

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

GREG ALLEN-PICKETT, SENIOR PASTOR

DAMEN JENSEN-HEITMANN, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

## HOME PAGE

The Omicron Surge and our response

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

22 months ago, in March of 2020, we made the difficult decision to suspend in-person worship due to this new disease called COVID-19. Fortunately, because the church has invested in broadcast ministry, we were able to easily connect and provide a way for people to continue worshiping and participating with us through our radio, television, and live-streaming. Thanks be to God for all of the amazing saints who have supported that ministry over the years!

11 months ago, in February 2021, we restarted in-person worship with many precautions in place including face masks, social distancing, and a UV light filtration system in our air handler in the sanctuary. It was such a joy to be back in-person in our sanctuary, and to continue our robust broadcast ministries as well!

Over the last 11 months, we have been slowly adding back in-person ministries and opportunities for fellowship. First it was committee meetings, Youth Group, and Confirmation Class. Then we did Vacation Bible School. In August we restarted all of our Wednesday night programs along with our Sunday School classes and our music programs. We made it through the Delta surge in cases this Fall and continued forward with prudence and caution. We were able to hold in-person Christmas Eve services this year, which was a true joy and delight.

Today we are facing yet another surge in cases from the Omicron variant. Session, the leadership council of the church, met last night to discuss the risk posed by the rapid spread of this insidious disease. Prior to the meeting, your church elders read data and reports from the South Heartland District Health Department as well as other sources of information. You can access that data here: <https://bit.ly/Data1-21>

At our meeting we had a robust discussion about what we could do to help reduce the spread of COVID-19, both in our church family and in our community. The South Heartland District Health Department recommends a "layered approach" to reduce our risk and the spread of this disease. That approach includes face masking, social distancing, good ventilation, and vaccinations and boosters.

As Session assessed the risk, we affirmed that we are taking this layered approach. We require face masks, do our best to facilitate social distancing, have good ventilation in the sanctuary with the UV light filter in our air handler, and we have consistently encouraged our congregation to get their vaccines and boosters. So Session determined that we will continue to take this layered approach to combat this disease in our community, while also continuing to provide a remote option for as many of our activities as possible. That means we will continue worship in-person, as well as Sunday School, committee meetings, and other church activities for now. And we will work to provide a remote option for as many of these activities as we can.

1.23.22 | 1.30.22 | VOL. 27.2

621 N. LINCOLN AVE | HASTINGS, NE 68901 | 402-462-5147

The one gap in our layered approach is when we have events that involve food and people remove their face masks to eat. This includes Wednesday Night Live meals, Funeral Luncheons, Presbyterian Women luncheons, and other events where food is served. To close this gap, Session voted to suspend any events that include food effective today, Friday, January 21. Session will revisit this policy at our next meeting on Thursday, February 17. We hope and pray that the surge has diminished by that time and we will be able to allow events with food.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we do our best to combat this terrible disease while still seeking to share the love and light of Christ among our own church family, in our community, and out into the world. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me or any of your Session members.

Your Servants in Christ,

Pastor Greg and the Session of First Presbyterian Church  
 Kay Georgiana, Scott Sharedelow, Kris Horton, Harold Korb, Joe Black, Kathy Amyot, Cheryl Lockwood, Neil Riley, Mary Fisk, Bev Rader

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

**Head of Church:** Jesus Christ  
**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett  
**Director of Children & Family**  
**Ministries:** Rose Koepp  
**Organist and Music Coordinator:** Linda Vollweiler  
**Calvin/Westminster Choir Director:** Linda Johnson  
**Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors:** Teresa & Tim Canady  
**Praise/Alleluia Bells Choir Director:** Dr. Susan Oliver  
**Accompanists:** Mary Plock  
**Scholar in Residence:** Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh

**Ministers:** Members of the Church  
**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Damen Jensen-Heitmann  
**Parish Associate:** Kili Wenburg  
**Bookkeeper:** Deb Hamburger  
**Chancel Choir Director:** Dr. Robin Koozer  
**Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster**  
**Bells Director:** Dr. Byron Jensen  
**Church Office Administrator:** Sarah Allen  
**Facilities Manager:** Tony Calhoun  
**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

Mary Lewis	Elaine Schumacher
Joan Shaw	Melba Trehern
Barry Thomson	Chris Wheeler
Lois Hafer	Pam & Don Canady
Bev Stein	Tut Ruei Family
Greg Howard	Brad Davis
Rachel Lay	Jenni Welsch
Frank Georgiana	Michael Hahne
Tommy Thomsen	Tony Davis
Rich Portwood	Carl Utley
Shirley Gass	Connie Kubicka
Dr. Rev. Cheryl Ann Elfond	
Marie & Don Rasmussen	

**IN MEMORY OF:**

Joyce Harrenstein 11/27/21  
 Katherine Sachtleben 12/14/21  
 Mary Lee Phelps 12/14/21  
 Mary Jeanne Cooke 1/10/22  
 Glenn Hunnicutt 1/13/22  
 Connie Kubicka 1/22/22



# Reverse Advent Totals

## Crossroads:

Paper towels:	76 rolls
Bed Pillows:	42
Twin Sheets.	36
Blankets	32
Cough drops	44 pkgs
Disposable gloves	1,235
Bleach/Disinfectant	36

## Hastings High Food Pantry:

Feminine Hygiene	44 pkgs
Toothbrushes	149
Toothpaste	95
Toilet Paper	43 rolls
Acne Face Wash	30
Hand Soap	82 bars, 29 bottles
Body Soap	18
Deodorant	81
Mac and Cheese	96
Spaghetti and Sauce	48 sauces, 44 pastas
Hamburger Helper	77
Misc	24

## Encourage Advocacy Center:

Dishwashing Soap	46
Cleaning Supplies for kitchen and bath.	202
Kitchen Clothes/Rags.	32

## Catholic Social Services:

Baby Wipes	5,420
Diapers.	2,000
Baby bottles	50
Razors	196
Baby blankets	2
Scrub Brushes	20
Feminine Hygiene	160
Protective gloves	50
Dish Soap	10
Brooms/dustpans	35
Laundry Detergent	38
Household Cleaners	8
Lysol Wipes	7
Cough drops	2
Bleach	4
Dish Cloths	6





HAPPY FEBRUARY

# Birthdays

CAROLE STORER 2/1  
 NYTHA GLASS 2/1  
 CHANDA ESSINK 2/2  
 GEORGE ADAM 2/2  
 KATIE KINGSLEY 2/3  
 NINA MEYER 2/4  
 MICHELLE MUSGRAVE 2/5  
 SHIRLEY GASS 2/6  
 PAM CANADY 2/6  
 C L WIMER 2/6  
 GEORGE HOWARD 2/6  
 RILEY MULLEN 2/6  
 JUSTIN BRADER 2/7  
 JOANN WILLIAMS 2/8  
 BEN WELSCH 2/9  
 MEREDITH OLIVER 2/9  
 DOUG PHELPS 2/10  
 PHYLLIS WALTEMATH 2/11  
 DICK MCCLENAHAN 2/11  
 BECKY MEYER 2/12  
 JON PROPP 2/12

GAYLE FANDRY 2/13  
 HANNAH HAFFER 2/13  
 MARY PLOCK 2/14  
 KATHY AMYOT 2/14  
 RACHEL GUIAI 2/14  
 NOBLE HENDERSON 2/15  
 B J PUMROY 2/17  
 KEATON REDLINE 2/17  
 LUCA HULTMAN 2/18  
 DACIA HULTMAN 2/21  
 RAMONA SHETLER 2/22  
 THOMAS MOORE 2/22  
 JANEY NOTTAGE-TACEY 2/23  
 TYLER KOEPP 2/23  
 SHARON STEENBARGER 2/24  
 HARVEY FREELY 2/24  
 DANA ODOM 2/25  
 PATTI DEVENY 2/26  
 ZACH RUNCIE 2/26  
 BRENT BROOKS 2/26



## Greeters for February

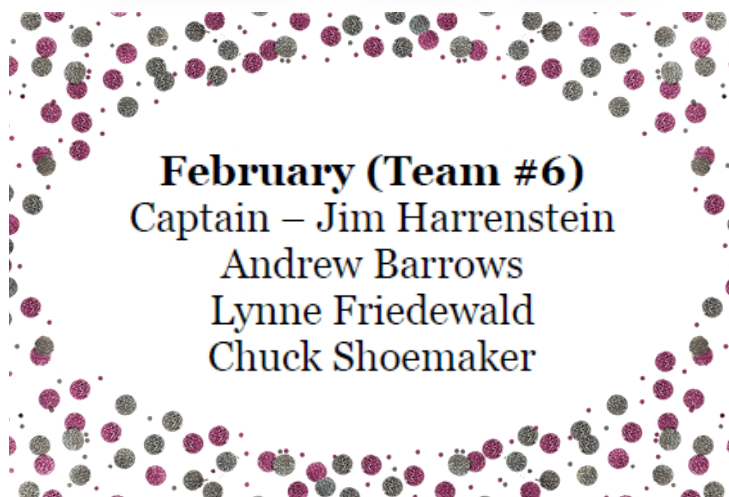
FEBRUARY	MEMORIAL ROOM	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
6	Jam Ham	Julie Thomsen	Susie Graham
13	Eleanor Jorgensen	Flossie Sanderson	Stephanie Bliss
20	Todd Pankratz & Jessica Meeske		Kay & Frank Georgiana
27	Jane Foote	Mary Fisk	Bonnie & Kenton Grams



Reflections  
from a  
Hospice Chaplain

January 30, Feb 6 & 13

USHERS



**February (Team #6)**

Captain – Jim Harrenstein

Andrew Barrows

Lynne Friedewald

Chuck Shoemaker



Happy Wedding  
Anniversary

*cheers*

Jan & Dave Schawang 2/4/1967

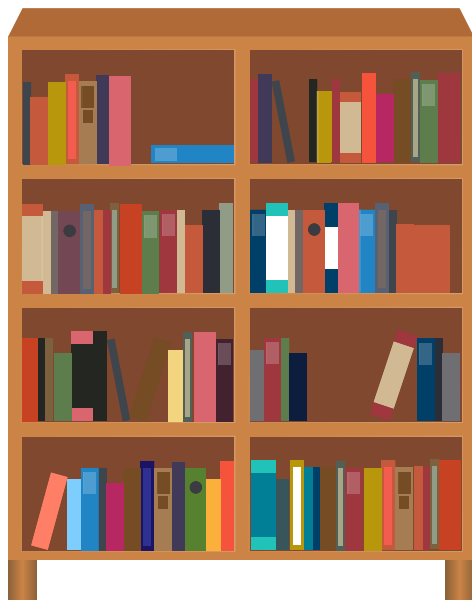
Karla & Monte Malouf 2/4/1977

Lesa & Steve Cropley 2/10/1979

Uschi & Larry Butler 2/18/1967

Jessica & Greg Allen-Pickett 2/24/2001

Irina Belikova-Erickson & Brett Erickson  
2/27/1998



The Borrell Family would like to thank FPC for the continued support of their nonprofit organization, ***BROOKS'S BOOKSHELF***. Brooks's Bookshelf was created in 2019 in honor of their son, Brook, to help share the joy of reading and to spread awareness of Down Syndrome and other uniqueness. If you would like to donate new or gently used children's books, there is a drop-off bin in Fellowship Hall.



**RENOVATIONS TO THE ELEVATOR  
WILL BEGIN ON MONDAY,  
JANUARY 24 AND COULD LAST FOR  
ONE MONTH. PLEASE PLAN  
ACCORDINGLY.**



THANK  
YOU  
CONSTANCE  
&  
SUE

Every single week, Constance Malloy and Sue Medsker proofread the church bulletin for Sunday.

Each of these ladies reply to our rough draft emails **literally** within minutes with the necessary corrections *no matter what is going on in their personal lives*.

Sue and Constance, THANK YOU for your amazing teamwork and dedication to the church office,  
WE ALL APPRECIATE YOU.





Thank you for the  
gift card Really  
do appreciate it  
Hope you had a  
merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year.

Sincerely  
Mendel

Thank you for the  
Christmas gifts!  
I appreciate that  
you are all  
so thoughtful!  
Happy new year!!  
Christie

Thank you so much  
for the gifts, it was  
very thoughtful!

Merry Christmas  
Happy New Year  
M

More thank you notes  
from  
Our Giving Tree  
Recipients

Thank you for the shoes. They  
fit. I don't have much money  
any more. This was nice of you.

Happy New Year  
Sharon

Thank you so very  
much for the Christmas  
gifts. It made my  
holiday very special.

Mary

**SURPLUS BUDGET  
COMMUNITY GRANT  
RECIPIENT**

Members and Staff of  
1st Presbyterian,

Your recent donations, as a result of the Reverse Advent collection, were such a welcomed gift to our offices at CSS. Your generosity will be far-reaching, as we continue to serve families and individuals in the Adams county area. We cannot express enough how grateful we are for your donation, and we are thankful to work together with your church to be the hands and feet of Christ to those in need in our community. Many blessings! Cath. Social Services Staff



Horizon Recovery and Counseling Center.  
The Unity Houses

835 S Burlington, Ste. 115  
Hastings, NE 68901  
402-462-2066,  
fax 402-462-2045

**Reverse Advent  
Recipient thank you**



Thank you for your generous donation to Revive Ministries Inc, Horizon Recovery & Counseling Center/The Unity Houses. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for the donation for the carpet installed in our men's Unity House.

We are truly appreciative of every thing you do for us.

God Bless you all!

Thank you  
Revive Ministries

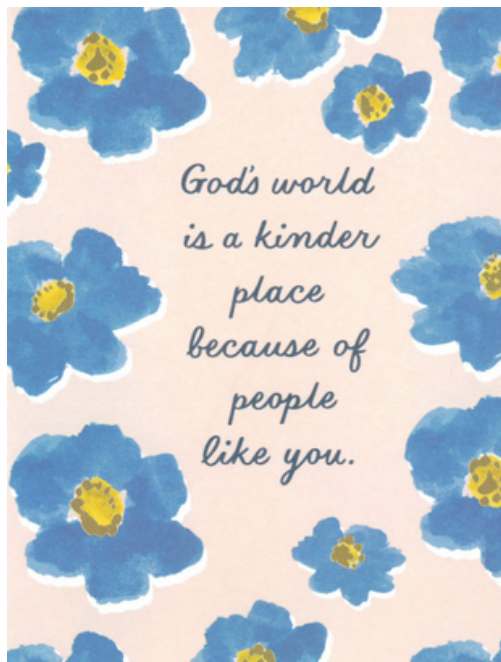


# Communion Offering Thank You Notes



Horizon Recovery and Counseling Center.  
The Unity Houses

835 S Burlington, Ste. 115  
Hastings, NE 68901  
402-462-2066,  
fax 402-462-2045



Parishioners -

Thank you for your generous donation to Revive Ministries Inc, Horizon Recovery & Counseling Center/The Unity Houses. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for thinking of us & donating you-  
Communion Offerings for the month of November. We are truly grateful to you all. May God Bless you & your families in this new year.

Thank you  
Revive Ministries

Bless you all for your generosity, as you know we are @ 501 c3.  
Prayers for a wonderful & prosperous 2022 for all.

Doreen & Bryan Buck

Thank you and God bless you for your thoughtfulness.

Taylor & Christine Cox  
Michael Hall  
Janet Rowe

Aaron B  
Cindy Hemberger  
Lewon H,

<b>SUN 1/23</b>	8:30a-9:15a	Taize-Style Worship	Sanctuary
	9:15a-10:15a	Sunday School All Ages	
	10:00a-10:30a	HAW Store Open	Narthex/Memorial
	10:30a-11:30a	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary/Facebook/Radio
	11:30a-12:00p	HAW Store Open	Narthex/Memorial
	12:00p-12:30p	Music Planning Meeting	Parlor
<b>MON 1/24</b>	8:30a-10:00a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee M-TH	PEACE Gym/NW Classroom
	1:00p-3:00p	First Pres Pickleball Open Gym	PEACE Gym
	2:00p-3:30p	Hearts & Hands Meal Packing	PEACE Center
	5:30p-6:30p	Foundation Board Meeting	Anderson
	7:00p-8:00p	Boy Scouts	Scout Room
<b>TUES 1/25</b>	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting	Zoom
	11:45a-1:15p	Habitat for Humanity	Zoom
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study with Pastor Greg	Anderson/Zoom
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7:00p-8:00p	CCC Dog Obedience Class	PEACE NE Classroom
<b>WED 1/26</b>	12:00p-1:00p	Noonday Bible Study w/Dan D.	Zoom
	2:00p-3:30p	Hearts & Hands Meal Packing	PEACE
	4:00p-6:00p	WNL 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> grades	Check-In Fellowship Hall
	6:20p-6:50p	Cal/West Bell Choir Rehearsal	Bell Room
	6:50p-7:30p	Cal/West Choir Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall
	6:45p-7:30p	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Memorial Room
	7:30p-8:15p	Chancel Bell Rehearsal	Bell Room
	7:30p-8:30p	Youth Group	Youth Room
	6:30p-7:30p	First Pres Pickleball Open Gym	PEACE Gym
	6:30p-9:00p	Wood Carvers	Lower-Level Church
<b>THURS 1/27</b>	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Folkloric Dance Class	PEACE NE Classroom
	7:00p-8:00p	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>FRI 1/28</b>	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies	Room 111 Church
<b>SUN 1/30</b>		<i>No Taize Service</i>	
	9:15a-10:15a	Sunday School All Ages	
	9:15a-10:15a	Forum	Zoom
	10:00a-10:30a	HAW Store Open	Narthex/Memorial
	10:30a-11:30a	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
	11:30a-12:00p	HAW Store Open	Narthex/Memorial
	11:30a-12:00p	Congregation Meeting	Sanctuary
<b>MON 1/31</b>	8:30a-10:00a	Walkers/Walkers Coffee M-TH	PEACE Gym/NW Classroom
	1:00p-3:00p	First Pres Pickleball Open Gym	PEACE Gym
	2:00p-3:30p	Hearts & Hands Meal Packing	PEACE Center
	7:00p-8:00p	Boy Scouts	Scout Room
<b>TUES 2/1</b>	10:30a-11:30a	Staff Meeting	Zoom
	12:00p-1:00p	Bible Study w/Pastor Greg	Anderson
	5:30p-7:00p	WAM	Fellowship Hall
	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7:00p-8:00p	Dog Obedience Class	PEACE NE Classroom

<b>WED 2/2</b>	12:00p-1:00p	Noonday Bible Study w/Dan D.	Zoom
	12:00p-1:00p	PW Coordinating Team Meeting	Library
	1:00p-2:00p	PW Program: Angel Gowns, Susan Kloke	Fellowship Hall
	2:00p-3:30p	Hearts & Hands Meal Packing	PEACE
	4:00p-6:00p	WNL 1 <sup>st</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> grades	Check-In Fellowship Hall
	6:20p-6:50p	Cal/West Bell Choir Rehearsal	Bell Room
	6:50p-7:30p	Cal/West Choir Rehearsal	Fellowship Hall
	6:45p-7:30p	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Memorial Room
	7:30p-8:15p	Chancel Bell Rehearsal	Bell Room
	7:30p-8:30p	Youth Group	Youth Room
	6:30p-7:30p	First Pres Pickleball Open Gym	PEACE Gym
	6:30p-9:00p	Wood Carvers	Lower-Level Church
<b>THURS 2/3</b>	6:00p-8:00p	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6:00p-8:00p	Mexican Folkloric Dance Class	PEACE NE Classroom
	7:00p-8:00p	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>FRI 2/4</b>	10:00a-12:00p	Mahjong Ladies	Room 111
<b>SUN 2/6</b>	8:30a-9:15a	Taize-Style Worship Service	Sanctuary
	9:15a-10:15a	Sunday School	
	9:15a-10:15a	Forum	Zoom
	10:00a-10:30a	HAW Store Open	Narthex/Memorial Room
	10:30a-11:30a	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary/Facebook/Radio
	11:30a-12:00p	HAW Store Open	Narthex/Memorial Room
	4:00p-5:30p	HCMA Board Meeting	Fellowship Hall





**First Presbyterian Church**  
**621 N. Lincoln Ave.**  
**Hastings, NE 68901**  
**402-462-5147**  
**fpc@fpchastings.org**

**Return Service Requested**

**Mail To:**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 30 AT 11:30AM, FPC SANCTUARY**

# **Annual Congregational Meeting**

**ANYONE CAN ATTEND, ALL MEMBERS CAN VOTE**

