



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF HASTINGS**
LIVING A LEGACY OF LOVE

Home Page Newsletter

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

We continue our 150th Anniversary Celebration with another memory, this one from Dr. Robin Koozer reflecting on the gift of music, particularly during funerals and memorial services.

As a reminder, we invite you to submit your memories to be published in the newsletter. Please include the year or date of the event being described, your name, and any photos you may have. Memories can also be published anonymously if desired. Mary Seiler has graciously agreed to collect and help us curate these memories, so please contact her via email at marycseiler@gmail.com or give her a call.

Enjoy this memory of the beloved saints who have come before us!

Your Servant in Christ,
Pastor Greg

Wonderful memories of the Saints who preceded us!

When I recall some of my special memories of First Presbyterian Church, I remember many opportunities making music and after doing so, considering the significant impact of that music in worship. Many of those memories relate to specific anthems sung by the Chancel Choir; or to special holiday (Christmas and Lenten) cantatas with instrumentalists, soloists, narrators, and congregational participation; and believe it or not, funeral and memorial services.

Over the years, I have been honored to provide special music for memorial and funeral services of church members (including many personal and family friends and choir members.) Often, when I hear a certain hymn or a solo, I recall the memorial service(s) where that hymn was sung. Many times, a fond memory of the deceased fills my mind; or I recall the place in the choir loft (or in the Sanctuary) the departed sat. Sometimes, I can envision the facial expression I would receive when seated in the choir loft from the person after the choir's anthem or the joy I witnessed as they shared singing congregational hymns. Needless to say, I feel very fortunate to have this "mental scrapbook" of these wonderful people!

Many people may consider this remembrance unusual and somewhat morbid. My intent is anything but that! The power of music in providing comfort to a grieving family and in my case, to our church members is especially profound. Whether it be the Malotte "Lord's Prayer," or "Amazing Grace", or "Lead On, O King Eternal", or "When the Saints Go Marching In", or "Be Thou My Vision" or "Come, Come, Ye Saints", or "What a Wonderful World", music has fulfilled its purpose and was integral to worshipful celebrations and remembrances. Melody, harmony, poetry, singing, composing, and performing are God-given gifts. Being called to use those talents with meaning and spirituality in service to the Creator's kingdom is also a gift from God...I have been blessed.

Robin R. Koozer
March 21, 2023

Sunday 3/26	8:30am	Contemplative Communion Service	Chapel
	9:15am	Confirmation/Sunday School	Various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary/Radio/Facebook
	11:30am-12pm	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	5-7pm	Jr. High/Sr. High Youth Group	various
	Living History Event 5pm- Soup Supper (Fellowship Hall) 6pm- Program (Sanctuary)		
Monday 3/27	11am	Bernice Rakestraw Memorial Service	Chapel
	1-3pm	First Presbyterian Pickleball	PEACE Center Gym
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
Tuesday 3/28	10-11am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	11am-7pm	Red Cross Bloodmobile	Fellowship Hall
	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity Board	
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
Wednesday 3/29	11:55am	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com
	5-6:45pm	PreK-5 th grade WNL	Various
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
	6:30pm-9pm	Woodcarvers Meet	basement
Thursday 3/30	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 3/31	10am-12pm	Mahjong Ladies	Room 111
Saturday 4/1		Langenberg Lesson Applications Due	

Langenberg Lesson Applications for Spring 2023 are now available.

Parent(s) of students in grades 1-12 may apply for up to \$250 per semester to offset the cost of private music instruction. Applicable areas of study include piano, voice, guitar, or any band/orchestral instrument. Grants are limited to one per child. Parent(s) must be members of First Presbyterian Church and students must be active participants in the church choir/music program. Although grants are renewable, parents **MUST RE-APPLY EACH SEMESTER.**

Applications are available in the church office or on the church website and are **DUE APRIL 1, 2023**

EASTER LILIES 2023



Easter Lilies are \$12 each. Monies raised above the cost will be donated to "A Joyful Noise."

Lily in memory of _____

Lily in honor of _____

Given by _____

I will take my Lily home after the Easter Sunday services: ☐ Yes ☐ No

I will leave my Lily at the church: ☐ Yes ☐ No



Greeters:

We are in need of Greeters for the 8:30am service and 10:30am service on Easter.

We are also in need of Greeters for the 10:30am service on April 23 and April 30. If you are able to help out please let Melissa know in the Church Office. (402-462-5147 or melissa@fpchastings.org)

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

Sunday 4/2	8:30am	Contemplative Communion Service	Chapel
	9:15am	Confirmation/Sunday School	various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	10:30am	Palm Sunday Service	Sanctuary/Facebook/Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	5-7pm	Jr. High/Sr. High Youth Group	various
Monday 4/3	1-3pm	First Presbyterian Pickleball	PEACE Center Gym
	6-8pm	Holy Week Prayer Event	Fellowship Hall
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
Tuesday 4/4	10-11am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	WAM Meeting	Anderson
	7pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
Wednesday 4/5	11-11:45AM	PW Coord Team	Library
	11:45am-1:30pm	PW Program and Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
	11:55am	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com
	5-6:45pm	PreK-5th grade WNL	Various
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
Thursday 4/6	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
	7pm	Maundy Thursday Service	Sanctuary
Friday 4/7	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Room 111
	7pm	Good Friday Service	Sanctuary
	8pm	Prayer Vigil Begins	Chapel or at home
Saturday 4/8	all day	Prayer Vigil	Chapel or at home
Sunday 4/9		Easter	
	8am	Prayer Vigil Ends	
	8:30am	Easter Sunday Service	Sanctuary
	10:30am	Easter Sunday Service	Sanctuary/Facebook/Radio

Holy Week Schedule

First Presbyterian Church Hastings
2023



www.facebook.com/fpchastings
(you do not need a Facebook account to view)

Radio broadcast KICS 1550 AM and 92.7 FM

Palm Sunday, April 2

In-Person Worship at 8:30 & 10:30am
(10:30am with palms and a joyful procession!)
10:30am also on radio and Facebook

Maundy Thursday, April 6

Communion Service at 7:00pm
In-Person and on Facebook

Good Friday, April 7

Worship at 7:00pm
In-Person and on Facebook

Easter Sunday, April 9

In-Person Worship at 8:30 & 10:30am
Organ, Choir, Handbells, Cathedral Brass
10:30am also on radio and Facebook

Easter Prayer Vigil

First Presbyterian Church Hastings
2023



Good Friday through Easter Morning

This prayer vigil is a time for our community of faith to come before God to acknowledge that we are the body of Christ, and to ask for God's guidance and presence. You are invited to come to the Chapel or participate from home. This is a community time, for this prayer vigil is an act of our entire congregation.

Please sign up to participate by using the link or QR Code below

<https://bit.ly/FPCHEV>



Hastings
Community
Music
Academy

JOYFUL NOISE CHOIR



INCLUSIVE CHOIR

AGES 18 AND UP

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME!

FREE - UP TO \$20 SUGGESTED DONATION

Tuesdays, April 18, 25, May 2, 9

5:00-5:45 PM

First Presbyterian Church

REGISTER ONLINE:

WWW.HASTINGSMUSICACADEMY.COM

OR

EMAIL:

MUSICACADEMYDIRECTOR@GMAIL.COM



Hastings Community Music Academy



UKULELE FOR RETIREES

WEDNESDAYS, APRIL 5, 12, 19, 26

11:00-11:45

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

\$40

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

PERFORMANCE WITH HASTINGS

COLLEGE HANDBELL CHOIR - MAY 1ST

REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE:

HASTINGSMUSICACADEMY.COM

OR

EMAIL:

MUSICACADEMYDIRECTOR@GMAIL.COM



April Ushers

April Ushers 10:30am- Captain- Duane Huber, Steve Illingworth,
Daveta Brader, Lois Hafer, Dick Brader

The Church Office
will be closed on
Monday, April 10

April Greeters

APRIL	MEMORIAL ROOM	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
Palm Sunday 2	Teresa Luther		Lois & John Meeske
Easter 8:30a	Help Needed		Melissa Davis
Easter 10:30a	Kay Georgiana	Jan Ham	Help Needed
16	Julie Thomsen		Lynne Friedewald & Chuck Shoemaker
23	Kathy Utter	Kim Creech	Help Needed
30	Help Needed		Melissa Davis

I believe...

Lenten sermon series on
Presbyterian confessions and creeds

February 26: The Nicene Creed

March 5: The Scots Confession

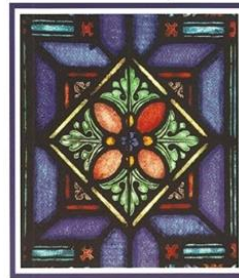
March 12: The Barmen Declaration

March 19: The Confession of 1967

March 26: A Brief Statement of Faith

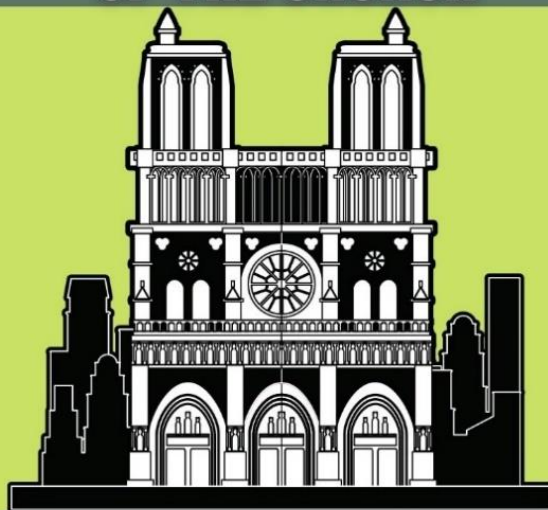
April 2: FPC Hastings Confirmants
Affirmation of Faith, 2019

THE BOOK OF CONFESSIONS



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

WE BELIEVE: THE CONFESSIONS OF THE CHURCH



Dan Deffenbaugh - Lydia Room

9:15 AM - Feb. 26, Mar. 5, 19, 26, Apr. 2



Give Hope to Guatemala

Volunteer to help pack 150,000 life-saving meals

Many Guatemalan children and families do not have enough food to eat. That's why the Thrivent Member Network in Nebraska is partnering with Hearts & Hands Against Hunger of Hastings to pack meals for Guatemalans in need. The Orphan Grain Train will deliver the meals.

Reserve your spot

Register for a two-hour shift to help us reach our goal of packing all 150,000 meals donated by the Thrivent Member Network. To register, scan the QR code or visit HHAH150K.eventbrite.com.

Questions? Email NebraskaTMN@thrivent.com or call 402-249-1104. Register by April 17, 2023.

Event details

Saturday, April 22, 2023

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

PEACE Center, Hearts & Hands
Against Hunger of Hastings
622 N. Lincoln Ave.
Hastings, NE 68901



Sign up for a two-hour shift today.

No products will be sold. Hearts & Hands Against Hunger of Hastings and the Orphan Grain Train are not affiliated with or endorsed by Thrivent.

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Prayers for

Shirley Maul
Barry Thomson
Stephen Gass
Bev Stein
Greg Howard
Irina Belikova-Erickson
Rich Portwood
Shirley Gass
Tarah Davis & family
Cheryl Ann Elfond
Brad Davis
Roberta Lloyd and family
Nancy Grams
Vicki Howard

Reta & Lowell Johnson
Carl Utley
BJ Pumroy & family
Elaine Schumacher
Dave Schawang
Jenni Bauer
Don Rasmussen
Freddie Petersen
Audre Zaroban
Lisa Unger & family
Jodi Graves & family
Ashley Ibach
Rhonda Sanford



Prayer Calls



On Monday 4/3 from 6:30-8pm, your church leaders and staff will be calling every family in the church. We will be collecting prayer requests, joys, and concerns, so that we can pray for during Holy Week. So, if your phone rings on Monday night, please answer it. You will have a chance to talk with a church leader and they will pray for you.

Thank you!



DATE: Monday, June 26th – Thursday, June 29th

TIME: 8:30 am – 11:30 am

WHERE: First Presbyterian Church

621 N Lincoln, Ave

AGES: *Pre-School – 6th grade

(This is the grade they are entering in August 2023)

*Preschoolers must be potty trained; exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis.

Register or sign-up to volunteer by visiting: fpchastings.org/vbs/



THE MISSION COMMITTEE IS COLLECTING
LONG-SLEEVE WORK
SHIRTS FOR OUR MIGRANT WORKERS.

THESE SHIRTS PROTECT THE WORKERS FROM
THE SUN AND EXPOSURE TO AGRICULTURAL
CHEMICALS.

SHIRTS CAN BE DROPPED OFF IN THE DESIGNATED
BIN IN FELLOWSHIP HALL.

THE MISSION COMMITTEE THANKS YOU.

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
Organist and Music Director: Linda Vollweiler
Chancel Choir Director: Brett Epperson
Chancel Bells & Calvin/Westminster
Bells Director: Dr. Byron Jensen
Calvin/Westminster Choir Director: Linda Johnson
Praise/Alleluia Choir Directors: Tim and Teresa Canady
Praise/Alleluia Bells Choir Director: Dr. Susan Oliver
Accompanist and Music Coordinator: Mary Plock

Ministers: Members of the Church
Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Jensen-Heitmann
Director of Children & Family
Ministries: Rose Koepp
Church Office Administrator: Melissa Davis
Facilities Manager: Tony Calhoun
Bookkeeper: Deb Hamburger
Scholar in Residence: Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Bill Nottage-Tacey