



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

621 NO. LINCOLN
HASTINGS, NE 68901

VOL 26.19
9/26/2021 & 10/3/2021

NOTABLE NOTES FROM PASTOR GREG

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REV. GREG ALLEN-PICKETT
Senior Pastor
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www.fpchastings.org

September 16, 2021

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

Below you will find an update regarding the Christian Education Wing at First Presbyterian Church including the ending of our partnership with the Pooh Corner Day Care and Preschool and how we will be utilizing the space in the near future. I sincerely appreciate the questions we have been getting about both the partnership with Pooh Corner and the building usage because it shows a vested interest in our church and our community. I hope you can take the time to read through this letter. Please know that all the decisions that were made about Pooh Corner and the building were done with much prayer and discernment, always faithfully trying to seek the will of God for the stewardship of the building.

You may remember that one year ago, in August of 2020, Session voted to end our partnership with Pooh Corner after almost 50 years. This was not an easy decision nor one that we took lightly. Pooh Corner was started by some very thoughtful members of our church in the 1970s when there were no licensed day cares in Hastings. From its inception, it was incorporated separately from the church and had an independent board. For the first 20-30 years, the board had many members of FPC on it and there was a great deal of collaboration between the day care and the church. Historically it had been a *ministry partner* of First Presbyterian Church by providing a safe and licensed child care center in the city, *particularly for low income families*. In the last 20 years, Pooh Corner had become more independent, not regularly appointing our church members to serve on their board. FPC continued to support Pooh Corner by providing them space rent free and subsidizing the cost of their utilities.

Following much prayerful discernment, your Session realized that Pooh Corner was no longer a viable ministry partner of First Presbyterian Church of Hastings and made the decision to not renew the contract with them for the use of the space in the Christian Education Wing. Pooh Corner consolidated and expanded their operations at Grace United Methodist Church and moved out of our building on December 31, 2020.

Following that decision, the Mission Committee and Session determined that as a church, we are still deeply committed to providing child care for low income families in our community. To that end, the money that we were using to subsidize Pooh Corner in our space, \$10,000/year, has been designated to support Communities 4 Kids (C4K) - Adams County. This is an organization supported by United Way that is implementing programs that will increase the quality and capacity of child care providers in Adams County, and provide scholarship funds for impoverished area families to be able to afford quality childcare. Our annual gift of \$10,000 to this organization will continue our church's 50 year tradition of supporting child care in our region on a significant scale to ensure that more children and families in Adams County have access to quality child care.

With Pooh Corner no longer in nine rooms of our Christian Education Wing, the Trustees and Session spent some time this winter talking about the best way to utilize the space. Upon the recommendation of our Director of Christian Education, Stephanie Brader, we have moved the rooms we use for Sunday School and Wednesday Night Live back into the second floor of the Christian Education Wing. This will consolidate our PreK-5th grade Christian Education efforts into one place. Currently they are scattered in various rooms around the church, including above the Memorial Room in rooms that are not handicapped accessible. All of the PreK-5th grade Sunday School and Wednesday Night Live classes will be held on the 2nd floor of the Christian Education Wing, including the bells and choir rehearsal. There are also designated bathrooms on that floor for the children to use. This will make our Christian Education ministries more efficient and will also provide for greater safety and security of our children and the volunteer teachers who lead them. Finally, the 2nd floor of the Christian Education Wing is serviced by an elevator, so it is more accessible for people with limited mobility issues including our children and our teachers.

Session and Trustees agreed to this move in June and approved using designated Christian Education funds to update the rooms with new wallpaper and carpet and provide some upgrades to the bathrooms on the second floor. This work is now completed and we are delighted to have a refreshed and consolidated space for our PreK-5th grade Christian Education. Along with the classrooms for PreK-5th grade, we have also moved our Hand Bell rehearsal room onto the 2nd floor, and there is a designated children's choir room and confirmation classroom there as well. If you would like to tour this space, please reach out to me or our Facilities Manager, Tony Calhoun.

Due to this moving and consolidation, there were also three empty classrooms on the first floor of the Christian Education Wing. One of those classrooms will be rented to Hannah Jensen-Heitmann as a music studio space. Hannah has been renting space from the church in the PEACE Center for the last three years. With the open space available in the Christian Education Wing, this provides her a better room for her piano studio. The rent that the church receives from her is used to offset the utility costs in the Christian Education Wing.

The other two rooms on the first floor of the Christian Education Wing will be part of a new ministry partnership of First Presbyterian Church, the *Hastings Community Music Academy*.

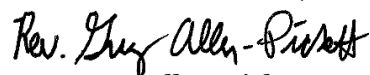
The *Hastings Community Music Academy* is a new organization that was vetted by a committee made up of members of Session and Trustees. A few years ago, a consulting firm came to Hastings and identified opportunities to expand access to the arts, particularly to low income families. The hope was that First Presbyterian Church could collaborate with other worthy organizations in the community to provide greater access to the arts, including quality music education and experiences, particularly for students who wouldn't otherwise have those opportunities. I have said that this takes two of our church's greatest strengths: music and mission, and combines them beautifully.

Starting this fall, we will take our first steps into supporting this new worthy organization. Hannah Jensen-Heitmann wrote up a proposal to begin this work that was reviewed and approved by the Worship, Arts, and Music committee, the Trustees, and the Session. The long-term goal will be for the *Hastings Community Music Academy* to be an umbrella organization that facilitates and organizes the vast variety of community music groups and opportunities that our church provides space and support for. This includes ensembles that the church already supports like The Hospice Choir and the Mexican folkloric dance troupe "Raices de mi Pueblo." It also includes creating new ensembles like a community hand bell choir, a community band, and a community choir for adults with special needs. In addition, there will be music classes that are taught like guitar classes, songwriting classes, and master classes with particular instruments. Most of these programs will be tuition based, however scholarships will be offered for students with financial need so that they are accessible to everyone in the community.

Once the *Hastings Community Music Academy* is up and running, it will contribute to the church's budget by paying a monthly fee to help with our facilities and utilities costs. It will also get members of the community into our building and will provide an invaluable community resource and access to the arts. If you have any questions about this new ministry partner, please come talk to me or reach out to Hannah.

Thank you for your continued support of our beloved church, particularly in these strange times. I hope this letter helps to clarify the changes we have made in the last 12 months in our building use and with our ministry partners. I am grateful that we will be able to continue our legacy of supporting childcare for low income families in Hastings in this new way with an annual grant to C4K. I am also really excited for this new chapter in the life of our Christian Education Wing; both our Christian Education moving back into the space that it was originally dedicated for, and the new opportunities that have been presented to us with the *Hastings Community Music Academy*. As always, I am available to talk if you have any questions about any of this, as are your Session members. Please continue to hold all of our church staff and leadership in your prayers.

Your Servant in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

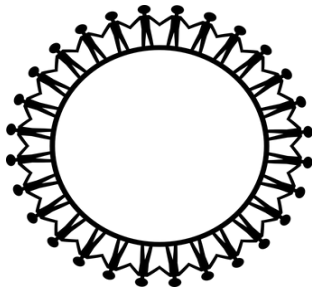
Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Check out Presbyterian Disaster Assistance if you are looking for a way to donate or provide other supports in response to the devastating earthquake in Haiti or to damage in the Gulf Coast from Hurricane

Ida. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has long standing partnerships to provide disaster assistance around the world. They have excellent brochures and a website with information about specific disaster assistance they are providing. This includes a way to donate at: <https://pda.pcusa.org/pda/resource/ida-bulletin/>



The **Hands Around the World Store** has received a new shipment from SERRV. Olive oil, spices, jewelry, and new gift items are some of the new products. SERRV supports fair trade artisans and farmers from around the world. The HATW Store is located between the Narthex and Memorial Room and is open on Sundays 10:00am-10:30am and 11:30am-12:00pm (when services are in session at the church).

*Get a free "blessed"
dog tag for each pet!*

I was blessed
at First
Presbyterian
Church,
Hastings, NE

Blessing of the Pets



Join First Presbyterian Church of Hastings for our 5th annual Blessing of the Pets Service

Sunday, September 26 at 8:30am in Alexander Park

NW corner of 7th and Lincoln behind Great Western Bank

(Please bring your own chair)

ALL PETS AND THEIR PEOPLE ARE WELCOME!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

GLENN & NADINE HUNNICUTT 10/1/1950

LINDA AND RICHARD JOHNSON 10/1/2005

CAROLE & DENNY STORER 10/6/1962

JAVAE & BILL REDINGER 10/11/1997

AMY & WILLIAM HERMES 10/11/2003

KAREN & KIRK DIELMAN 10/12/1985

CHERYL & ROGER SCHUKEI 10/15/1966

DANA & BRETT MILLER 10/19/2013

KIM & JEREMY BORRELL 10/19/2013

KALEENA & MATT FONG 10/27/2007



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

OCTOBER

Frank Medsker	1
Dwight Marsh	2
Fiona Eckhardt	2
Laura Kate Oliver	2
Paxton Rhodes	3
Molly Gosda	3
Luke Brooks	3
Karen Dielman	3
Elizabeth Klaassen	5
Jim Donohue	5
LeRoy Echternach	5
Emma Redinger	6
Vonda Essex	6
Scott Snell	7
Steve Cropley	7
Heather Gosda	7
Virginia Davis	7
Junko Jurgena	8
Elmer Heeren	8
Sue Horton	8
Kris Horton	8
Patty Kingsley	9
Vicki Howard	9

OCTOBER

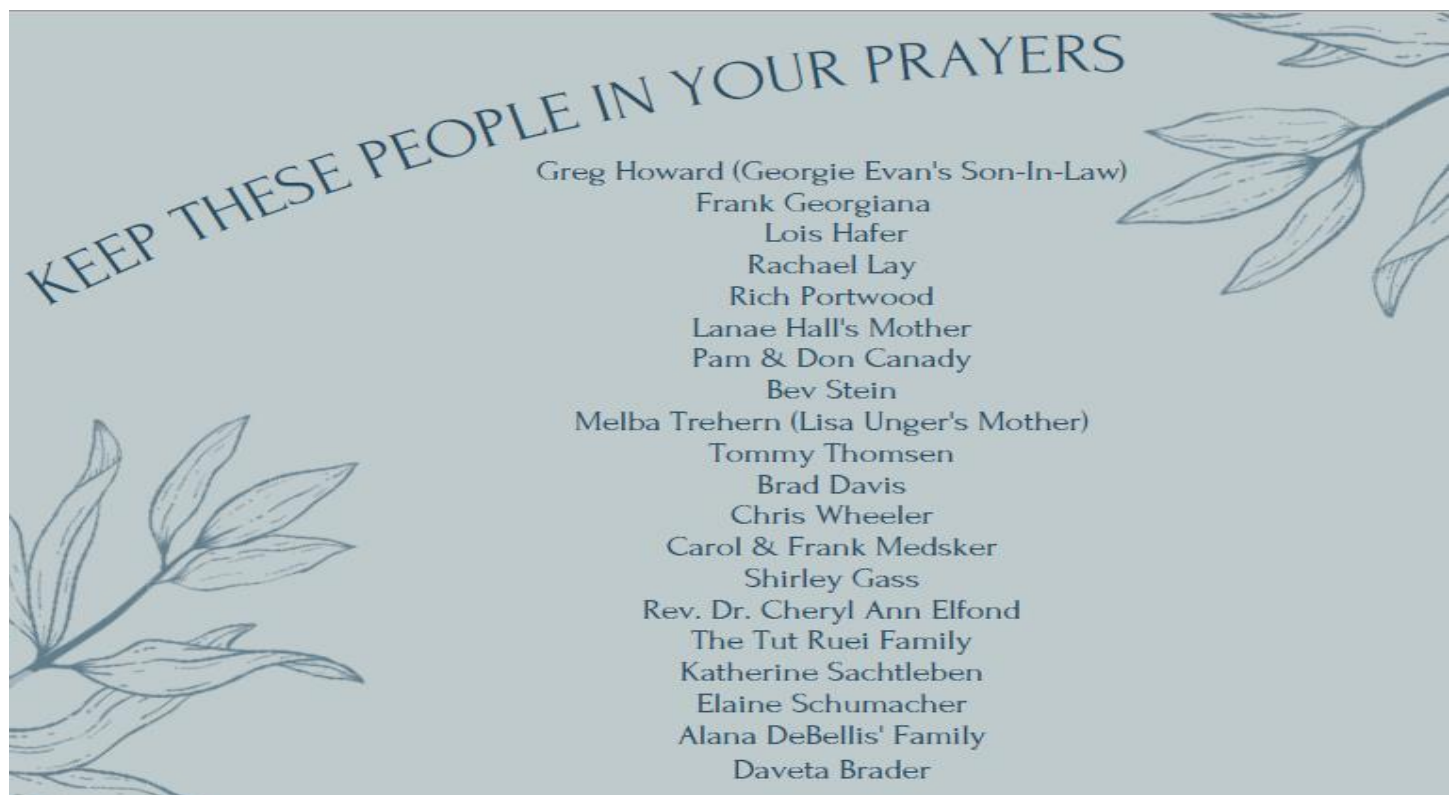
Katharine Davis	9
Scott Kummer	10
Brooks Borrell	10
Jade Guiai-Lou	10
Jeff Hermann	11
Roger Doerr	11
Tanner Lay	12
Jan Ham	13
Ryan Barker	14
Mia Ahlers	14
Nathan Jensen	14
Madalynn Redline	15
Lucy Nielsen	15
Nyabong Duang	16
Sally Hatcher	16
Kimberly Bogan	16
Carter Wenburg	16
Nan Huey	17
Jim LaMaster	17
Grant Hunter	17
Tyler Adam	18
Chris Schukei	18
Cindy Fricke	18

OCTOBER

Susan Hoff	18
Linda Hall	19
Beverly Rader	19
Margaret Hermes	20
Richard Johnson	21
Nancy Ziemba	22
Justin Wenburg	22
Zachary Henderson	23
Jeanne Reynolds	24
Paige Redline	24
Mark Funkey	26
Selah Wenburg	26
Ruei Duang	27
Amy Hermes	27
Mary Creigh	28
Matt Fong	28
Kristen Eckhardt	29
Maddie Gosda	29
Tim Redline	29
LaVern Franzen	29
Milrae Korb	30
Stephanie Brader	

Week of 9/26-10/2

SUN 9/26	8:30a-9:15a	Worship in the Park-Blessing of Pets	Alexander Park
	9:15a-10:15a	Forum	Lydia Room/Zoom
	9:15a-10:15a	Sunday School All Ages	Various Locations
	10:00a-10:30a	Hands Around the World	Store Open
	10:30a-11:15a	Traditional Service	Sanctuary & Various Locations
MON 9/27	8:30a-10:30a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee	PEACE Gym (Mon-Thurs)
	1:00p-3:00p	First Pres. Pickleball Open Gym	PEACE GYM
	7:00p-8:00p	Boy Scouts	Scout Room
TUE 9/28	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting	Zoom
	11:45a-1:15p	Habitat for Humanity	Fellowship Hall
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study with Pastor	Anderson/Zoom
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7:00p-8:00p	CCC Dog Obedience Class	PEACE NE Classroom
	8:15P-9:15P	CCC Dog Obedience Class	PEACE NE Classroom
WED 9/29	12:00p-1:00p	Noonday Bible Study	Zoom
	4:00p-6:45p	1 st -5 th WNL	
	6:00p-6:45p	Family Meal Time	Fellowship Hall
	6:20p-6:50p	6 th -12 th Cal/West Bell Rehearsal	
	6:50p-7:30p	6 th -12 th Cal/West Choir Rehearsal	
	6:45p-7:30p	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	
	7:30p-8:15p	Chancel Bell Rehearsal	
	7:30p-8:30p	6 th -12 th Youth Group	
	6:30p-9:00p	Wood Carvers	LL Church
THUR 9/30	6:30p-7:30p	Good Reads Book Club	Zoom
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Dance Class	PEACE NE Classroom
	7:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7:00p-8:00p	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
FRI 10/1	10:00p-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies	LL Church



KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

Greg Howard (Georgie Evan's Son-In-Law)
 Frank Georgiana
 Lois Hafer
 Rachael Lay
 Rich Portwood
 Lanae Hall's Mother
 Pam & Don Canady
 Bev Stein
 Melba Trehern (Lisa Unger's Mother)
 Tommy Thomsen
 Brad Davis
 Chris Wheeler
 Carol & Frank Medsker
 Shirley Gass
 Rev. Dr. Cheryl Ann Elfond
 The Tut Ruei Family
 Katherine Sachtleben
 Elaine Schumacher
 Alana DeBellis' Family
 Daveta Brader

Week of 10/3-10/9

SUN 10/3		No Worship in the Park this morning	
	9:15a-10:15a	Forum Series	Zoom
	9:15a-10:15a	Sunday School All Ages	Various Locations
	10:30a-11:15a	World Communion Sunday	Hastings College Steinhart Plaza
MON 10/4	1:00p-3:00p	First Pres. Pickleball Open Gym	PEACE Gym
	7:00p-8:00p	Boy Scouts	Scout Room
TUES 10/5	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting	Zoom
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study w/Pastor	Anderson/Zoom
	5:30pm-7:00p	WAM Meeting	Fellowship Hall/Zoom
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7:00p-8:00p	CCC Dog Obedience Class	PEACE NE Classroom
	8:15p-9:1p	CCC Dog Obedience Class	PEACE NE Classroom
WED 10/6	12:00p-1:00p	Noonday Bible Study	Zoom
	12:00p-1:00p	PW Coord Team	Library
	1:00p-2:00p	PW	Fellowship Hall
	4:00p-6:45p	1 st -5 th WNL	
	6:00p-6:45p	Family Meal Time	Fellowship Hall
	6:20p-6:50p	6 th -12 th Cal/West Bell Rehearsal	
	6:50p-7:30p	6 th -12 th Cal/West Choir Rehearsal	
	6:45p-7:30p	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	
	7:30p-8:15p	Chancel Bell Rehearsal	
	7:30p-8:30p	6 th -12 th Youth Group	
	6:30p-9:00p	Wood Carvers	LL Church
THUR 10/7	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Dance Class	PEACE NE Classroom
	7:00p-8:00p	Cub Scouts	Fellowship Hall
FRI 10/8	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies	LL Church

Thank you card from Mary Jeanne Cooke:

Dear Friends,
 Thank you for
 the Birthday cards
 and for the beautiful
 So very
 thoughtful
 of You!
 After flower delivery
 to me by a lovely
 person who so nicely
 made me happy!
 Mary Jeanne C.





October 3rd World Communion Sunday

10:30am Worship

Steinhart Plaza on the Hastings College Campus

At the brick arches and international flags posted at the curve of 9th Street and Elm

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings *Sharing the love of Christ from the heart of Hastings since 1873*

Head of Church: Jesus Christ

Senior Pastor: Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett

Director of Children & Family

Ministries: Stephanie Brader

Organist and Music Coordinator: Linda Vollweiler

Calvin/Westminster Choir Director: Linda Johnson

Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors: Tim & Teresa Canady

Praise/Alleluia Bells Choir Director: Dr. Susan Oliver

Accompanist: Mary Plock

Scholar in Residence: Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh

Ministers: Members of the Church

Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Jensen-Heitmann

Parish Associate: Kili Wenburg

Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Robin Koozer

Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster

Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen

Church Office Administrator: Sarah Allen

Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun

Bookkeeper: Deb Hamburger

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey



Consider walking this year with the First Presbyterian Team, or create a team of your own. If you would simply like to donate, you can do so in the FPC Office or online at crophungerwalk.org.

Hastings Area Church Women United

c/o Susie Graham Phone: 402-469-2638 email: kg61532@windstream.net

Dear Hastings and Surrounding Communities

RE: Annual CROP Hunger Walk.

The Hastings area organizational team is announcing this year's CROP Hunger Walk scheduled for Sunday, October 10, 2021 at 2 pm. The 1 mile walk will be around Heartwell Park in Hastings, starting in the park at N. California Ave. and Forest Blvd. Registration starts at 1:45 pm.

CROP - Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty

The CROP Hunger Walk will raise funds to help stop hunger both locally and globally.

Twenty-five percent of the proceeds collected from the walk will come back to serve those in need in our community of Adams County. The remainder of the proceeds collected from the walk will be distributed by CHURCH WORLD SERVICES to people in need in the U.S. and around the world.

To register, start a team, join a team, and/or donate online, go to crophungerwalk.org Follow the simple step-by-step instructions.

Join in on the fun! Plan to walk and donate. If you can't join us or are unable, donations are appreciated.

Please phone with questions. We want YOU to be a part of this fun event. 402469-2638 HELP STOP HUNGER!

Hastings Area Church Women United:

First United Methodist Church
First Presbyterian Church
First St. Paul Lutheran Church
First Congregational United Church of Christ
Grace United Methodist Church
Juniata United Methodist Church
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
Salvation Army

Change the world. One community garden at a time.

Those aren't just **potatoes** in Edulia and Gregorio's hands... They are the **instruments** of social and economic **prosperity**.

Before, the farmers in the Guarani Indigenous community in Bolivia barely survived on a diet of boiled corn. Their children were weak from malnutrition.

Today, they grow an ample supply of nutritious fruits and vegetables in a community garden. They harvest enough food to feed their families and sell a surplus in the market. With the income they make, they are able to purchase protein to supplement their diet and buy more seeds for the garden.

Through the CROP Hunger Walk, you are there, investing in Edulia and Gregorio. Their smiles are thanks to you!

Just last year, 50,217 global neighbors like those in Bolivia were provided stable sources of nutritious food.

795 million more people around the world are waiting for your help.



\$20

a year supply
of micronutrient
packets



\$60

jerry cans
for a small
village



\$100

training for
25 farmers



\$500

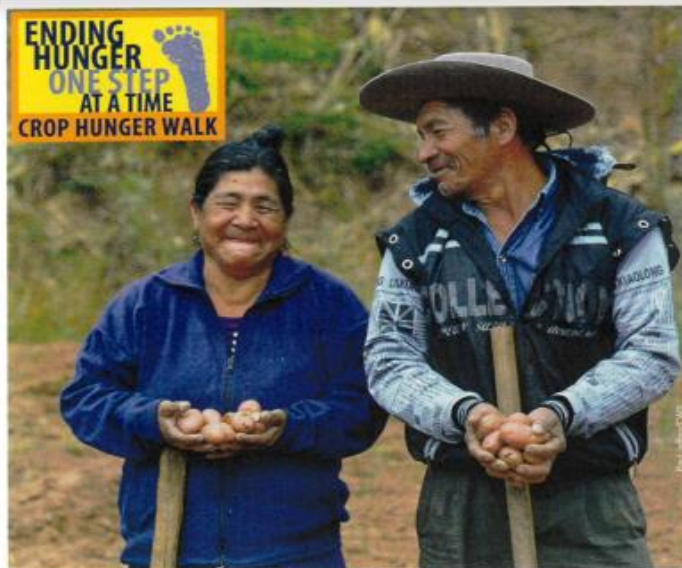
seeds and
gardening
supplies for
a community
garden



crophungerwalk.org
888-CWS-CROP



#CROPHungerWalk



Walk. Give. Change the world.

Hastings CROP Hunger Walk

2pm Sunday, October 10, 2021

Around Heartwell Park

Register at N California Ave in the park

25% raised goes to local school's

Backpack Food Programs

Sponsored by Church Women United

crophungerwalk.org

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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PRESENTS:

REBOOKULOUSLY GOOD READS

A Faith & Spirituality Book Group

OUR FALL READ IS
HOME BY MARILYNNE ROBINSON

CONVERSATIONS HOSTED VIA ZOOM
SEPT 30, OCT 14, & OCT 28 AT
6:30PM



First Presbyterian Church

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Hastings, NE 68901

Phone: 402-462-5147

Email: fpc@fpchastings.org

Website: www.fpchastings.org

Address Service Requested



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.