cooke

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.



The March Communion Offering will go to Hastings Area Habitat for Humanity. This year Habitat has 2 homes on S. Chicago street. One is already completed, and the second home will be finished this fall.

These Homes are not gifts. Selected families are required to complete 300 hours of sweat equity by assisting volunteers in the building of the home. Their interest-free mortgage is repaid by the homeowners over a 30-year period.

Habitat's vision is to help more families live in decent, affordable homes in our community. Thank you from Hastings Area Habitat for Humanity.

This Week at FPC --- February 28 – March 7, 2021

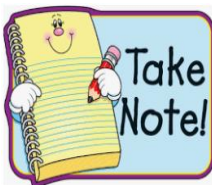
Session has voted that all in-person meetings must follow the following guidelines through March for the safety of our congregation and staff and to comply with the State-Directed Health Measures. 1.) 20 or fewer in attendance, 2.) No time limit, 3.) Facemasks will be required, 4.) Social distancing of 6-ft. seating. All boards and committees will have the option to meet in person with 5 or fewer in attendance or continue to meet via conference call or some combination of both to be coordinated by the church staff representative.

TODAY 02/28	12:00p-1:00p	Lenten Discussion Group Lydia Room/Zoom
Mon, Mar 1		“Monday Check-in” Communication from Pastor Greg and Pastor Damen
	7:00p-8:00p	Troop 200 Scouts in Scout Room
Tues, Mar 2	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting
	12:00p-1:00p	Lenten Discussion Group Anderson/Zoom
	5:30p-6:30p	WAM via Zoom
	5:30p-6:30p	United Harvest Board PEACE Center/NW
Wed, Mar 3	12:00p-1:00p	Noonday Bible Study via Zoom
	5:00p-7:00p	Confirmation Class
	7:00p-8:00p	6th - 8th Grade In-Person Youth Group Church youth room
	7:00p-8:00p	9th - 12th Grade In-Person Youth Group PEACE Center youth room
Thurs, Mar 4	6:00p-7:00p	Mexican Dance Class NE Classroom/PEACE Center
	7:00p-8:00p	Spanish Class NW Classroom/PEACE Center
	5:30p-6:30p	Christian Ed Youth via Zoom
	7:00p-8:00p	Cub Scouts in Fellowship Hall
Fri, Mar 5	7:00a-8:00a	Lenten Discussion Group Lydia Room/Zoom
Sun, Mar 7	9:15a-10:15a	Heirs Apparent Adult Study via Zoom
	9:15a-10:15a	Forum Adult Study via Zoom
	10:30a	“In-Person” Worship Service (Be sure to register your attendance using the link from the email)
	12:00p-1:00p	Lenten Discussion Group Lydia Room/Zoom



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, 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.



Notes for your Information:

1. The 2021 Offering Envelopes are in the Church Office, stop in and pick one up!
2. The 2021 Jan/Feb/March Daily Bread Devotions have arrived; both large print and regular print.



The Hands Around the World Store has ordered more coffee. Stop by the church office to re-stock your supply at \$10 **per** bag.

The Store will be OPEN, Sunday, 03/21, and 03/28 from 1:00p-2:00p. Covid rules will apply: masks required, 15 or fewer people with social distancing observed.



Lenten Discussion Groups

Everyone in our church family should have received a copy of the Lenten devotional entitled "That They May All Be One: The First Stitches." This devotional will lead readers through a series of reflections and activities designed to enable them to take first steps toward living with a greater sense of unity with those around them--even those with whom they sincerely disagree! This process will be greatly enhanced by sharing and discussing with others what one is learning through this Lenten journey.

Thus, you are encouraged to consider joining one of the three discussion groups that will be meeting weekly over the next six weeks. All three groups will be available both in person and via Zoom. *Contact the church office to get the link for the meeting of your choice.*

Fridays at 7 AM in the Lydia Room and via Zoom (led by Kili)

February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2

Sundays at 12 PM in the Lydia Room and via Zoom (led by Pastor Damen)

February 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28

Tuesdays at 12 PM in the Anderson Room and via Zoom (led by Pastor Greg)

February 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30



FPC Virtual Choir Early in the new year, at our first Tuesday morning FPC Staff ZOOM meeting, we were discussing what Lent might look like at FPC. Although this is not an exact quote, Greg's response went something like this:

Jesus shows us how counter-cultural self-sacrifice is and calls us to live that way. Lent has become a vain ritual where Christians make small sacrifices. But what if Lent could be more radical and

transformative? I see a series exploring the tangible ways that Jesus demonstrated sacrificial living and the powerful ramifications that his sacrificial life had on society. It will encourage us to reflect on our call to engage in the same self-sacrificial love of Jesus during this season of Lent.

Along those same lines, we are doing a church-wide Lenten study that Kili and Damen have written that is focused on Christian Unity. We are fractured and polarized as a nation, and the study calls us back to our shared unity in Christ. We will be encouraging people to give up things that divide us and focus on that which unites us. The theme for that study is a patchwork quilt.

Following our meeting, a rather serendipitous event occurred when I checked the emails I had received while with the staff. The first was from a fellow choir director friend sharing a famous quote of Beatle Paul McCartney:

"I love to hear a choir. I love the humanity to see the faces of real people devoting themselves to a piece of music. I like the teamwork. It makes me feel optimistic about the human race when I see them cooperating like that."

At that moment, I knew I wanted to contribute to the FPC patchwork quilt through music. Many of you may know my favorite hymn tune is ORA LABORA ("Come, Labor On"). Another friend, Jeremy Bankson, has recently published a wonderful choral anthem using that hymn. With permission from the composer and his publisher, I have written five new verses applicable to our Lenten journey for a special musical project in our church and our community.

Unlike our previous "virtual" choir productions of "Be Thou My Vision" and "Silent Night," I am asking **EVERYONE** in our congregation to participate...this means **NOT ONLY THE CHANCEL CHOIR, BUT YOU!** In fact, encourage your non-Presbyterian friends! Nothing speaks to unity more profoundly than singing in a choir!

Further details to be revealed during the February 28 (in person/view online), service. -Robin Koozer



The **next Red Cross Blood Drive** is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 30, 2021** 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 or sign up at www.redcrossblood.org.

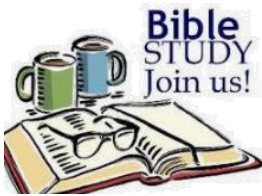


Presbyterian Women PW will not meet until further notice. This means there will be no Circle meetings and no monthly luncheons. Members will receive monthly packets. PW gatherings will be March 17 at 9:30 and 1:30 in Fellowship Hall. Details will be included in the monthly packet.

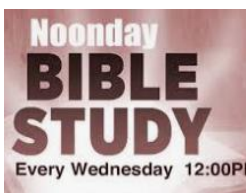


Forum Our regularly scheduled Adult Enrichment hour, known as Forum, meets most Sundays at 9:15. We won't be meeting in person just yet, but folks can join in the conversation live via Zoom. All Forum sessions will also be recorded and posted to the church's YouTube page so you can watch the session at any time. To join in for the discussion, please let the church office know, and we'll get you all set up! The next class begins 02/21/2021 with a 6-part study on the Isenheim Altarpiece led by Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh.

If you want to go back and watch a previous Forum, it can be found on the church YouTube page <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh5z--uePAXhoKVfay2w4g/videos>

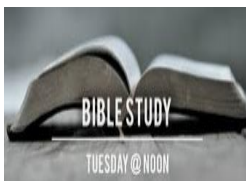


Heirs Apparent Adult Sunday School, with Curtis Reimer leading, meets via Zoom most Sunday mornings at 9:15am. We began the current study on 02/21/2021 of the book *Visioneering* by Andy Stanley, which is based on the book of Nehemiah in the Old Testament. We will meet in the Anderson room and via Zoom. To join this study, please email Curtis at teece4@gmail.com or call the church office to get the Zoom link.



Bible at Breakfast has a new time and name! Join us for Noonday Bible Study via ZOOM on **Wednesdays** 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.



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 van or truck. 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 citizens. The institutions providing the food are local opportunity providers.

Interested in volunteering at **United Harvest**? Please register on the United Harvest Facebook page. Volunteer shifts are 9:30-12:00 and 12:00-2:00.

March 20, 2021		
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
A, B	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM



2021 VBS June 1-3 (mornings)

More details coming soon!



PreK-5th Grades: Families will receive packets 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: We will be hosting in-person 6th-8th Grade Youth Group on Wednesday evenings beginning on **February 3**. We'll plan to meet 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. We'll do our usual games, bible study, and fellowship sorts of things.

9th-12th Grades: We will be hosting in-person 9th-12th Grade Youth Group on Wednesday evenings beginning on **February 3**. We'll plan to meet 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. We'll do our usual games, bible study, and fellowship sorts of things.

In-Person Confirmation Class for the current 8th Graders is being held on Wednesday evenings from 5:00-7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner is provided. All participants are required to wear a facemask when not eating and must maintain proper social distancing guidelines.

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings Sharing the love of Christ from 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
Accompanist: Mary Plock
Scholar in Residence: Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh

Ministers: Members of the Church
Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Jensen-Heitmann
Parish Associate: Kili Wenburg
Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Robin Koozer
Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen
Church Office Administrator: Jean Matheny
Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun
Bookkeeper: Deb Hamburger
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey