

The Home Page

First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska 68901-5175
Vol. 26.14, Weeks of July 18 and July 25, 2021

FROM PASTOR DAMEN

Dear Friends and Family of First Presbyterian Church,

With summer reaching its climax and the days now slowly becoming shorter, it seems like a good time to reflect a little on what we've been up to and what is still to come this summer at First Pres. There isn't really an off-season in the church and this summer is no different. The Sundays still come and a word of hope still needs to be proclaimed. In-between the summer projects, activities, and vacations a cadre of volunteers and staff have been hard at work making the love of God manifest in the world.

To begin the summer Steph Brader and a host of volunteers organized a wildly successful Vacation Bible School. The event was a little different this year as it took place in the open space next to the Masonic Center but it was packed with kiddos and volunteers alike! If you haven't seen the pictures you can find them via the church's Facebook page. Shortly after VBS a group of nine intrepid disciples made their way to Biloxi, MS for a week of service to others on this year's Go & Serve trip. The group included seven high-school students and two chaperones. Their reports indicate that they had a truly transformative week and if you'd like to hear some of their stories we encourage you to watch the worship service from June 28th again via our Facebook page. These young people of faith learned a great deal about themselves, their faith, and the world. If you have time, please give them a listen.

Of course this summer we've also spent time seeking out God's wisdom in what some might consider unexpected places. Our worship services have been enhanced and enlivened by this year's sermon series on children's literature. So far we've studied Zax, learned to appreciate our varied abilities, and even got to sing some Christmas hymns! And as our children's literature series wraps up we'll head right into another round of the summer sermon song series. It is always a joy to be able to find sacred themes in unexpected places.

It has been a busy summer already and there is more yet to come! Our annual participation in the Open Table lunch packing program is set to kick into gear this month. I'm sure you can find more information in this very publication about how you can participate in this beloved ministry. United Harvest continues as always on the third Saturday of every month. There is also another feeding ministry, Farm to Families, which has and will maintain its weekly distribution throughout the summer.

And in addition to all these things we've planned a Sodbusters outing, a meal for migrant workers, and our facilities manager is hard at work getting rooms in the education wing prepped and ready for use in the fall!

Greg and I aren't joking when we say that there is *a lot* going on in the life of First Presbyterian Church of Hastings. This is always, no matter the time of year, a place buzzing with busy disciples looking for ways to make the love of God known in the world. From home communion to building projects to creative worship to acts of love and service it has been, and will be, a busy summer filled with God's blessings. May you enjoy your summer days and may a word of hope be proclaimed through your living.

Peace and all good,
Damen Jensen-Heitmann

FPC Prayers for:

Lois Hafer	Family of Julie	Family of Don Reynolds
Rachael Lay	Connie & Tom Kubicka (Chris Junker's parents)	Pam & Don Canady
Frank & Carol Medsker	Rev. Dr. Cheryl Ann Elfond	Tommy Thomsen
Rich Portwood	Melba Trehern (Lisa Unger's mom)	Lanae Hall's mother
Bev Stein	Chris Wheeler (Carol Wheeler's son)	The Tut Ruei family
	Family of Gretchen Lainson	Katherine Sachtleben

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.
- ♥ Jack Stinson, who passed away 07/10/21. Jack was the father of Julie Thomsen.



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

- live on Facebook at 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)

FPC -

Sorry this is getting to you late, but thank you so much for your support. As part of my (Bonnie's) old stomping grounds, it feels even better. I graduated from Hastings in Dec. 2008, and even did a semester of work there. It feels so wonderful to be surrounded by so many amazing people. Your support helped us to get a new stove. The old one didn't cook properly. Thank you for showing us what family is like.

Peace, Will, Bonnie, & Thomas Ratcliff

First Presbyterian Church,

We want to send a not to thank you for your contribution of 2 bags of groceries given to the Hastings Food Pantry on June 29th. What a wonderful donation! This gift helps so much especially during this time of pandemic. We appreciate it so much!

It's only because of the donations of caring people like you that we are able to meet the needs of the hungry in our community.

Since 1982 the Hastings Food Pantry, an all-volunteer organization, has been privileged to serve Hastings and the surrounding area with emergency food. Again, we thank you for joining us in our efforts.

God bless in all you do!!

Hastings Food Pantry Board of Directors

Mission Committee Update

The Mission Committee delivered 25 long sleeve shirts to Proteus July 8 for our migrant worker friends. 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

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.

Contribution Statements

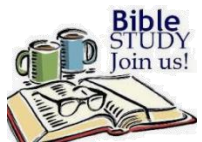
Contribution statements are being sent out this week. Keep an eye on the mail and let the office know if there are any corrections that need to be made.

Women's Ministry

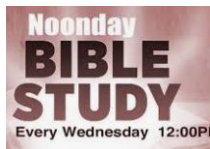


Presbyterian Women PW will not meet until further notice. This means there will be no Circle meetings and no monthly Luncheons.

The **PW Coordinating Team** will not meet in June or July. The next meeting will be August 4th 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



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>



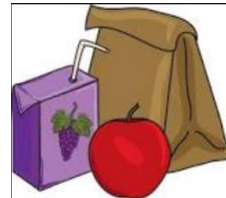
Sodbusters



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.

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 11th, 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

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.

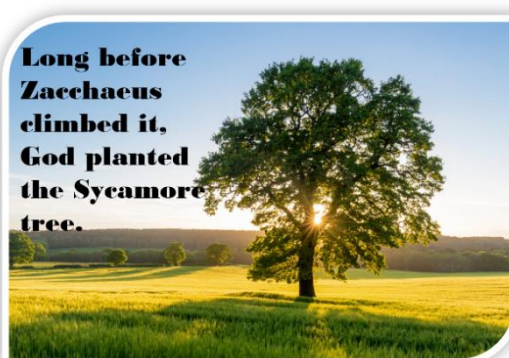
August 21, 2021		
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting	9:45AM
A, B	May park and get number starting	10:00AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting	10:15AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting	10:30AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting	10:45AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting	11:00AM
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting	11:15AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting	11:30AM



Check the calendar on the church website for the most accurate list of activities. 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 (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 July 18 and July 25, 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) Facemasks will be optional for fully vaccinated individuals; masks are expected for unvaccinated individuals, 2) Social distancing will be relaxed. 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, 3) Congregational singing will be allowed at outdoor worship only.*

Sun, July 18	8:45a-9:45a 9:30a-10:15a 10:00a-10:30a 10:15a-11:15a 10:30a 11:30a-12:30p 11:30a-12:30p 5:30p	Open Table Set Up/Assembly Worship in Alexander Park Hands Around the World Store OPEN Open Table/Assembly Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship Hands Around the World Store OPEN Open Table/Assembly Sodbuster Tailgate Party and Game
Mon, July 19	1:00p-3:00p 7:00p-7:45p	"Monday Check-in" Communication from Greg and Damen 1ST Pres Pickleball Open Gym Chorus of the Plains Choir Room
Tues, July 20	10:30a-11:30a 12:00p-1:00p 6:00p-8:00p	NO-Staff Meeting via Zoom Conferencing Noon Bible Study Zoom/Anderson Hastings Pickleball Club PEACE Center Gym
Wed, July 21	12:00 1:00p 6:30p-9:00p	Noonday Bible Study via Zoom Conferencing Wood Carvers
Thurs, July 22	6:00p-8:00p 6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Dance Class-PEACE Center NE Classroom Pickleball Club PEACE Center Gym
Fri, July 23	11:00a 10:00-Noon	Gretchen Lainson Memorial Service Mahjong Ladies in Middle School Youth Room
Sun, July 25	8:45a-9:45a 9:30a-10:15a 10:00a-10:30a 10:15a-11:15a 10:30a 11:30a-12:30p 11:30a-12:30p 8:45a-9:45a	Open Table Set Up/Assembly Worship in Alexander Park Hands Around the World Store OPEN Open Table/Assembly Stay-At-Home and In-Person Worship Hands Around the World Store OPEN Open Table/Assembly Open Table Set Up/Assembly
Mon, July 26	1:00p-3:00p 5:30p-6:30p 7:00p-7:45p	"Monday Check-in" Communication from Greg and Damen 1ST Pres Pickleball Open Gym Foundation Board Meeting in the Anderson Room Chorus of the Plains Choir Room
Tues, July 27	10:30a-11:30a 12:00p-1:00p 6:00p-8:00p	NO-Staff Meeting via Zoom Conferencing Noon Bible Study Zoom/Anderson Hastings Pickleball Club PEACE Center Gym
Wed, July 28	12:00 1:00p 6:30p-9:00p	Noonday Bible Study via Zoom Conferencing Wood Carvers
Thurs, July 29	6:00p-8:00p 6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Dance Class-PEACE Center NE Classroom Pickleball Club PEACE Center Gym
Fri, July 30	10:00-Noon	Mahjong Ladies in Middle School Youth Room

Happy Anniversary

8/1/1964	Denis & Julie Asmus	8/12/1972	LaVern & Kathy Davis
8/2/2003	Scott & Sarah Snell	8/14/1976	Robin & Ann Koozer
8/4/1979	George & Jeni Howard	8/14/1998	Justin & Kili Wenburg
8/5/2006	Ben & Jenni Welsch	8/18/1963	Don & Pam Canady
8/6/2016	Jake & Kelsey Stokely	8/20/2016	Brad & Virginia Davis
8/7/1987	Rick & Becky Matticks	8/20/1977	Jim & Cheryl Wray
8/7/1997	Erik & Ruth Nielsen	8/21/1976	Ronald & Shirley Maul
8/11/1990	Bruce & Kim Day	8/22/1950	Frank & Carol Medsker
8/11/1968	Bruce & Peggy Thomson	8/22/1986	Ron & Beth Wissing
8/11/1990	Bob & Kathy Amyot	8/24/1975	Bill & Janey Nottage-Tacey
8/12/2000	Chris & Colleen Schukei	8/28/1976	Bill & Martha Boyd Tom Kreager & Shanda Spurgeon
8/12/1994	Jim & Traci Boeve	8/30/2014	Cal & Jane Johnson
		8/30/1957	



Happy Birthday

8/1	Gregg Lay	Chuck Shoemaker	Damen Jensen-Heitmann
	Linda Vollweiler	8/11 Sharon Chapel	8/18 Don O'Dey
	Alphonse Tako	8/12 Carolyn McKenzie	Arnold Boehler
8/3	Kathy Duval	Tristan Propp	Gary Grummert
	Jim Harrenstein	8/13 Kim Creech	Chudier Duang
	Allie Bauer	Ashley Mullen	8/20 Alice Throckmorton
8/4	Ira Wierenga	8/14 Denny Storer	8/21 Connie McClenahan
	Bryce Wiebe	Jerry Seiler	8/22 Stephanie Bliss
8/5	Terry Hall	8/15 Carol' Hall	8/23 Lauren Canady
8/6	JoAnn Seiler	8/16 Kathy Utter	Vivian Fong
	Doug Soderquist	Richard Brader	8/24 Melissa Struss
	Rick Matticks	Beth Wissing	8/25 Dave Stewart
	Susan Meeske	Ashley Fitzgerald	Kim Day
	Megan Welton	8/17 Carol Wheeler	Jessica Klaassen
	Julia Klaassen	Chris Johnson	8/26 Ed Lockwood
8/7	Bert Lloyd	Jonah Snell	Sharon Brooks
8/9	Vera Zabloudil		Holly Urrutia

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Address Service Requested

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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 or call 402-462-5147.

