

# The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175  
Vol. 26.113, Weeks of July 4 and July 11, 2021

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## *NOTABLE NOTES*

FROM PASTOR GREG

Dear Friends and Family of First Presbyterian Church,

We shared this information via email last week but wanted to be sure that everyone is aware of this staff transition and has the opportunity to thank Jean for her service to our beloved church.

Three years ago, Jean Matheny joined our staff team as our church office administrator. Jean has spent these last three years providing incredible support to me, the rest of our church staff, our committees, and our members.

During her time with us, she has produced more than 200 bulletins for Sunday morning worship and 78 editions of our Home Page newsletter. But just as important as her administrative and publishing work, Jean has been an active part of our ministry team. As the public face of the church whenever anyone comes into the church office, Jean always greets people with grace and hospitality. She is the front line of our ministry when people walk into the church or call on the phone looking for help. And she has consistently treated each person with thoughtfulness and compassion. We are so grateful for her contributions to our church.

On June 22, Jean notified me that she has accepted a new position as the Executive Assistant to the President and General Counsel of the Bosselman Corporation in Grand Island. This is an incredible honor for Jean and quite a recognition of her remarkable skill sets. We are so blessed that she has shared those skill sets with us for the past three years. We are going to miss her steady presence and helpful nature in our church office so much, but we wish her well and send her with our blessings. Her last day with us will be Friday, July 2.

We will hold a reception to celebrate Jean and all of her contributions to First Presbyterian Church of Hastings and to wish her well and send her off with prayer. The reception will be on Friday, July 2, at 3:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you are not available to come in person, feel free to send a card that we can give to her at the reception.

The church will begin a search for a new office administrator immediately. If you know of anyone who is qualified and potentially looking for an opportunity like this, please notify me. We hope to begin reviewing candidates soon in order to fill this position as quickly as possible.

Finally, I would ask you to be in prayer. Please pray for Jean that she has a smooth transition to her new job. Pray for our church as we work through this transition in our office. And pray that we are able to find the right person with the right mix of skills and gifts so that our church can continue to thrive and shine the love and light of Christ into the lives of our own members, into our community, and into the world.

Your Servant in Christ,  
Pastor Greg

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

Lois Hafer

Rachael Lay

Frank & Carol Medsker

Rich Portwood

Bev Stein

Jack Stinson (Julie Thomsen's dad)

Connie & Tom Kubicka (Chris Junker's parents)

Rev. Dr. Cheryl Ann Elfond

Melba Trehern (Lisa Unger's mom)

Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)

Family of Gretchen Lainson

Family of Don Reynolds

Pam & Don Canady

Tommy Thomsen

Lanae Hall's mother

The Tut Rwei family

***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***

- ♥ Gretchen Lainson, who passed away 06/04/21. Services will be held at 11:00 a.m., 07/23/21, at First Presbyterian Church with Pastor Greg presiding.
- ♥ Don Reynolds, who passed away 06/04/21. Don was the father of Molly Johnsen.



### **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 July Communion Offering will go to PHC2 (People Helping Community)***

## Dear Friends,

I can't thank you enough for supporting The Salvation Army with your recent donation.

Lost and hurting people are coming to us in great numbers – more than we've seen before. Every day, we see folks trying to navigate the heartbreak of a job loss or families struggling to overcome a crisis. It's tough, but friends like you make it possible to carry on.

Your generosity allows us to make a positive impact on people's lives, and we are deeply committed to using every penny of your contribution to its fullest – offering life-changing support and service to those in need.

Thank you for making the decision to help our less fortunate neighbors and for opening your hearts to our community. Your generosity is making a difference in the lives of those who come to us each day.

Sincerely, Major Dale Brandenburg, Corps Officer

## Dear Presbyterian Church Family,

I'm sure you are aware by now, that I am leaving my position as Church Office Administrator. The decision to do so was not an easy one. It was made with much prayer and, yes, a few tears. The opportunity to take the new position just made sense professionally.

Thank you for the opportunity to have served as your Church Office Administrator these past 3 years. Please know I will miss seeing all of you and think of you as friends. You will be in my prayers, especially during this time of transition. Take Care, Jean Matheny

## Mission Committee Update

The Mission Committee delivered a number of hygiene products to enCourage (formerly SASA Crisis Center) and 108 boxes of diapers to Catholic Social Services on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Your donations DO make a difference. If you feel so led, please drop off your donations in Fellowship Hall in the Donation Station along the North wall.



**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 during the week 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 the 10:30 a.m. worship service.



**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



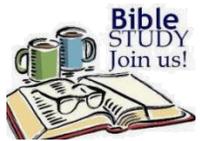
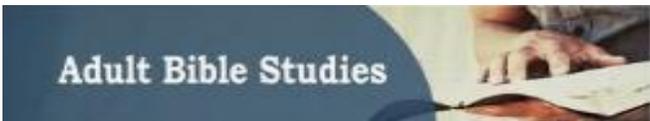
**FPC has a medical equipment library** from which members can borrow equipment that they need on a temporary basis. These items

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).

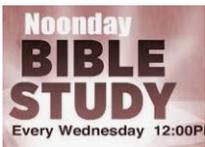


**Presbyterian Women**  
PW will not meet until further notice. This means there will be no Circle meetings and no monthly Luncheons.

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

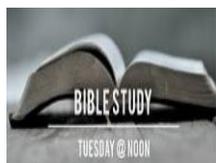


**Heirs Apparent Adult Sunday School**, with Curtis Reimer leading, has concluded for the summer.



**Join us for Noonday Bible Study** via Zoom at noon every Wednesday with Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh as the leader. We are discussing 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*. Contact Sharon Brooks for more information 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

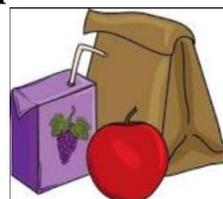
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh5z-uePAXhoKVfay2w4g/videos>



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).

**Open Table Sack Lunch Program**



*One sack lunch, per person, per day, no questions asked.*

Join our congregation in celebrating eighteen years of support for the Open Table Sack Lunch Program. For

those of you that are new to our church or community, the Open Table Sack Lunch Program

is a community-wide program providing free daily sack lunches Monday through Friday from 1:00 to 5:00 pm.

Beginning Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, we will be assembling 1,000 lunches during the last three Sundays of July in Fellowship Hall preceding or immediately following the Sunday worship services. This tradition in our church has been a blessing for the people receiving the lunches and the people preparing them. While preparing the sacks and sandwiches this year, we will use extra care to sanitize our hands, wear masks, and allow for social distancing.

**Volunteer opportunities for 2021 include Sundays (Always fun).**

**Early Bird Set Up and Assembly:**

8:45 to 9:30 before outdoor service

**Second Group Assembly:**

10:15 to 11:15 between first and second service

**Third Group Assembly:**

11:30 to 12:30 after second service

**12:15 to 12:45** Transporting sandwiches and sacks to Catholic Social Services on Sunday following assembly.

**Weekdays or Saturdays:**

Transporting bread, meat, or other foods. (Larger vehicle helpful)

Donations of cash or food are always welcome and needed, as are your Prayers!!!!

*Thanks for your generous and enthusiastic support of this ongoing mission.*

*-Mission Committee*



**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)



**FPC at the Sodbuster Game July 18** with tailgate outing at 5:30 at Harms Park. Tickets are \$5/Household max of \$20. Ticket covers the cost of the tailgate meal and the game.



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.

| July 17, 2021 |                                      |          |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| S, T, U       | May park and get number starting at: | 9:45 AM  |
| V, W, X, Y, Z | May park and get number starting at: | 10:00 AM |
| A, B          | May park and get number starting at: | 10:15 AM |
| C, D, E       | May park and get number starting at: | 10:30 AM |
| F, G, H       | May park and get number starting at: | 10:45 AM |
| I, J, K, L    | May park and get number starting at: | 11:00 AM |
| M, N, O       | May park and get number starting at: | 11:15 AM |
| P, Q, R       | May park and get number starting at: | 11:30 AM |



**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@fpchastings.org](mailto:stephanie@fpchastings.org) for a scholarship request form or if you have any questions.

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 July 4 and July 11, 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, July 4</b>    | <b>9:30a-10:15a</b><br><b>10:00a-10:30a</b><br><b>10:30a</b><br><b>11:30a-12:30p</b>  | <b>INDEPENDENCE DAY</b><br><b>In-Person Worship Service in Alexander Park</b><br><b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b><br><b>Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship Service</b><br><b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b>  |
| <b>Mon, July 5</b>    | <b>8:30a-4:30p</b><br><br><b>1:00p-3:00p</b><br><b>7:00p-7:45p</b>  | <b>OFFICE CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY</b><br><b>"Monday Check-in" Communication</b> from Greg and Damen<br><b>1<sup>ST</sup> Pres Pickleball Open Gym</b><br><b>Chorus of the Plains</b> Choir Room   |
| <b>Tues, July 6</b>   | <b>10:30a-11:30a</b><br><b>5:30p-6:30p</b><br><b>12:00p-1:00p</b>   | <b>Staff Meeting</b> via Zoom Conferencing<br><b>United Harvest Board Meeting</b> PEACE Center NW Classroom<br><b>Bible Study-Anderson /Zoom</b>  |
| <b>Wed, July 7</b>    | <b>12:00 1:00p</b><br><b>6:30p-7:30p</b>  | <b>Noonday Bible Study</b> via Zoom Conferencing<br><b>Wood Carvers</b>   |
| <b>Thurs, July 8</b>  | <b>6:00p-8:00p</b><br><b>7:00p-8:00p</b>  | <b>Mexican Dance Class-PEACE Center NE Classroom</b><br><b>Spanish Class PEACE Center NW Classroom</b>  |
| <b>Fri, July 9</b>    | <b>10:00a-Noon</b>  | <b>Mahjong Ladies</b> in Middle School Youth Room   |
| <b>Sun, July 11</b>   | <b>8:45a-9:45a</b><br><b>9:30a-10:15a</b><br><b>10:00a-10:30a</b><br><b>10:15a-11:15a</b><br><b>10:30a</b><br><b>11:30a-12:30p</b><br><b>11:30a-12:30p</b>                                      | <b>Open Table Set Up/Assembly</b><br><b>Worship in Alexander Park</b><br><b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b><br><b>Open Table/Assembly</b><br><b>Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship</b><br><b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b><br><b>Open Table/Assembly</b>  |
| <b>Sun, July 11</b>   | <b>8:45a-9:45a</b>  | <b>Open Table Set Up/Assembly</b>   |
| <b>Mon, July 12</b>   | <br><b>1:00p-3:00p</b><br><b>7:00p-7:45p</b>  | <b>"Monday Check-in" Communication</b> from Greg and Damen<br><b>1<sup>ST</sup> Pres Pickleball Open Gym</b><br><b>Chorus of the Plains</b> Choir Room  |
| <b>Tues, July 13</b>  | <b>10:30a-11:30a</b><br><b>12:00p-1:00p</b><br><b>6:00p-7:00p</b>   | <b>Staff Meeting</b> via Zoom Conferencing<br><b>Noon Bible Study</b> Zoom/Anderson<br><b>Trustees</b> Zoom/Fellowship Hall   |
| <b>Wed, July 14</b>   | <b>12:00 1:00p</b><br><b>6:30p-7:30p</b>  | <b>Noonday Bible Study</b> via Zoom Conferencing<br><b>Wood Carvers</b>   |
| <b>Thurs, July 15</b> | <b>6:00p-8:00p</b><br><b>7:00p-8:00p</b>  | <b>Mexican Dance Class-PEACE Center NE Classroom</b><br><b>Spanish Class PEACE Center NW Classroom</b>  |
| <b>Fri, July 16</b>   | <b>10:00-Noon</b>   | <b>Mahjong Ladies</b> in Middle School Youth Room   |
| <b>Sat, July 17</b>   | <b>9:45a-12:30p</b>   | <b>United Harvest</b>   |
| <b>Sun, July 18</b>   | <b>8:45a-9:45a</b><br><b>9:30a-10:15a</b><br><b>10:00a-10:30a</b><br><b>10:15a-11:15a</b><br><b>10:30a</b><br><b>11:30a-12:30p</b><br><b>11:30a-12:30p</b><br><b>8:45a-9:45a</b><br><b>5:30</b> | <b>Open Table Set Up/Assembly</b><br><b>Worship in Alexander Park</b><br><b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b><br><b>Open Table/Assembly</b><br><b>Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship</b><br><b>Hands Around the World Store OPEN</b><br><b>Open Table/Assembly</b><br><b>Open Table Set Up/Assembly</b><br><b>Sodbuster Tailgate Party and Game</b> |

**First Presbyterian Church**  
**621 North Lincoln Avenue**  
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**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.

