

# The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175  
Vol. 26.11, Weeks of June 6 and June 13, 2021

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## *NOTABLE NOTES*

FROM PASTOR GREG

Dear Friends and Family of First Presbyterian Church,

Over the summer, I intend to share some gratitude for our amazing church staff as we begin to emerge from this pandemic. A few weeks ago in worship, I offered some words of thanks for Stephanie Brader, our Director of Christian Education as we were thanking our volunteers. For those of you that missed that Sunday, I wanted to share a summary of what I said here:

The normal job description of a Director of Christian Education is already vast and varied. Steph is an amazing teacher in her own right, and is also a volunteer coordinator for dozens of other teachers of both Sunday school and Wednesday Night Live. She also reviews and selects curriculum, coordinates with me and Damen to align what is happening in Sunday School and what is happening in worship. In addition to all of that, in pre-Covid times, she shops for and facilitates cooking a meal for 50-60 people every week. She's also a surrogate mother for the kids whom she works with.

So this is what our amazing Director of Christian Education does in a normal year, a jack of all trades who keeps our kiddos and volunteers learning about Jesus and loving each other. Since COVID started in March of last year, she has graciously added a ton of additional duties and responsibilities including:

-Video producer and editor. Every week during COVID, Steph edited and produced videos for our remote Sunday school classes, usually doing two videos per week, one for PreK-2nd graders and one for 3rd-5th graders.

-Coordinator of volunteer talent who came in and filmed lessons. So, she became a bit of a film director as well, supporting the volunteers who were being filmed for the lessons in addition to her video producing and editing skills.

-On air talent. When she couldn't find volunteers to come in, she was also in front of the camera, serving as the teacher in many of these weekly videos.

In Hollywood, they would call her a triple threat as a producer and editor, a director, and on-screen talent.

In addition to the video lessons, Steph also became a mailing, shipping, and logistics specialist. Every month or two, with the help of volunteers, she would compile a packet that would be mailed to each household in our church with kiddos. She knows how to do bulk mailings and envelope stuffing parties with the best of them.

She did all of that for the past 14 months with our PreK-5th Graders. Steph also took the lead in confirmation in this COVID time. The 2019-2020 confirmation class was cut short by the pandemic in March of last year. Steph figured out a creative way for them to finish confirmation in the fall and get them confirmed. Then we were faced with how to do confirmation safely for this year, and Steph reworked the entire confirmation process and curriculum for this year, while also teaching the classes and coordinating the confirmation sponsors, confirmands and their families.

As if that wasn't enough, she helped us plan special events like the Palm Sunday parade last year, and she created the route map and put yard signs up for the Pentecost Holy Spirit parade.

I could go on and on and on. I want to acknowledge all that Steph has done this year to keep our Christian Education programs thriving. Steph, I give thanks to God for you each and every day. Thank you for your heart, your commitment to these kids, and the love of God that you are filled with and you share with the kids, the volunteers, and all of us here on staff. Thank you.

Your Servant in Christ, Pastor Greg

### *FPC Prayers for:*

Gayle Fandry	Jack Stinson (Julie Thomsen's dad)	Neil Riley
Lois Hafer	Connie & Tom Kubicka (Chris Junker's parents)	Rachael Lay
Cindy Pickett	Rev. Dr. Cheryl Ann Elfond	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	Family of Norris Swan	The Tut Ruei family
Bev Stein	Family of Dorothy VanBuskirk	Go & Serve Team

***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.***



### **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.
- 10:30 a.m. at College View live on Facebook in the small theatre room; residents and their families are welcome

"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 June Communion Offering is the***



Pentecost offering of which a portion will be donated to CASA.

The local portion

(40%) will go to CASA as a focus on our efforts to help improve the lives of young people in our community. The remainder of the offering (60%) will support at-risk youth through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

## Dear Presbyterian Church

The Board of Directors, the volunteers and homeowners of the Hastings Area Habitat for Humanity would like to thank you for your generous donation from your communion offering. This gift goes a long way in helping to fund the building of homes that provide safe, affordable housing to families in need.

We are so grateful to you for thinking of our organization and for the commitment to the Habitat philosophy of eliminating poverty and homelessness from the world by making safe and decent shelter a matter of conscience and action.

Thank you so very much!

Sincerely, Patty Kneale, Board Member

## Hello FPC of Hastings,

We wanted to thank you for your donation. We would not be the organization we are today without your support of our mission - encouraging a community without violence.

As we change our name and logo (formerly SASA Crisis Center), our mission remains unchanged. We will continue to provide services to survivors of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, stalking and human trafficking, while expanding our prevention efforts to address the root causes of violence. We are a proactive source of education to prevent violence before it begins.

## Dear FPC Family,

We love and treasure you, our First Presbyterian Church of Hastings family, more than we can say! You have prayed for our family for many years and have seen us through much, for which we are eternally grateful! So, with our loving thanks, we'd like to give you an update.

My mom, Elaine Schumacher, is doing well. Her battle with cancer began a little more than a year ago. She has finished her chemo and her hair has grown back. She has had two follow-up PET scans, CT's and Scopes since, that have shown "no evidence of lymphoma" She will have one more CT and Scope in June.

Thanks to our Gracious Lord and your many prayers, I still have my mom. We both (and Jeff, too) thank you! We are enjoying our time together.

*Love, Vicki Howard*

Vicki and I are deeply appreciative that you've held us in your hearts and prayers for such a

long time, as evidenced by my name printed in the bulletin these several years. By God's Grace, we've survived much during that time. Not wishing more cause for worry, we finally decided it most appropriate to announce that I am now past 5 1/2 years, since undergoing surgery and completing chemo for stomach cancer. My doctors consider me cured! Hallelujah (HALLELU-JAH Jeffrey A Howard)!! I feel tolerably well and get along fine, with limitations. Monitoring continues but the intervals between evaluations are stretching out. To say "Thank you" is not nearly enough, but I pray trusting you realize the immensity of those two simple words.

*Love, Jeff Howard*



**Work Shirts Needed for Proteus** There is a great need for long-sleeved work shirts for migrant workers this summer.

These shirts protect the workers from the sun and exposure to agricultural chemicals. While you are doing your spring cleaning, if you find long-sleeved shirts you are no longer using, please bring them and place them in the Donation Station in Fellowship Hall.

To participate in the distribution of the shirts to the workers in early July, please contact Denny Storer for details.



**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 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)

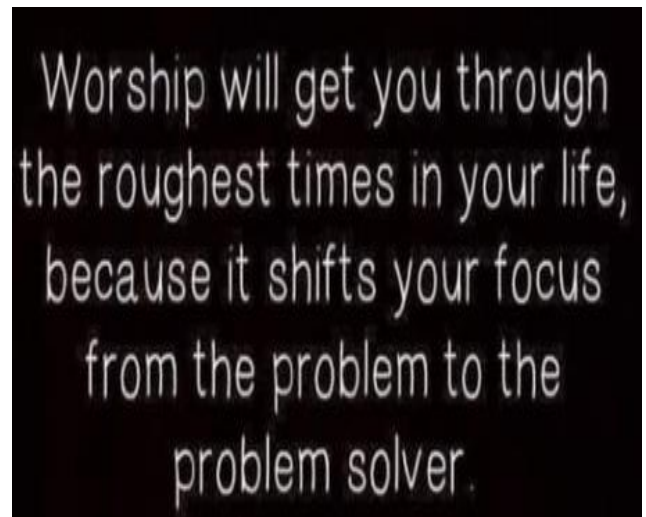
Follow us on Facebook & Instagram!

-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).



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

The **PW Father's Day Offering** this year will go to *The Guatemala Network of Living Waters for the World*. Please send your checks to the church made out to Presbyterian Women.

More than half of Guatemala's population lives below the poverty level, with nearly a quarter living on less than \$2/day. Many people lack a source of safe drinking water, which has a multiplying impact on poverty. Currently, there are over 210 Living Waters for the World filtration systems installed across Guatemala,

providing each of the surrounding communities with an opportunity to live longer, more healthful lives because they are finally free of water-borne illness and disease.

The Guatemala Network of Living Waters for the World helps to support teams that go to Guatemala to install waters systems and provides ongoing support to those systems through local in-country staff. Pastor Greg served on the US board of Living Waters for the World for six years. He currently serves on the Guatemala Board of Living Waters for the World.

Donations should be designated to PW and be sent to the church. There will be a table in the Memorial Room June 13 and 20.

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

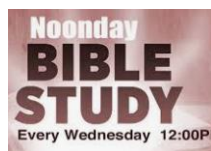
**June 7 - "Standing in the Light: A Lakota Way of Seeing"** Two 1-hour sessions will be held on each date at 1:30 PM and 6:30 PM discussing sections of the book.

## Adult Bible Studies



**Heirs Apparent Adult Sunday School**, with Curtis Reimer leading, has concluded for the summer.

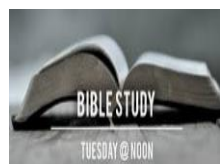
**Join us for Noonday Bible Study** via Zoom



at noon every Wednesday with Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh as the leader. Beginning on June 9th, we will begin a discussion of a book by John Dominic

Crossan that wrestles with seemingly opposite visions: one of a loving God, and one of a vengeful God. Crossan explains how Christians can better understand these passages in a way that enriches their faith. The intriguing title? *How to Read the Bible and Still be a Christian*. All are welcome. Invite friends!

Please contact Sharon Brooks for more information about connecting online and about obtaining a book at [sbbrooks52@gmail.com](mailto:sbbrooks52@gmail.com)



### 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 the summer.

Previous Forums, can be found on the church YouTube page

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh5z--uePAXhoKVfay2w4g/videos>



### Presbyterian Camp Scholarships available!

A Presbyterian Camp Scholarship is available for all Presbyterian sponsored camps including youth camps and family camps. An individual camper may receive one scholarship per calendar year that will cover up to 1/2 of the camping fees!

#### Benefits of Christian Camping...

- Campers can grow in their spiritual development in a fun, positive environment.
- Camp is an extension of your local church ministry program.
- Campers engage with others—building on the connective strength of the reformed tradition.
- Child development experts believe that residential camp experiences help children and youth mature socially, emotionally, intellectually, morally and physically. This is supported by research conducted by the American Camp Association.

Please contact Stephanie at [stephanie@fpcastings.org](mailto:stephanie@fpcastings.org) for a scholarship request form or if you have any questions.



**The next Red Cross Blood Drive** is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 14, 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).

### 1st 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)





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

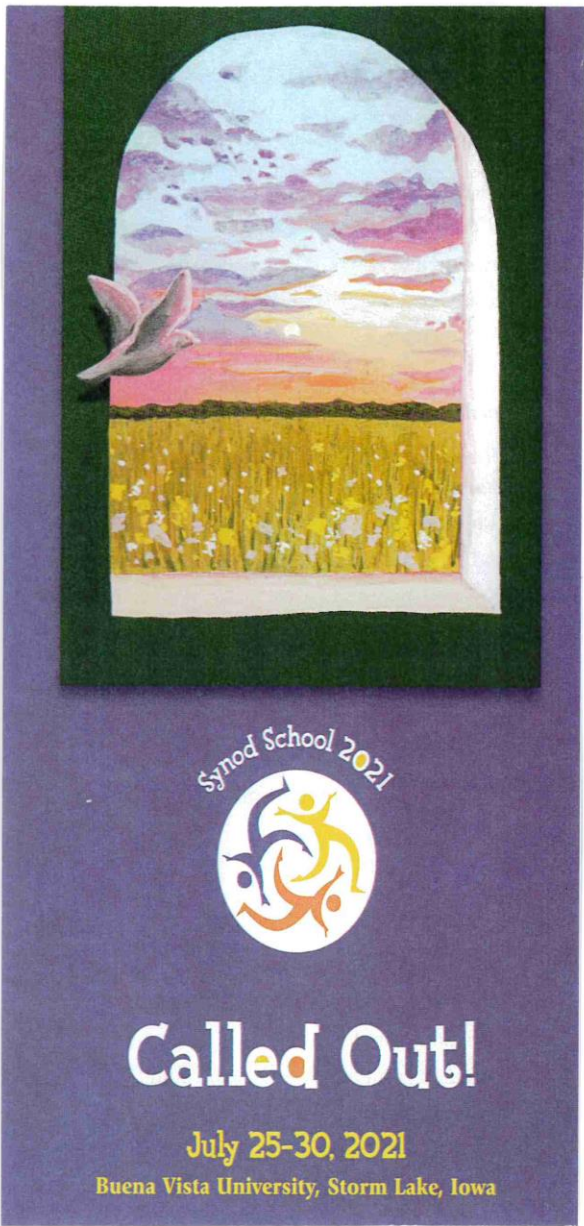
Interested in  
volunteering at  
**United  
Harvest?** You  
can register on  
the United

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 one day distribution. Our goal is to provide food where there is a high need, but resources are limited. The mobile food pantry is available to all Synod of Lakes and Prairies. The institutions providing the food are equal opportunity providers.

Harvest Facebook page. Volunteer shifts are 9:30-12:00 and 12:00-2:00.

June 19, 2021		
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
A, B	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM



## Purpose

Synod School is a learning and personal enrichment experience for people of all ages. We seek to create an environment of hospitality, healing, and hope. The week is designed for laity and clergy, and individuals and families with classes and activities for adults, youth, and children.

Come...

- to participate in a unique experience of Christian community as we worship, study, play, and live together;
- to grow in faith through action, relationships, and a centering of the spirit;
- for continuing education, for a special family experience, or for individual growth;
- to take it all in, then return home to share and serve.

## Synod School Theme: "Called Out!"

Just as God called Lazarus out of the tomb, God calls us out of our slumber, out of our sleep, out of our complacency, out of our grief, out of our past, out of our comfort, out of our quarantines and more. God has plans for us and never stops calling us. Join us as we embrace the newness 2021 brings and what it means to faithfully wake up, rise, and respond to God's call. "Sleeper, awake. Rise from the dead. And Christ will shine on you." Ephesians 5:14, NRSV

### For additional information contact

<b>Deb DeMeester</b>	ddemeester@lakesandprairies.org
Director of Leadership Development	800-328-1880 or 651-357-1140, ext. 207
Synod of Lakes and Prairies Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)	Fax: 651-357-1141
2115 Cliff Drive	www.lakesandprairies.org
Eagan, MN 55122-3327	Facebook Group: "Synod School: Is this heaven? No, it's Iowa!"

Synod School is a leadership development ministry of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with support from the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation.

*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)
- ✓ 10:30 a.m. service simulcast on KICS 1550AM and 92.7FM
- ✓ on Channel 181 Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.
- ✓ Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

**What's Happening at FPC --- Weeks of June 6 and June 13, 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, June 6</b>		<b>Go &amp; Serve</b>
	<b>10:00a-10:30a</b>	<b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b>
	<b>10:30a</b>	<b>Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship Service</b>
	<b>11:30a-12:30p</b>	<b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b>
<b>Mon, June 7</b>		<b>Go &amp; Serve</b>
		<b>"Monday Check-in" Communication</b> from Greg and Damen
	<b>7:00p-7:45p</b>	<b>Chorus of the Plains</b> Fellowship Hall
<b>Tues, June 8</b>		<b>Go &amp; Serve</b>
	<b>10:30a-11:30a</b>	<b>Staff Meeting</b> via Zoom Conferencing
	<b>12:00p-1:00p</b>	<b>Bible Study</b> -Anderson /Zoom
	<b>4:30p-5:30p</b>	<b>Mission</b> Zoom/Parlor
	<b>6:00p-7:00p</b>	<b>Trustees</b> Zoom/Fellowship Hall
<b>Wed, June 9</b>		<b>Go &amp; Serve</b>
	<b>12:00 1:00p</b>	<b>Noonday Bible Study</b> via Zoom Conferencing
	<b>6:30p-7:30p</b>	<b>Wood Carvers</b>
<b>Thurs, June 10</b>		<b>Go &amp; Serve</b>
	<b>5:00p-6:00p</b>	<b>Personnel</b> Zoom/Anderson
<b>Fri, June 11</b>		<b>Go &amp; Serve</b>
	<b>10:00a-Noon</b>	<b>Mahjong Ladies</b> in Middle School Youth Room
<b>Sun, June 13</b>		<b>Go &amp; Serve</b>
	<b>9:30a-10:15a</b>	<b>In-Person Worship Service in Alexander Park</b>
	<b>10:00a-10:30a</b>	<b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b>
	<b>10:30a</b>	<b>Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship Service</b>
	<b>11:30a-12:30p</b>	<b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b>
<b>Mon, June 14</b>		<b>"Monday Check-in" Communication</b> from Greg and Damen
	<b>7:00p-7:45p</b>	<b>Chorus of the Plains</b> Fellowship Hall
<b>Tues, June 15</b>	<b>10:30a-11:30a</b>	<b>Staff Meeting</b> via Zoom Conferencing
	<b>12:00p-1:00p</b>	<b>Noon Bible Study</b> Zoom/Anderson
	<b>6:45p-7:45p</b>	<b>Deacons</b> Zoom/Fellowship
<b>Wed, June 16</b>	<b>6:30p-7:30p</b>	<b>Wood Carvers</b>
<b>Thurs, June 17</b>	<b>5:30p-7:00p</b>	<b>Session</b> Zoom/Fellowship Hall
<b>Fri, June 18</b>	<b>10:00-Noon</b>	<b>Mahjong Ladies</b> in Middle School Youth Room
<b>Sat, June 19</b>	<b>9:30a-Noon</b>	<b>United Harvest</b>
<b>Sun, June 20</b>	<b>9:30a-10:15a</b>	<b>In-Person Worship Service in Alexander Park</b>
	<b>10:00a-10:30a</b>	<b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b>
	<b>10:30a</b>	<b>Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship Service</b>
		<b>Communion Sunday</b>
	<b>11:30a-12:30p</b>	<b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b>

***Please Note:*** *There will be NO Activities in the PEACE CENTER June 1-June 18 as the floors in the hallways are being refinished.*

**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.

