

April 25, 2021 Fourth Sunday Of Easter

PRELUDE

"The Lord Is My Shepherd"

 ${\it Jessie S. Irvine/arr. Richard Wagner}$

Linda Vollweiler, organ

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

WELCOME

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

OPENING QUESTION

When have you known embrace? When have you known condemnation?

INTROIT

"Festive Fanfare"

Arnold B. Sherman

Chancel Bells; Byron Jensen, Director

*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 23)

Greg Allen-Pickett

The Lord is my all. What else could I need?

God leads me to the places of contentment and peace. God gives to me the breath of life and living water. God leads me in right paths.

And God does so simply because God is good.

Life is not without trouble. Life is not free of hardship. Yet, when I find myself surrounded by the shadows of despair, I know that God is with me. The word of God, the people of God, the breath of God comfort me.

Even in the midst of all that disturbs and threatens to consume me, still God is gracious and kind. Still God anoints me as God's own.

Surely such goodness and mercy shall follow me all of my days.

No doubt, I will live in the Lord's presence my whole life long.

*OPENING HYMN

"O God in Whom All Life Begins" Sarah Wolf, Song Leader

308

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that we've done our fair share of laying things down. Only these things have not always been in service to others. We've laid down our courage when we've witnessed bullying and abuse. We've set aside our curiosity in the throes of political diatribe. We've tucked away our contentment for the sake of being busy. We've pushed to the back our sense of moral clarity so that we may not rock the boat, ruffle feathers, or be forced to change our very selves. We've seen the pain of our sisters and brothers. Help us, O God, to respond. Forgive us our inaction and uncharitable thoughts. Renew and embolden our hearts. Bring us back to your fold.

SILENT CONFESSION & QUESTION FOR CONTEMPLATION

What things, actions, or ways of thinking may God be calling you to lay down?

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Our redeemer lives, and so do we.

Blessed by God, forgiven of our sins, we live once more.

Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

"Glory Be to the Father"

581

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

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

SENIOR RECOGNITION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Grant, O God, that this word and proclamation may be a blessing to us. May it guide and inspire. May it challenge and nurture. May it call us beyond ourselves so that having received its blessing, we may be a blessing to others. Amen.

1ST SCRIPTURE READING – John 10:11-18

ANTHEM

"Here I Am Lord"

arr, Arnold B. Sherman

Chancel Bells; Byron Jensen, Director

2ND SCRIPTURE READING - 1 John 3:16-24

MESSAGE

"Laying It Down and Loving It" or "Drop It Like It's Hot"

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

*HYMN

"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

187

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell.

The third day, he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence, he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" Chancel Bells; Byron Jensen, Director

arr. Kevin McChesney

*DOXOLOGY

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Into your presence, O God, we place our very selves and these gifts. May they be dedicated to the creation of your peaceable kingdom so that the world may be renewed. Amen.

THE 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 "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" (vs. 1, 2, 3, & 6)

802

(**During the singing of the final hymn, we will take a second offering to benefit Rev. Will Ratcliff, the pastor at First Presbyterian Church of North Platte, who has been diagnosed with brain cancer. The congregation is invited to come down to the communion table and place their offering in the basket.)

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

POSTLUDE

"Festive March in D"

W. Rebikoff/arr. David Paxton

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 IN THE COMING WEEKS & INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS!

May 2 – Confirmation and Communion Sunday May 9 – Baptism of Julia Margaret Klaassen May 16 – Christian Education Volunteer Recognition Sunday May 23 – Pentecost Sunday

10:30 am In-Person and Stay-at-Home worship

In-Person: No RSVP for the month of May, just come and join us!

Stay-at-Home: Broadcast live on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fpchastings (Please note, you do not need a Facebook account to view the service.)

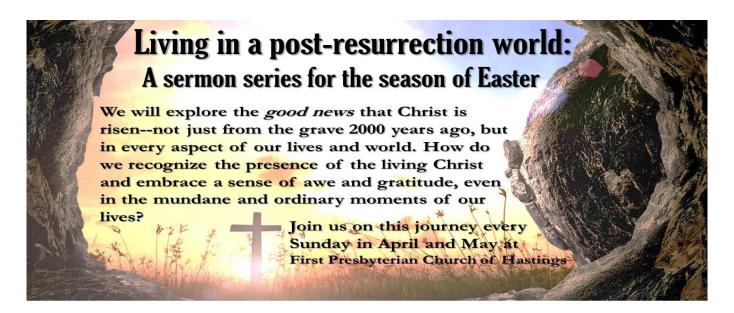
The Worship Service can also be heard live on the radio simulcast on KICS 1550 AM and on 92.7FM.

**Rev. Will Ratcliff, the pastor at First Presbyterian Church of North Platte, has been diagnosed with brain cancer. Though his prognosis is hopeful, he has a lengthy journey in front of him. As of May 1, Will's only income will be his disability coverage. Will, his wife, Bonnie, and their 8-month-old son, Thomas, have additional expenses related to Will's treatments, including frequent trips to Omaha and overnight stays.

Our church has been invited to help support Will and his family. Here are the ways we can do that:

- 1. Pray for them
- 2. Send cards of encouragement to Rev. Will & Bonnie Ratcliff, 2601 Ann Avenue, North Platte, NE 69101
- 3. If you would like to include a gift card when you send cards of encouragement, that would be welcomed. Walmart, Amazon, and gas gift cards are most appreciated.
- 4. First Presbyterian Church of Hastings will take up a special offering during our worship service on 4/25/21. We will invite people to give during the singing of our final hymn. Whatever funds are collected from that offering will be matched by funds from our 2020 church budget surplus to double the impact.

Thank you for your generosity in supporting Rev. Will Ratcliff and his family.



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-Tacev

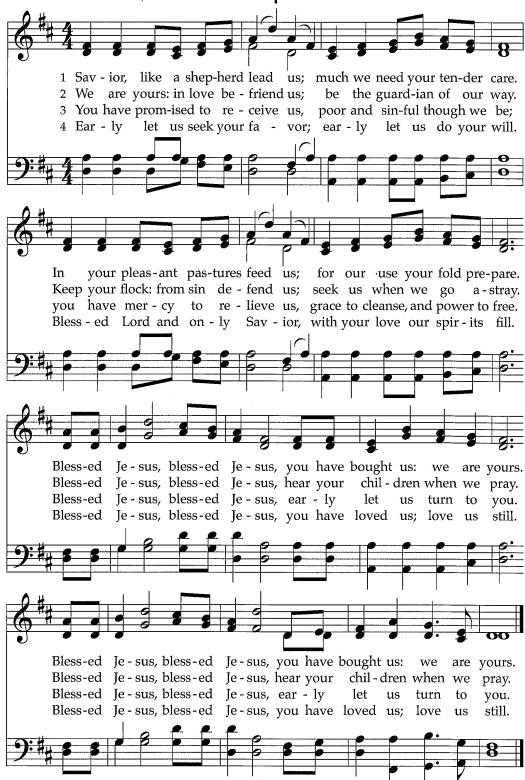
O God in Whom All Life Begins 308



Although it was written for the installation of a pastor, this text is really about the mutual ministry shared by all members of a worshiping community, both when they are gathered and when they go forth into the world. The tune used here may have Christmas associations for some.

Glory Be to the Father 581 to the ry be and to the Son, and to the Но - ly Ghost; it was in as the benow, and shall be, gin - ning, is ev with - out end. world men, men.

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us 187



This unattributed hymn, like many that are now meaningful to adults, was written for children and develops shepherd imagery from Psalm 23 and John 10:1–18. The tune, composed for these words, was originally named for the text but has come to be known by the composer's name.

606

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology



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

LM

802 The King of Love My Shepherd Is



- 5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth; and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never; Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

Since its creation in the mid-19th century, this text has been one of the favorite paraphrases of Psalm 23 in the English-speaking world. That popularity increased in the early 20th century when *The English Hymnal*, 1906, first joined these words to this flowing Irish melody.

2021 First Presbyterian Church High School Graduates



Nyaguor Duang

Parents: Nyareak Tut Deng

High School: Hastings High School

Extracurricular involvement: Student Council, Fellowship of

Christian Athletes, Basketball, Track

Plans after graduation: attend the University of Nebraska at Lincoln and further her education in the field of pre-dentistry **Most Memorable FPC Event:** Traveling with the youth group

to Hazard, Kentucky for Go & Serve

Most Memorable High School Event: Playing sports with her

friends.

Favorite Scripture: Philippians 4:13 **Why?** "Because I know that even when my life is getting tough, I can do all things through Christ.

Avery Essink

Parents: Stan and Chanda Essink

High School: Sandy Creek

Extracurricular involvement: Boy Scouts, Football, Track, Acapella Group, Choir, Musicals, One-Act, Dramas, SkillsUSA, GUESS, Youth in Harmony, UNK Honor Choir, Go & Serve, Church Choir, United Harvest Plans after graduation: attend Central Community College before transferring to UNK for criminal justice Most Memorable FPC Event: Baking cookies during youth group and eating more than his fair share Most Memorable High School Event: Making the

game-winning tackle in a football game

Favorite Scripture: Psalm 23 **Why?** "This verse is very humbling and shows a peaceful life in the path of Christ."





Hannah Hafer

Parents: Jason Hafer, Carol Reed **High School:** Hastings High School

Extracurricular involvement: Choir, Special Olympics Alumni Bowling, Guitar/Bass/Ukulele Lessons, Church

Choir, Go & Serve

Plans after graduation: study elementary education at

Wayne State College

Most Memorable FPC Event: Confirmation class, being

confirmed, and singing her statement of faith

Most Memorable High School Event: Receiving the ACT

scores

Favorite Scripture: Psalm 30:5 **Why?** "It is comforting and provides hope during rough times. It reminds me that things will get better."

Tyson Kerr

Parents: Neil and Stacy Kerr High School: Adams Central

Extracurricular involvement: Band, Choir, Madrigal, Barbershop Quartet, Brass Quintet, United Harvest,

Cross Country, Track, Quiz Bowl, Musical

Plans after graduation: Major in physics and

mathematics at the University of Nebraska Omaha with

the intention to pursue a doctorate

Most Memorable FPC Event: Working in the kitchen

with Carol during Vacation Bible School

Most Memorable High School Event: Night fishing

with friends



April 25, 2021

The radio broadcast airs during the 10:30 a.m. service, simulcast on KICS 1550 AM and on 92.7FM, and is given by Les & JoAnn Seiler.

Flowers are given in loving memory of Ty Chapel by the Chapel family.

Ushers

April Team #2: Duane Huber-Captain, Steve Illingworth, Clyde Sachtleben,

Daveta Brader, Lois Hafer, Kay Georgiana

May Team #3: Dave Fisher-Captain, Andrew Barrows, Phil Odom, Rich Portwood, Doug Soderquist

Greeters

April 25: Kathy Utter, Kim Creech, Daveta Brader **May 2:** Curtis & Kathy Reimer, Paul & Belinda Nuss

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. simulcast on KICS 1550AM and 92.7FM
- > 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 In-Person and 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 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.

Gayle Fandry	FPC Prayers for	Lanae Hall's mother	
Lois Hafer	Jack Stinson (Julie Thomsen's dad)	Karen Doerr and family	
Cindy Pickett	Connie & Tom Kubicka (Chris Junker's parents)	Rachael Lay	
Jeff Howard	Elaine Schumacher (Vicki Howard's mom)	Pam & Don Canady	
Gretchen Lainson	Melba Trehern (Lisa Unger's mom)	Tommy Thomsen	
Rich Portwood	Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)	Carol Medsker	
John Northrop	Rev. Dr. Cheryl Ann Elfond	The Tut Ruei family	
_	Family of Dorothy VanBuskirk	Family of Norris Swan	
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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.

In Memory of

- ▶ Norris Swan, who passed away 04/12/2021. Services were held at FPC Hastings, April 16, 2021, with Pastor Greg presiding.
- ◆ Dorothy VanBuskirk, who passed April 17, 2021. Services were held at FPC Hastings, April 21, 2021, with Pastor Greg presiding.



It's a surprise!!!

Surprise party and card shower for Pastor Ron Holmes, who will be retiring after 33 years serving Presbyterian Churches in Hastings, Denver and Waco Texas. He was our beloved Pastor at First Presbyterian Hastings from 1988-1993. His last day in the pulpit will be May 16th, 2021.

Ron's wife, Kim, and their three children, Megan, Lindsay and Jay, and families are having a SURPRISE party for him and would love to shower him with cards and memories from his previous churches. Let's make his day! *Cards may be sent to*: Ron Holmes, C/O Lindsay Holmes, 10305 Nelson Drive, Benbrook, TX 76126



Notes for your Information:

- 1. The 2021 Offering Envelopes are in the Church Office; stop in and pick one up!
- 2. The 2021 April/May/June These Day's Devotions have arrived, both large print and regular print.



The *May Communion Offering will go to Open Table*. The Open Table Sack Lunch project, created in 2004, is supported by donations. Lunches are given weekdays, at Catholic Social Services. No question asked.

This Week at FPC --- April 25, 2021 - May 2, 2021

Session has voted that all in-person meetings must use the following guidelines 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 have the option to meet in person or continue to meet via conference call or some combination of both (to be coordinated by the church staff representative).

TODAY 4/25	10:00a-10:30a	Hands Around the World Store OPEN	
	10:30a	Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship Service	
	11:30a-Noon	Hands Around the World Store OPEN	
Mon, Apr 26		"Monday Check-in" Communication	
_		from Pastor Greg and Pastor Damen	
	1:00p-3:00p	1 st Pres Pickleball Open Gym	
	5:30p-6:30P	Foundation Board via ZOOM/Anderson	
	7:00p-7:45p	Chorus of the Plains Fellowship Hall	
	7:00p-8:00p	Troop 200 Scouts in Scout Room	
Tues, Apr 27	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting	
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study via Zoom/Anderson	
Wed, Apr 28	12:00p-1:00p	Noonday Bible Study via Zoom	
	5:00p-7:00p	Confirmation Class	
	6:30p-9:00p	Woodcarvers Basement Room	
	7:00p-8:00p	Chancel Bells upstairs Ed wing	
	7:00p-7:30p	6 th - 8 th Grade In-Person Youth Group Church	
		youth room	
	7:00p-7:30p	9 th - 12 th Grade In-Person Youth Group PEACE	
		Center youth room	
Thurs, Apr 29	6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Dance Class NE Classroom/PEACE Center	
	7:00p-8:00p	Cub Scouts in Fellowship Hall	
	7:00p-8:00p	Spanish Class NW Classroom/PEACE Center	
Sun, May 2	9:15a-10:15a	Adult Ed Heirs Apparent Zoom/Anderson	
	10:00a-10:30a	Hands Around the World Store OPEN	
	10:30a	Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship Service	
	11:30a-Noon	Hands Around the World Store OPEN	



The Hands Around the World Store has ordered more Café Justo coffee. Stop by the church office during the week to re-stock your supply at \$10 per bag. The store is open every Sunday morning for 30 min. at 10:00 & 11:30.



The <u>next</u> Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for Tuesday, May 25, 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 <u>www.redcrossblood.org</u>.



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 collects a Mother's Day Offering every year to help women in need. This year we are collecting for The Bridge here in Hastings. The Bridge, Inc., is a therapeutic community for women who are recovering from alcohol and drug addiction and has implemented an educational model for living skills appropriate to recovering women.

Our Mother's Day Offering will help these women with personal hygiene products, pillows, and bedding for when they are ready to leave the services of The Bridge. Many women and their children arrive without anything and don't have the funds to purchase items they need. To donate, bring or send your donation to the church. Please make sure checks are written to PW with an indication it is for the Mother's Day Offering. Thank you for your support!

Church Women United May Friendship Day is May 7 at 1:30 on at the United Methodist Church. We will be honoring Jessica Allen-Pickett as our Outstanding Young Woman. Tickets are available in the Church Office for \$5.00. Questions? Contact Susan Grahams at 402-469-2638.

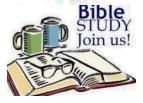
The PW sponsored Native American Book Study is launching its next two book studies. Please register your plans to attend with Marilyn Stone (mmstone52@att.net).

- April 26th-Six Weeks in the Sioux Tepees by Sarah Wakefield Two 2-hour sessions will be held at 1:30-3:30PM and 6:30-8:30PM discussing the entire book, with comparison to "Beneath the Same Stars" (It is not necessary to have read "Beneath the Same Stars" to participate in this study).
- May 10, May 24, and June 7-Standing in the Light: A Lakota Way of Seeing Two 1-hour sessions will be held on each date at 1:30 PM and 6:30 PM discussing sections of the book.



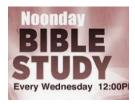
Forum Our regularly scheduled Adult Enrichment hour, known as Forum, has concluded for this semester. Previous Forums can be found on the church YouTube page

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. The current study began on 02/21/2021 using 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.



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.

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

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.



1st Pres Pickleball Open Gym The 1st Pres Pickleball has returned to the PEACE Center every Monday from 1:00-3:00. COVID rules will apply: masks required, 20 or fewer people with social distancing observed.



Are you interested in helping to run the camera, sound board, T.V. on Sunday mornings? Erik Nielsen will be training new volunteers. Let him know you want to help. Email Erik at kazgratz@gmail.com



2021 VBS Children & Volunteer Registration

We'd love for you to join us for VBS 2021! First United Methodist Church and First Presbyterian Church are coming together to host a 3-day, outdoor VBS. At Discovery of Adventure Island VBS children will explore the ways God's great light shines in the world, and shows everyone how they can reflect that light in their own lives.

DATE: Tuesday, June 1 through Thursday, June 3
TIME: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm (volunteers will be needed 8:45am - 12:15pm)

WHERE: Masonic Temple grass lot at the corner of 6th Street and Hastings Avenue (will be outside)

COVID PRECAUTION: At this time, masks will be required

CHILDREN & VOLUNTEERS: Please register SOON via the First Presbyterian Church website https://fpchastings.org/2021-vbs/ or by direct link:

Children: http://bit.ly/HastingsVBS

Volunteers: http://bit.ly/HastingsVBSVolunteer

Please contact Stephanie at stephanie@fpchastings.org or 402-462-5147 with any questions.

FPC CHILDREN & YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL & WNL

YEAR-END PICNIC

Wednesday, May 5

Libs Park—16th St. & Baltimore Ave

5:30-6:30pm fellowship & free-play

6:30-7:30pm meal*

Families with children & youth 12th grade and younger are welcome!

*So that we can accurately plan for the meal, please RSVP via our website at https://fpchastings.org/children/ or call the church office at 402-462-5147.

