



**Fifteenth Sunday  
After Pentecost  
September 5, 2021**

**PRELUDE**

**"The Church's One Foundation"**

*arr. Steven Scott*

*Linda Vollweiler, pianist*

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

**WELCOME**

Greg Allen-Pickett

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 146)**

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

*Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!*

***We will praise the LORD as long as we live!***

*We will sing praises to our God this morning and every day.*

***Happy are those who place their hope in the LORD their God!***

*The LORD executes justice for the oppressed; and gives food to the hungry.*

***The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.***

*The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.*

***The LORD watches over the strangers and friends alike, and calls us to do the same.***

*The LORD will reign forever, for all generations. Praise the LORD!*

***This morning let us worship our God who promises to comfort the suffering and cares for each of God's children. Let us praise God!***

**\*HYMN**

**"All Creatures of Our God and King" (vs. 1-4)**

15

*Riky Nielsen, Song Leader*

1) All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam,

O sister moon with silver gleam,

sing praises! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2) O brother wind with clouds and rain,  
you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister water, flowing clear, make  
music for your Lord to hear.

Sing praises! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3) O brother fire, so warm and bright,  
chase off the shadows of the night.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day  
unfolds such blessings on our way,  
sing praises! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4) All who for love of God forgive,  
all who in pain or sorrow grieve,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ bears your burdens and your  
fears; so, even in the midst of tears,  
sing praises! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Gracious God, we come before you today knowing that we often fall short of your call to love ourselves and one another well.*

*We allow ourselves to be blinded by wealth and power, and in the pursuit of those worldly goals, we sometimes find ourselves lonely and alone.*

*We tune out the cries of the poor and those on the edges of our communities. Sometimes we push others out of our communities, or we ourselves reject the communities that you have put us in.*

*Help us to see your great generosity, hear your word of mercy, and feel your great love for all who need your redemptive grace, ourselves included. Strengthen us to reach out in service to those who are in need.*

*Make us aware of those who are suffering, that we may see them as your precious children and serve them in humility and joy.*

*May we continue to grow in grace as we learn how to serve you in the name of the great Servant, Jesus Christ.*

### SILENT CONFESSION AND QUESTION FOR CONTEMPLATION

When have I rejected the community that God placed me in?

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We have received, not the spirit of the world,

***But the Spirit that is from God.***

May we understand the grace and forgiveness bestowed upon us by God,

***So that others may find the Kingdom within us and among us.***

In the name of Jesus, we are forgiven and loved!

***Alleluia! Amen.***



## \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Glory to God”

582

Glory to God whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

## \*PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you!

***And also with you!***

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

To reduce the risk of disease transmission, please do not shake hands or hug people outside of your immediate family. Instead, maintain proper social distance, look someone in the eyes and hold their gaze. Share peace with them by holding your hand to your chest and bowing your head to them or share some other appropriate sign.

## SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***Loving God, it is easy to be overwhelmed by the pain of the world. As we prepare to hear your Word read and proclaimed, may it remind us that we are not alone. May your Word spark in our memory the knowledge that you are always with us, and that you invite us into community, where our faith is to be lived out. May your Word challenge us to meet the needs of others, to reach out with hand and heart, and to receive grace and love. Amen.***

### 1<sup>ST</sup> SCRIPTURE READINGS – John 14:25-27

### ANTHEM

“The Rainbow”

*Raegan Welsch*

*Raegan Welsch, piano*

*(The Langenberg Legacy Funds provide scholarships for children of church members to take music lessons. During the summer, those children and youth provide special music during the service as a way of giving thanks to God.)*

### 2<sup>ND</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – Isaiah 41:1-10

### SERMON

“With God and our community... we will be okay”

Greg Allen-Pickett

Summer Sermon Song Series on the song “You’ll Be Okay” by A Great Big World

1) Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees) let us break bread together on our knees. (on our knees)  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

2) Let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees) let us drink wine together on our knees. (on our knees)

3) Let us praise God together on our knees; (on our knees) let us praise God together on our knees. (on our knees)  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

For the health and safety of our members, we will not pass a plate or collect gifts during the offering. You are invited to give by dropping your offering as you leave in the plates at the back of the sanctuary, dropping it in the outside locked tithing box located on the second brick column under the portico, mailing it in, or giving online: <https://fpchastings.org/give-online/>

OFFERING *(All loose coins in the offering plate will be donated to PC(USA) Hunger Fund.)*

OFFERTORY

“Sunshine and Joy Medley”

*arr. Mark Hayes*

\*DOXOLOGY “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***All that we do is in your holy name, O God. Even as we share the riches of our labors, may we continue to honor your name in all that we are.***

***Bless these gifts given freely, so that through their faithful use, all people will realize that they are not alone. Amen.***

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts.

***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***



## 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.***

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by reminding us of the presence of Jesus Christ, and reminding us that we are never alone. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.***

## \*HYMN

“How Firm a Foundation” (vs. 1-3,5)

463

1) How firm a foundation, ye saints of the  
Lord, is laid for your faith in God's  
excellent Word!

What more can be said than to you God  
hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus  
have fled?

2) "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not  
dismayed, for I am thy God, and will still  
give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause  
thee to stand, upheld by my righteous,  
omnipotent hand.

3) "When through the deep waters I call  
thee to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not  
overflow;  
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to  
bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest  
distress.

5) "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned  
for repose, I will not, I will not desert to  
its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should  
endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never,  
no, never forsake."

## \*BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

## \*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

“Benediction Medley”

arr. Mark Hayes

(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.)

## SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 41:1-10

Listen to me in silence, O coastlands;  
let the peoples renew their strength;  
let them approach, then let them speak;  
let us together draw near for judgment.

2 Who has roused a victor from the east,  
summoned him to his service?

He delivers up nations to him,  
and tramples kings under foot;  
he makes them like dust with his sword,  
like driven stubble with his bow.

3 He pursues them and passes on safely,  
scarcely touching the path with his feet.

4 Who has performed and done this,  
calling the generations from the  
beginning?

I, the Lord, am first,  
and will be with the last.

5 The coastlands have seen and are afraid,  
the ends of the earth tremble;  
they have drawn near and come.

6 Each one helps the other,  
saying to one another, "Take courage!"

7 The artisan encourages the goldsmith,  
and the one who smooths with the  
hammer encourages the one who strikes  
the anvil,  
saying of the soldering, "It is good"; and  
they fasten it with nails so that it cannot be  
moved.

8 But you, Israel, my servant,  
Jacob, whom I have chosen,  
the offspring of Abraham, my friend;

9 you whom I took from the ends of the  
earth,

and called from its farthest corners,  
saying to you, "You are my servant,  
I have chosen you and not cast you off";

10 do not fear, for I am with you,  
do not be afraid, for I am your God;

I will strengthen you, I will help you,  
I will uphold you with my victorious right  
hand.

## "You'll Be Okay" by A Great Big World

You'll be okay, You'll be okay  
The sun will rise, To better days

And change will come, It's on it's way  
Just close your eyes, And let it rain

'Cause you're never alone  
I will always be there  
You just carry on, You will understand

You'll be okay, You'll be okay  
Just look inside, You know the way

Let it go, Fly away  
And say goodbye, To yesterday

'Cause you're never alone  
And I will always be there  
You just carry on, You will understand

And I will be strong, When love is gone  
I'll carry on...

You'll be okay, You'll be okay  
The sun will rise, To better days

You'll be okay, You'll be okay  
Just close your eyes, And let it rain

When you need it the most  
And all you've got is a prayer  
You must carry on, You will understand,  
You will understand, You will understand

You'll be okay, You'll be okay  
You'll be okay.



## How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,  
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!  
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;  
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign  
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.  
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

COME JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN THE COMING WEEKS &  
INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS!

**8:30am Worship in the Park**

**9:15am Sunday School for All Ages**

**10:30 a.m. In-Person and At-Home worship in the Sanctuary**

**(Face masks are required for indoor worship)**

**At-Home Worship: Broadcast live at [www.facebook.com/fpchastings](https://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 1550AM and on 92.7FM.

Sunday 9/5	10:00-10:30am	Hands Around the World OPEN	Narthex
	10:30-11:30am	Worship Service in the Park	Alexander Park
	11:30a-12:00p	Hands Around the World OPEN	Narthex
Monday 9/6		LABOR DAY	Church Offices Closed
Tuesday 9/7	8:30-10:00am	Walkers/Coffee <i>(Tuesday-Thursday)</i>	PEACE Gym/NW Classroom
	10:30-11:30am	Staff Meeting	Zoom
	12:00-1:00pm	Bible Study w/Pastor	Anderson/Zoom
	5:30-7:00pm	WAM	Fellowship Hall/Zoom
	5:30-6:30pm	United Harvest Board Meeting	PEACE NW Classroom
	6:00-8:00pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
Wed 9/8	12:00pm	Noonday Bible Study w/Dan	Zoom
	4:00-6:45pm	1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday Night Live	
	6:00-6:45pm	WNL Family Time Meal	Fellowship Hall
	6:20-6:50pm	6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Cal/West Bell Rehearsal	
	6:50-7:30pm	6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Cal/West Choir Rehearsal	
	7:30-8:30pm	6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Youth Group	
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Portico/Parking Lot
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells Rehearsal	Bell Room UL Church
	6:30-9:00pm	Wood Carvers	LL Church
Thursday 9/9	5:00-6:00pm	Personnel Committee Meets	Anderson/Zoom
	6:00-8:00pm	Mexican Dance Class	PEACE NE Classroom
	6:00-8:00pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
Friday 9/10	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies	LL Church
Sunday 9/12	<b>8:30-9:30am</b>	<b>Worship in the Park New Time</b>	Alexander Park
	9:15-10:15am	Wisdom for the Good Life	Lydia Room/Zoom
	<b>9:15-10:15am</b>	<b>Sunday School Begins All Ages</b>	Website has details
	10:00-10:30am	Hands Around the World Store Open	Narthex
	10:30-11:30am	Traditional/Stay-At-Home Worship	Sanctuary/Various
	11:30a-12:00p	Hands Around the World Store Open	Narthex
	3:00-4:00pm	COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic	Fellowship Hall



## Today's 10:30am In-Person Worship Service will be broadcast:

- live on **Facebook** at [www.facebook.com/fpchastings](http://www.facebook.com/fpchastings) (You don't need an account.)
- on the **radio** during Sunday service at 10:30am simulcast on KICS 1550AM and 92.7FM.
- on **Channel 181** Tuesday at 1:00pm and Sunday at 9:00am.
- at **Good Samaritan Village**, the service will be broadcast on Channel 3 on Sunday at 12:00pm and on Tuesday at 2:00pm.
- 10:30am at **College View** live on Facebook in the small theatre room. Residents and their families are welcome.
- A copy of any Sunday service is available on **DVD** disc upon request at no charge. Contact Sarah in the office at 402-462-5147 or [sarah@fpchastings.org](mailto:sarah@fpchastings.org).

## September 5, 2021

**THE RADIO BROADCAST** is given by JoAnn & Les Seiler

**FLOWERS** are given in memory of Dr. and Mrs. William A. McCall by family

**GREETERS 9/12/21:** Charles Hermes and Jeni & George Howard

**USHERS FOR SEPTEMBER: Team #1**

Chuck Hastings (Captain)  
LaVern Franzen  
Todd Pankratz

Luke Brooks  
Jessica Meeske  
Roger Sunderman  
Elaine Specht



September's Communion Offering  
goes to  
**SPECIAL SCOOPS!**  
237 N. St. Joseph Ave, Hastings



### Please keep these people in your prayers:

Rich Portwood	Tommy Thomsen	Pam & Don Canady
Carol & Frank Medsker	Robin Koozer	Tut Ruei Family
Lois Hafer	Shirley Gass	Brad Davis
Katherine Sachtleben	Lanae Hall's Mother	Frank Georgiana
Bev Stein	Elaine Schumacher	Chris Wheeler
Greg Howard	Melba Trehern	Jack Stinson Family
Rachael Lay	Rev. Dr. Cheryl Ann Elfond	Arnold Boehler Family



SOUTH  
HEARTLAND  
DISTRICT



HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT

First Presbyterian  
Church Hastings



## COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINIC

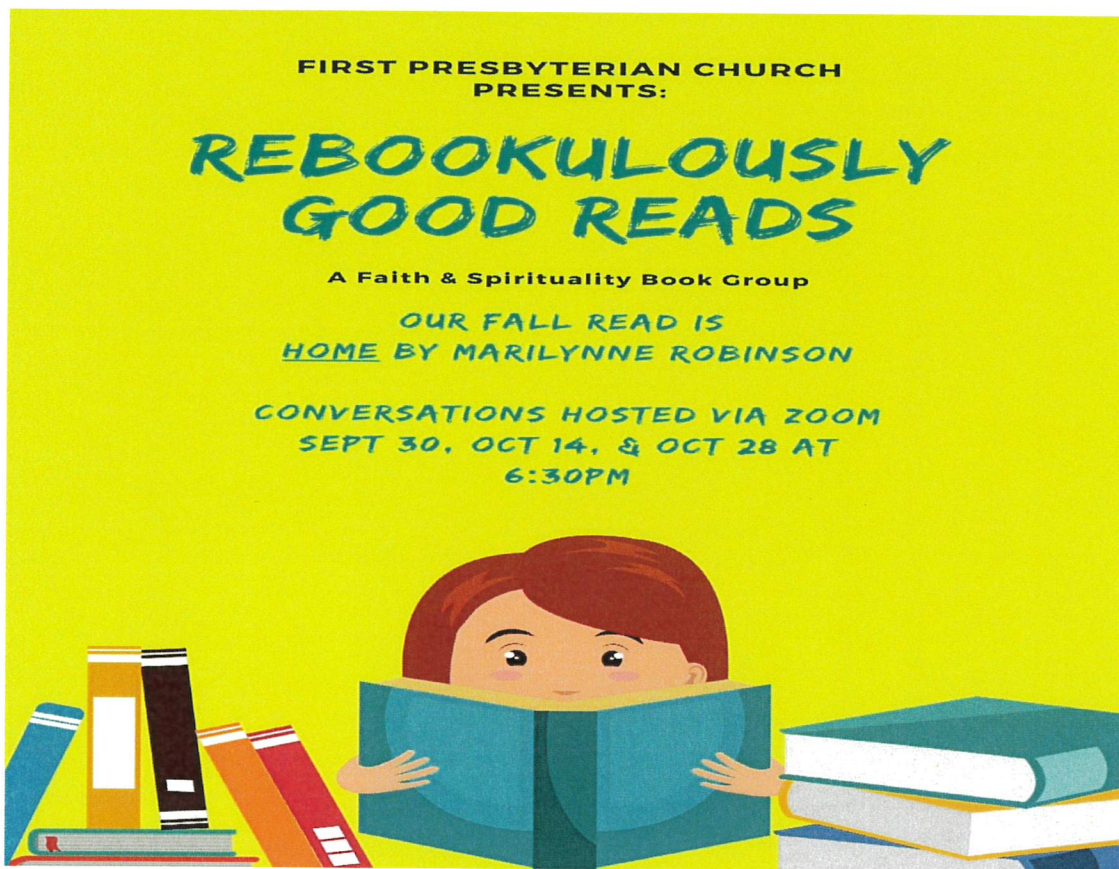
Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> &

Follow-Up Clinic Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>

3:00pm-4:00pm/Fellowship Hall

Walk-In/No Cost/Open to the Public

Bring your insurance card or Medicare card



### “Good Reads”

This fall will mark the return of our "Good Reads" Book Club and we'll dive in right where we left off in the summer of 2020. This fall we are inviting folks to read and join in conversations related to *Home* by Marilynne Robinson. *Home* tells the story of Rev. Robert Boughton, his daughter Glory, and his prodigal son, Jack, as they reunite and attempt to heal old wounds. This moving book about families, secrets, and the passing of generations will surely touch your heart. Once again, we will intersperse open conversations (hosted via Zoom) with pre-recorded chats from our local literature experts Anne Bohlke, Constance Malloy, and Jenni Welsch. A limited number of books will be available in the church office and there is a copy in the library. The open conversations will take place at 6:30pm on Thursdays, Sept 30, Oct 14, & 28. If you would like to join those conversations, please contact the church office so that we can provide you with the Zoom link.



# ADULT ENRICHMENT

## First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church seeks to enrich the spiritual lives of its members and friends no matter their age. Please join us for any and all of these faith enrichment opportunities this fall.

### HEIRS APPARENT

This long-standing fellowship and conversation group meets weekly on Sunday mornings at 9:15am. The group focuses on contemporary issues of faith and what it means to live as disciples of Christ.

### FORUM SERIES

This Sunday morning enrichment class features a variety of presenters and topics. This fall, Forum will cover Wisdom Literature, current events, and Advent and the arts. Check the bulletin and newsletter for more information.

### GOOD READS

Our spirituality book club makes its glorious return this fall. Hosted via Zoom, we invite the congregation to join in reading *Home* by Marilynne Robinson while we discuss faith, family, and forgiveness.

### WEDNESDAY STUDY

Meeting on Wednesdays at noon via Zoom this group tends to examine the more academic side of faith. Led by Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh, participants diligently study scripture, theology, and everything in-between.

### TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Ever wanted to influence a sermon? Here's your chance! Meeting in-person and via Zoom at noon on Tuesdays this group reflects on the biblical narratives and themes for the upcoming Sunday.

### MONDAY CHECK-IN

Most every Monday pastors Greg & Damen sit down for a chat about scripture & the life of First Pres. You can find their musings on YouTube and Soundcloud. Like & Subscribe!

### FAITH EXCURSIONS

Inspired by our Lenten devotional from 2021 we endeavor to better know our neighbors. Details are still to come but we hope to plan visits with folks from differing faith traditions in order to know and love them better.



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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84337329785>

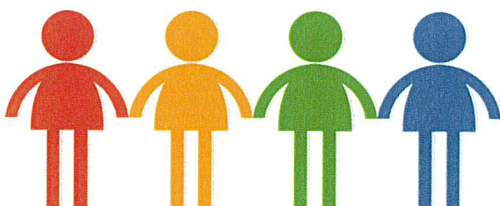


APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

## *Langenberg Lesson Scholarship Program*

Program was established to encourage the youth of our church in their musical pursuits through the generosity of the late Luella Langenberg.

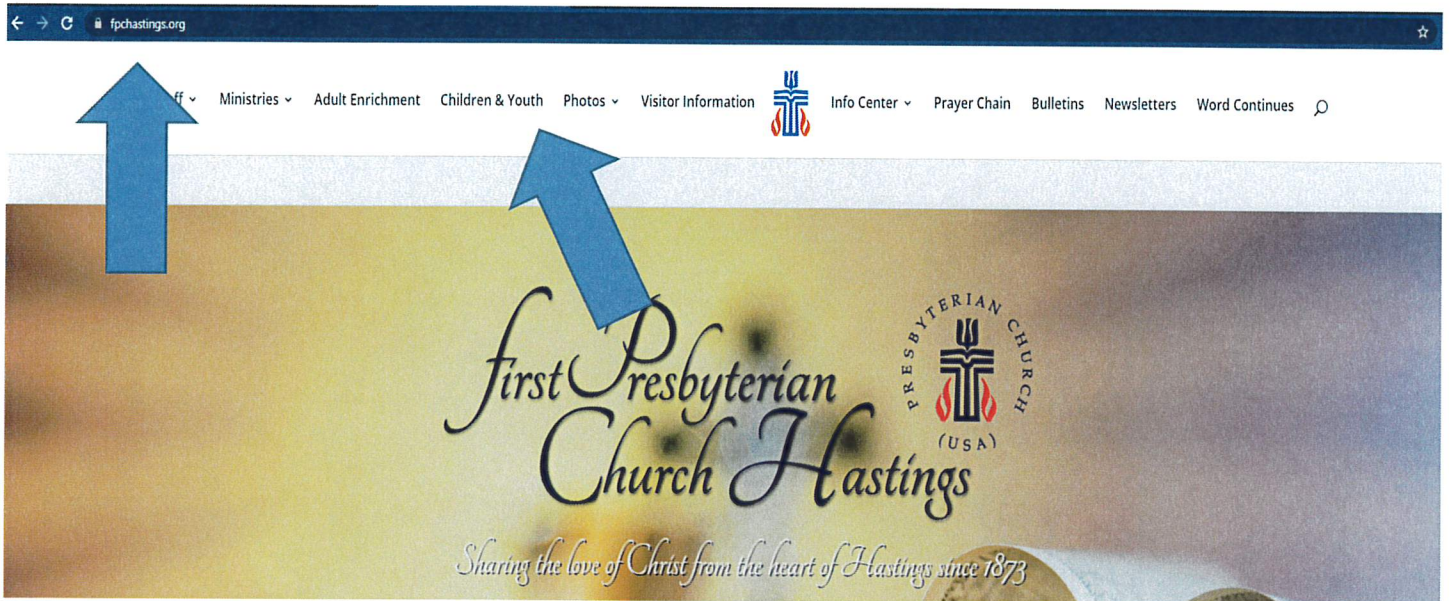
- Parents of students ages 6-18 may apply for up to \$250 per semester to offset the cost of private music instruction; one grant per child.
- Applies towards lessons in: piano, voice, guitar, and any band or orchestral instrument.
- Parents must be members of First Presbyterian Church; students must be participants in the church choir/music program.
- Applications are available through church office, 402-462-5147.
- Deadline for the Fall 2021 program is October 1, 2021.
- Grants are renewable; parents must reapply each semester.



**The Nursery will be staffed:**  
Sundays 9:15am-11:30am as long as Sunday School  
classes are in session.  
(Beginning September 12<sup>th</sup>)



Check out our website for great information on **Children & Youth Ministries**. Go to [www.fpchastings.org](http://www.fpchastings.org) and then click on the tab at the top of the page labeled Children & Youth. Thank you, Stephanie Brader for all of your hard work planning, organizing and scheduling these programs and activities. Thanks to *everyone* who has offered to volunteer your time. You make a difference!



## CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

Our programs are designed to foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each child and youth along with the family. Our ministries seek to draw each child and youth into responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the church.

Children & Youth Calendar

Acolyte Schedule & Information

2021/2022 Parent Handbook

Boy Scouts Troop 200

Sunday School/WNL Enrollment Form

## OUR PROGRAMS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

NURSERY