



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

# Home Page Newsletter

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

Some of you may have noticed that the Beto's Tacos food truck is no longer parked in our PEACE Center parking lot. I wanted to share an update with you, as well as a word of gratitude and an exciting announcement.

First, a little history: We were approached by the owner of Beto's, Francisco Diaz, in December of 2020 with a request to park in the PEACE Center parking lot for a monthly fee. Session and Trustees considered and prayed about his request. We also thought about the PEACE Center and our goal to transform it into a **vibrant community center that welcomes our neighbors**. We determined that Francisco and Beto's Tacos would be a good partner in furthering that goal. Starting in March of 2021, Beto's Tacos parked in the PEACE Center parking lot after a long process of prayer and discernment with the Session and Trustees, as well as getting the right permits from the city.

The partnership with Francisco and Beto's Tacos has thrived. Anyone who has bought food there knows that the food is excellent, but just as important, Francisco has a heart of gold and is always friendly and warm, seeing his business as a form of ministry. Through this partnership, we were able to provide a space for a young entrepreneur to start his business AND our PEACE Center parking lot became a **community gathering space**. Last summer we hosted a "Food Truck Roundup" event with Beto's Tacos as the anchor that brought more than 250 people to the PEACE Center. Francisco also donated food to the volunteers who worked at United Harvest each month. The small business grew and flourished and First Presbyterian Church of Hastings further developed our reputation of **welcome, hospitality, and fellowship**.

In a best case scenario for Beto's Tacos, the business has grown and they have now opened a restaurant. It is just two blocks south of the church in the same shopping center as Little Caesars and Imperial Garden. The PEACE Center parking lot served as a **small business incubator** for Beto's Tacos and Francisco. While we will miss having Beto's Tacos in the PEACE Center parking lot, we celebrate Francisco's success and wish him well. On the next page you will see a thank you note that Francisco has written to our congregation.

Last month, we received another request for a food truck to park in the space where Beto's Tacos was parked. On Thursday 4/20/23, Session voted to approve the new food truck to park there, so starting next week, you will see "The Big Pig" barbeque truck parked in the PEACE Center parking lot. In their request, the owners Matt and Amy Schnase wrote, "The Big Pig food truck has been a dream, a journey, and something that has brought our family closer together... In the spring of 2022 we opened our window and began traveling to any small town, tap house, or business that would have us within 2 hours of Hastings. This is when we realized our little dream was a lot more work than we ever thought. Luckily we had our faith and our family to get it done. It's been an amazing adventure! We feel like people can see the love and that positive energy we put out in our food... We feel that the PEACE Center parking lot would allow us to reach out to the people of Hastings from a clean and centralized location and give us the opportunity to continue to grow our dream."

Session is excited for this new partner and sees this as a ministry opportunity to continue to pursue our mission of **welcoming all** and seeking to **transform our community**. I want to thank the church for taking a chance 15 years ago by purchasing the old middle school annex, for investing in the property and the parking lot, and for the great work that has been done in turning the building and the parking lot into a vibrant community center and gathering space.

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Greg

*THANK YOU NOTE FROM OWNER OF BETO'S TACOS*

*Dear First Presbyterian Church:*

*I want to take this opportunity to say I am so grateful for the love, support, and all of your patience while I was starting my dream job, the Beto's Tacos food truck, in the PEACE Center parking lot. It was so difficult for me to leave the parking lot because I was so comfortable and your church community provided me with such love and care. It was a hard decision to leave, but I am excited to grow the business. Thank you to the Session and Trustees for your assistance. I will never forget your kindness and generosity. I consider the First Presbyterian Church congregation to be a part of my family now. God bless you all and God Bless America!*

*With Love,*

*Francisco Diaz from Beto's Tacos*

*CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

<b>Tuesday 4/25</b>	10-11am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	11:45am-1:15pm	Habitat for Humanity Meeting	Parlor
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	7-8pm	CCC Dog Obedience Class	PEACE NE Classroom
<b>Wednesday 4/26</b>	12-1pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a>
	5-7pm	Session and Confirmands Meet	Memorial Room
	5-6:45pm	PreK-5 <sup>th</sup> WNL	Various
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell room
<b>Thursday 4/27</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 4/28</b>	10-11am	Mahjong Ladies	Room 111
<b>Sunday 4/30</b>	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15-10:15am	Sunday School /Confirmation	Various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	Congregational Potluck	Fellowship Hall
	5-7pm	Jr High/Sr. High Youth Group	Various

<b>Monday 5/1</b>	1-3pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1-3pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 5/2</b>	10-11am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12-1pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30-7:30pm	WAM Meeting	Anderson Room
<b>Tuesday 5/2</b>	5:30pm	United Harvest Board Meeting	PEACE NW Classroom
	7-8pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
<b>Wednesday 5/3</b>	11-11:45am	PW Coord Team	Library
	11:45am	PW Program and Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a>
	5pm-6:45pm	PreK-5 <sup>th</sup> grade WNL	Various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
<b>Thursday 5/4</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 5/5</b>	10-11am	Mahjong Ladies	Room 111
	10:30am	Chapter G PEO	Fellowship Hall
<b>Sunday 5/7</b>		<b>Confirmation Sunday</b>	
	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am-10:15am	Sunday School/ Confirmation	Various
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	3-5pm	Hastings College Choir Concert	Sanctuary
	5pm	23-24 Confirmand Parent Meeting	Fellowship Hall
	5-7pm	Jr. High/Sr. High Youth Group	Various
	7:30pm	Hastings High School Concert	Sanctuary



# Stories of the Resurrected Jesus



WHY DO YOU LOOK FOR THE LIVING  
AMONG THE DEAD?

**Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh - Lydia Room**  
9:15 A.M. - April 23, 30, & May 7



## LONG SLEEVE SHIRT DRIVE



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.



**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/](http://fpchastings.org/vbs/)

## CLEANING OUT YOUR CLOSETS??



The First Presbyterian Church  
would love to receive your gently used  
winter coats for our coat drive that  
will be held in October.

Coats of all sizes are needed for  
Men, Women and Children.

(Adult XL and XXL are in high need)



Donations accepted now through October at  
these Hastings locations:

**First Presbyterian Church,  
Pershing Orthodontics.**

Thank you in advance!!



Labor with Love - A Heart to Care

## May Friendship Day Salad Luncheon

You're Invited.....All are Welcome

May 5, 2023 12pm Noon

Grace United Methodist Church  
1832 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Hastings  
402-463-1329

Tickets are available for \$8 each in the FPC Church Office.  
Hannah Jensen-Heitmann will be honored as our Outstanding  
Young Woman

Church Women United

Agreed to Differ, Resolved to Love, United to Serve



**April 30**  
**following 10:30**  
**worship service**

Congregation asked to bring food items based on  
the first letter of their last name:

**A-G** Salad or Veggie  
**H-M** Main Dish  
**N-Z** Dessert

### Organ Recital

Sarah Sutton, an organ and piano major at Hastings College, will be performing her organ recital at FPC. You are invited to attend. The recital is open to the public at no charge.

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

### May

Phyllis & Don O'Dey 5/27/1967  
Caroline & LeRoy Echternach 5/9/1969  
Nancy & Robert Grams 5/6/1972  
Lois & Charles Hafer 5/26/1973  
Jeanne & Chuck Hastings 5/18/1974  
Karen & Rich Portwood 5/24/1980  
Mary Kay & Jim LaMaster 5/14/1983  
Beth & Mark Funkey 5/20/1988  
Sarah & Christian Fruehling 5/28/1994  
Deborah & Jeremy Miles 5/19/2001  
Ashley & Riley Mullen 5/10/2003  
Mary & Dick Plock 5/24/2003  
Stephanie & Tyer Adam 5/19/2007  
Kris & Shawn Norris 5/2/2008  
Kathy & Jim Duval 5/29/2013  
Melissa & Ross Struss 5/24/2015



**Organ Recital**

*Sarah Sutton*

**April 30th, 2023 | 7:30pm**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
**621 N LINCOLN AVE**

SAI will be providing a reception afterwards

Presbyterian Women collect an offering in honor of and in memory of mothers. The offering this year will be split between “Our Little Angels” and “Threads of Grace”. We will be set up in the Memorial Room April 23 and 30 and May 7 and 14.

**Our Little Angels:** Our mission is to help families who have experienced infertility or loss during pregnancy & infancy. We donate care packages and provide financial assistance for counseling, medical & funeral expenses. We also offer monthly support groups, ongoing bereavement support & coordinate other services the family may need at this time such as cleaning, meal preparation, fundraisers, memorial registration & funeral planning. We offer our services to Hastings and the surrounding areas.

**+Threads of Grace:** Threads of Grace strives to relieve some of the stress for children transitioning to a new foster home or enCourage shelter and supply them with basic needs. Our goal is to provide five new outfits for each child. Threads of Grace will partner with retailers to purchase brand new clothing at a discount utilizing donated funds. Additionally, we hope to relieve the initial financial burden many foster families face within the first 24 hours of placement. Future aspirations are to assist local schools with children’s emergency needs. It is a nonprofit that serves children birth to 19 years of age who have been placed into foster care or have sought shelter with enCourage in Adams County

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## *Please pray for*

Shirley Maul  
Barry Thomson  
Stephen Gass  
Greg Howard  
Lisa Unger & family  
Jodi Graves & family  
Ashley Ibach  
Rhonda Sanford  
Vicki Howard  
Roberta Lloyd and family  
Reta & Lowell Johnson  
Carl Utley  
Denny Storer and family

Irina Belikova-Erickson  
Rich Portwood  
Shirley Gass  
Tarah Davis & family  
Brad Davis  
Elaine Schumacher  
Dave Schawang  
Renee Miller  
Don Rasmussen  
Audre Zaroban  
Merry Williams  
Ken Fisk

## **In memory of**

Jim Hahne, who passed  
away on 4/23/23





Lydia Meyer-2  
 Tim Johnson-3  
 Clyde Sachtleben-4  
 Jeremy Struss-4  
 Ginny Locke-4  
 Shannon Canady-5  
 Grady Hogan-5  
 Alexis Ahlers-5  
 Michael Boeve-5  
 William Oliver-5  
 Marnie Soderquist-8  
 Jake Stokely-10  
 Susie Pettit-11  
 Sarah Wolf-11  
 Rob Kerr-12  
 Eldon Rhodes-13  
 Jeremy Miles-13



Sara Babcock-15  
 Wihlma Price-16  
 Ashton Essink-17  
 Lily Kingsley-17  
 Chris Wissing-17  
 Vivienne Turner-17  
 Kim Borrell-17  
 Susan Oliver-17  
 Olivia Canady-18  
 Dawna Whitcomb-19  
 Avery Essink-21  
 Campbell Schukei-21  
 Bill Beck-21

Amanda Boyd-22  
 Gatlin Stokely-23  
 Callan Stokely-23  
 John Northrop-23  
 Chuck Hastings-23  
 Yvonne Ziemba-25  
 Gale McDonald-26  
 Lyla Adam-26  
 Dick Kleiber-27  
 Jackson Graves-27  
 Brooke Lofquist-27  
 Paula Crozier-28  
 Sarah Fruehling-28  
 Inde Wissing-29  
 Christian Fruehling-29  
 Paul Nuss-30  
 Brad Whitcomb-31

## May Ushers

**May (Team #3) Captain** – Dave Fisher, Andrew Barrows,  
 Phil Odom, Rich Portwood, Doug Soderquist

## May Greeters

MAY	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
7	Daveta & Dick Brader	Lynette & Paul Krieger
14	Kili & Justin Wenburg	Carolyn & Rich McKenzie
21	Connie & LaVern Franzen	Ginny & Will Locke
28	Dixie & Gale McDonald	Jane & Chuck Bauer



**HOSPITAL REMINDER** –Due to privacy regulations in place at the hospital, if you would like 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.

First Presbyterian Church

621 N. Lincoln Ave.

Hastings, NE 68901

402-462-5147

fpc@fpchastings.org

Return Service Requested

***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