



# The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175  
Vol. 26.09 Weeks of May 9 and May 16, 2021

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## ***NOTABLE NOTES***

FROM PASTOR GREG

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

On Sunday, we celebrated Confirmation! Seven of our young people bravely stood up in front of the church and shared their own statements of faith. It was just incredible to hear these youth profess what they believe in front of their church family in their own words.

If you missed it, you can watch in on YouTube by clicking here: <https://youtu.be/n88Q7SmnLiU>

Confirmation Sunday is one of my favorite worship services of the year. It is the culmination of years of love that has been poured into these young people by their parents and their church family, and it is the day that our youth make a conscious, intentional, and public commitment to their faith. It is inspiring and fills me with hope for the future of our church and our world.

It wouldn't be possible without the community of faith that surrounds these young people. I want to thank everyone who has helped our confirmands grow in their faith beginning with their families. Thank you to the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, and others that are both related by blood and related by love who have encouraged and supported these youth in their faith journey.

Thank you to the Sunday School teachers who have walked with these young people over the years. Countless volunteer hours have been shared with these youth so that they could make it to this point in their faith journey and be able to make a profound public profession of faith.

Thank you to the confirmation sponsors. These amazing sponsors walked with our confirmands over the last six months and shared their time and wisdom. They engaged in mutual mentoring with the confirmands, sharing their own perspectives while engaging with the questions of the confirmands and learning from them.

Thank you to Stephanie Brader, our Director of Christian Education, who was flexible and thoughtful as she adjusted our curriculum to work within the context of this crazy year we have lived through. She was creative and imaginative, and she did it all with love and care.

Thank you to our confirmands, who made time in their busy lives and schedules to attend class and engage with their faith, their classmates, and their mentors. Thank you for modeling bold faith to our congregation by standing up and sharing with us on Sunday. You have motivated us all to continue to grow, develop, and live our faith courageously!

If you were inspired by these incredible confirmands making their statements of faith on Sunday and joining the church, please consider volunteering to help us support and nurture our young people. You can be a Sunday School teacher or a Confirmation Sponsor. If you are interested, please reach out to me or our Director of Christian Education, Stephanie Brader.

I am excited to share some exciting news with you: With these 7 new confirmands, that brings our total number of new members to 106 in the last four years since I arrived here as your pastor. This reflects a vibrant family of faith that is growing and seeking to share the love and light of Christ in the world.

I want to close this reflection with one of my favorite quotes from author Madeleine L'Engle: "We draw people to Christ not by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it." As our confirmands read their statements of faith and joined our church on Sunday, that light was shining brightly. May we continue to grow as a church in faith, hope, light, and love as we did on Sunday.

Your Servant in Christ, Pastor Greg

### ***FPC Prayers for:***

Lois Hafer	Jack Stinson (Julie Thomsen's dad)	Rev. Dr. Cheryl Ann Elfond
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
Frank & Carol Medsker	Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)	Lanae Hall's mother
Rich Portwood	Gayle Fandry	The Tut Ruei family
	Family of Norris Swan	

***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 04/17/2021. Services were held at FPC Hastings, April 21, 2021, with Pastor Greg presiding. Dorothy was Justin Osborne's grandmother.



### **Sunday's 10:30 In-Person and Stay at Home Worship Service is broadcast**

- live on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/fpchastings](http://www.facebook.com/fpchastings) (You don't need to have an account to watch.)
- 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 11:30 a.m. and on Tuesday at 2:00 p.m.

"When working with your attorney to **update your will and estate plan**, please consider including a gift to the First Presbyterian Church Foundation." - Moderator of the Foundation

### ***HOSPITAL REMINDER***

Due to hospital privacy regulations, for the church to know that either you or a family member will be hospitalized or have been admitted, please take a moment and call the church office at 402-462-5147. Remember, we don't always know what's happening unless you tell us!

**A copy of any Sunday service** is available on DVD upon request at no charge. Contact the church office at [402-462-5147](tel:402-462-5147).

**Birth Announcements** If you would like a rose on the pulpit to celebrate the birth of a new child in your family, please notify the office.



**Looking for a way to give during our time of "In-Person and Stay at Home Church?"** The church counts on your giving to carry on its work.

No matter how you participate in 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/>

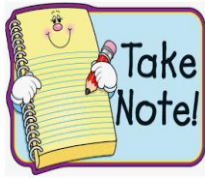
In the days and weeks to come, the church will continue to play a vital role in responding to this virus, just as we did with the flood relief efforts. Thank you for your continued support and provision in this time.

***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 questions asked.



### 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 Days Devotions have arrived, both large print and regular print.



**The Hands Around the World Store** has 100% Pure Organic Coffee. Stop by the church office to restock your supply at only \$10 per bag.

The store will be OPEN again every Sunday morning for 30 minutes prior to and following worship services.

**Brooks' Bookshelf** is a way to share the joy of reading and also spread the awareness of Down Syndrome. Bookshelves, where children are welcome to take a book home, will be located throughout our community!



Each bookshelf will include books of all interests with some specific books focused on kindness, on compassion, and on individuals with unique differences. Books to range from picture/baby up to early readers.

Every story and every person are unique and beautiful. We hope that you'll find it in your hearts to donate a book or send a monetary donation to help us in this celebration.

Check out our Amazon wish list under Brooks' Bookshelf and other places to donate on our website at [brookssbookshelf.org](http://brookssbookshelf.org)

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram!

-Kindly, Brooks Borrell & Family

### FPC has a medical equipment library



from which members can borrow equipment that they need on a temporary basis. These items will include walkers, bath chair, crutches, toilet riser, knee scooter, etc. If

you have any equipment cluttering your basement that you would like to donate or if you have a temporary need for such an item, please contact Erica Brooks at [ericalynn128@gmail.com](mailto:ericalynn128@gmail.com).

### 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. If you have a few moments, drop a card or note into the mail to help them feel connected and remembered. 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.



# Women's Ministry



**Presbyterian Women** PW will not meet until further notice. This means there will be no Circle meetings and no monthly Luncheons.

The **PW Coordinating Team** will not meet in June or July. The next meeting will be August 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00.

The next **PW Gathering** will be May 19 at 9:30 and at 1:30 in Fellowship Hall. COVID rules remain in place.

**Presbyterian Women collect 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 would 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 come to us with nothing and don't have the funds to purchase items they need. If you would like 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!

**The PWS sponsored Native American Book Study** will launch its next book study as outlines below. Please register your plans to attend with Marilyn Stone ([mmstone52@att.net](mailto:mmstone52@att.net)).

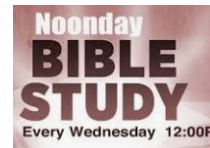
**May 10, May 24, and June 7 - "Standing in the Light: A Lakota Way of Seeing"** Two 1-hour sessions will be held on each date at 1:30 PM and 6:30 PM discussing sections of the book. (See flyer later in this newsletter)

## Adult Bible Studies

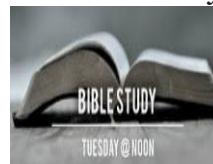


**Heirs Apparent Adult Sunday School**, with Curtis Reimer leading, meets in person or via Zoom most Sunday mornings at 9:15am. The next study, entitled *The Walk: 5 Essential Practices of the Christian Life* by Adam Hamilton, will begin on 4/11/21 and continue for six weeks, ending on 5/15/21. We will meet in the Anderson room and via Zoom. To join this study, please email Curtis at [teece4@gmail.com](mailto: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 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](mailto:sbbrooks52@gmail.com). All are welcome at any time!



**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.



**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>



## 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](mailto:stephanie@fpchastings.org) or 402-462-5147 with any questions.



The next 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](tel:402-469-9285) or sign up at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

### 1<sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball Open Gym



The Monday afternoon 1<sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball returned to the PEACE Center as of Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:kazgratz@gmail.com)



Interested in volunteering at **United Harvest? You** can 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	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

*Check the calendar on the church website for the most accurate list of activities. [www.fpchastings.org](http://www.fpchastings.org)*

**Broadcast live In-Person and Stay-at-Home Sunday Worship at 10:30**

- ✓ 10:30 a.m. on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/fpchastings](http://www.facebook.com/fpchastings) (FB account not needed)
- ✓ on Channel 181 Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.
- ✓ 10:30 a.m. service simulcast on KICS 1550AM and 92.7FM
- ✓ Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

**What's Happening at FPC --- Weeks of May 9 and May 16, 2021** *Session has voted that all in-person meetings must use the following guidelines for the safety of our congregation and staff. 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).*

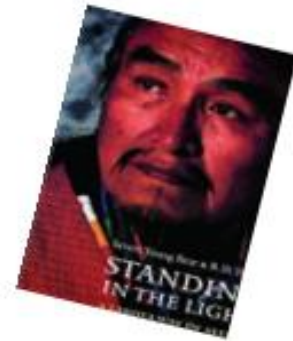
<b>Sun, May 9</b>	<b>9:15a-10:15a</b> <b>10:00a-10:30a</b> <b>10:30a</b> <b>11:30a-12:30p</b>	<b>Heirs Apparent Adult S.S.</b> via Zoom Conferencing <b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b> <b>Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship Service</b>
<b>Mon, May 10</b>	<b>1:00p-3:00p</b> <b>7:00p-7:45p</b> <b>7:00p-8:00p</b>	<b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b> <b>"Monday Check-in" Communication</b> from Greg and Damen <b>1st Pres Pickle Ball Open Gym</b>
<b>Tues, May 11</b>	<b>10:30a-11:30a</b> <b>12:00p-1:00p</b> <b>4:30p-5:30p</b> <b>5:30p-6:30p</b> <b>6:00p-7:00p</b>	<b>Chorus of the Plains</b> Fellowship Hall <b>Scout Troop 200</b> in Scout Room <b>Staff Meeting</b> via Zoom Conferencing <b>Bible Study-Anderson /Zoom</b> <b>Mission Zoom/Parlor</b> <b>Congregational Life</b> Zoom/Fellowship Hall <b>Trustees</b> Zoom/Fellowship Hall
<b>Wed, May 12</b>	<b>12:00 1:00p</b> <b>6:30p-7:30p</b>	<b>Noonday Bible Study</b> via Zoom Conferencing <b>Wood Carvers</b>
<b>Thurs, May 13</b>	<b>5:00p-6:00p</b> <b>6:00p-8:00p</b> <b>7:00p-8:00p</b> <b>7:00p-8:00p</b>	<b>Personnel</b> Zoom/Anderson <b>Mexican Dance Class-NE</b> Classroom/PEACE Center <b>Spanish Class</b> PEACE Center NW Classroom <b>Cub Scouts</b> Fellowship Hall
<b>Sat, May 15</b>	<b>9:30a-2:00p</b>	<b>United Harvest</b>
<b>Sun, May 16</b>	<b>9:15a-10:15a</b> <b>10:00a-10:30a</b> <b>10:30a</b> <b>11:30a-12:30p</b>	<b>Heirs Apparent Adult S.S.</b> Zoom/Anderson <b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b> <b>Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship Service</b>
<b>Mon, May 17</b>	<b>1:00p-3:00p</b> <b>7:00p-7:45p</b> <b>7:00p-8:00p</b>	<b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b> <b>"Monday Check-in" Communication</b> from Greg and Damen <b>1st Pres Pickle Ball Open Gym</b> <b>Chorus of the Plains</b> Fellowship Hall <b>Scout Troop 200</b> in Scout Room
<b>Tues, May 18</b>	<b>10:30a-11:30a</b> <b>12:00p-1:00p</b> <b>6:45p-7:45p</b>	<b>Staff Meeting</b> via Zoom Conferencing <b>Noon Bible Study</b> Zoom/Anderson <b>Deacons</b> Zoom/Fellowship
<b>Wed, May 19</b>	<b>12:00 1:00p</b> <b>6:30p-7:30p</b>	<b>Noonday Bible Study</b> via Zoom Conferencing <b>Wood Carvers</b>
<b>Thurs, May 20</b>	<b>5:30p-7:00p</b> <b>6:00p-7:00p</b> <b>7:00p-8:00p</b> <b>7:00p-8:00p</b>	<b>Session</b> Zoom/Fellowship Hall <b>Mexican Dance Class-NE</b> Classroom/PEACE Center <b>Spanish Class</b> PEACE Center NW Classroom <b>Cub Scouts</b> Fellowship Hall
<b>Sun, May 23</b>	<b>9:15a-10:15a</b> <b>10:00a-10:30a</b> <b>10:30a</b> <b>11:30a-12:30p</b>	<b>Heirs Apparent Adult S.S.</b> via Zoom Conferencing <b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b> <b>Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship Service</b> <b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b>

Register today to join a book study . . .

## ***Standing in the Light:***

***A Lakota Way of Seeing***

by Severt Young Bear & R. D. Theisz



This book study is sponsored by Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Lakes and Prairies and led by members of the PWS Native American Concerns Committee.

**It is open to interested women and men across the synod,**  
via Zoom videoconferencing (using computer or phone)

There is no charge to participate nor to use Zoom, yet registration is required.

**Dates: May 10, May 24, June 7**

**Daytime study begins at 1:30-2:30 PM (CST)**

**Evening study begins at 6:30-7:30 PM (CST)**

**Synopsis:** For most of his adult life, Severt Young Bear stood in the light - in the center ring at powwows and other gatherings of Lakota people. As founder and, for many years, lead singer of the Porcupine Singers, a traditional singing and drumming group, he also stood, figuratively, in the light of understanding the cherished Lakota heritage.

Young Bear's own life in Brotherhood Community, Porcupine District of the Pine Ridge Sioux Reservation, is the linchpin of this narrative, which ranges across the landscape of Dakota culture, from the significance of names to the search for modern Lakota identity, from Lakota oral traditions to powwows and giveaways, from child-rearing practices to humor and leadership. "Music is at the center of Lakota life," says Young Bear; he describes in rich detail the origins and varieties of Lakota song and dance.

A descendant of chiefs and of Wounded Knee survivors, he recounts his role in Wounded Knee II 1973 and his association with the AIM Song. A highly respected musician, teacher, and elder, Severt Young Bear performed with the Porcupine Singers throughout North America, taught at Oglala Lakota College, and served on the Oglala Sioux tribal council. He was music and dance consultant for the films *Dances with Wolves* and *Thunder Heart*. This book is the fruit of his long friendship and collaboration with R. D. Theisz, a fellow Porcupine Singer and professor of communications and education at Black Hills State University.

**Register by contacting Marilyn Stone at [mmstone52@att.net](mailto:mmstone52@att.net)**

**Provide the following information:**

- Email address
- Presbytery

- Name
- Phone #
- Afternoon or evening study preference

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**621 North Lincoln Avenue**  
**Hastings, NE 68901**  
**Phone: 402-462-5147, Fax 402-462-6818**  
**Email: [fpc@fpchastings.org](mailto:fpc@fpchastings.org)**  
**Website: [www.fpchastings.org](http://www.fpchastings.org)**

**Address Service Requested**

### **The Home Page**

A publication of  
First Presbyterian Church  
621 N. Lincoln Ave.  
Hastings, NE 68901

**Senior Pastor:** Greg Allen-Pickett

**Publishing Guidelines:** The *Home Page* is a twice-monthly publication for the people and mission of First Presbyterian Church.

The newsletter seeks to inform, instruct, and challenge its readers to become engaged in the ministry of FPC.

**Articles** will be accepted by the Thursday prior to publication. Submissions may be edited for length and suitability. You may send articles to the church office: [fpc@fpchastings.org](mailto:fpc@fpchastings.org) or call 402-462-5147.

