



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

# Home Page Newsletter

## **A brief reflection on the Annual Congregational Meeting**

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! I hope this message finds you well and filled with the joy of the Spirit. I find myself filled with joy following our Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. The meeting reminded me of the unique spirit and tradition that characterizes our family of faith.

Presbyterians, as many of you know, are a bit quirky—we have our ways, our traditions, and our unique manner of doing things. We often jest that we like to do things "decently and in order," a phrase that captures the essence of our church's approach to governance and community life, and that was on full display on Sunday morning, along with a big dose of joy and a sense of accomplishment at all that God has done through our church over the past year.

At the heart of our gathering was the sacred duty of electing elders, deacons, and trustees to lead and serve our congregation in the year ahead. These individuals, chosen by the discernment of the nominating committee and the guidance of the Holy Spirit and elected by you, play vital roles in the leading our church, ministering to the needs of our members, and stewarding the resources entrusted to us. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who answered the call to serve in these capacities, recognizing the commitment and sacrifice inherent in their ministry.

Moreover, our congregational meeting served as a celebration—a celebration of all that we accomplished in 2023 and a hopeful look ahead to the opportunities ahead of us in 2024. Together, through the "State of the Church" address that I shared, we reflected on the ways in which God has blessed our community, guided our endeavors, and sustained us over the last year. From worship, music, education, and fellowship to mission, service, and outreach, our collective efforts bear witness to the transformative power of God's grace working within and through us. I also talked about the incredible generosity of our congregation through the sharing of your time, talent, and treasure and the success of both our annual budget and the capital campaign. Once again, thank you for your incredible generosity!

If you missed the meeting, but would like to watch it, you can watch it on YouTube here:

[https://youtu.be/UV-iWFR\\_46Q](https://youtu.be/UV-iWFR_46Q)

If you'd like a copy of our annual report, you can stop by the church office to pick up a paper copy or you can find it on our website at this link:

<https://fpchastings.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Annual-Report-2024-FINAL.pdf>

*Continued*

As we embark on this new year, let us hold fast to the values and principles that define us: faithfulness to Scripture, being grounded in tradition yet open to the movement of the Holy Spirit, and a deep commitment to the pursuit of justice and mercy. May we continue to walk together in love and unity, supporting one another and our church in our shared journey of faith as we bear the love and light of Christ in our church family, our community, and the world.

In closing, I would ask for your prayers for God's continued guidance and blessing upon our congregation in the year to come.

Your servant in Christ,

  
Pastor Greg

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## February Ushers and Greeters

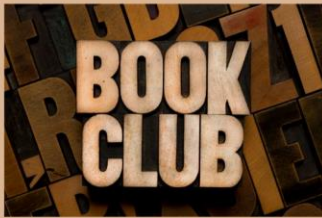
**February Ushers (Team #6)** Captain – Jim Harrenstein, Chanda Essink, Lynne Friedewald, Chuck Shoemaker

**February Greeters**

FEBRUARY	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
4	Jan Ham, Julie Thomsen	Susie Graham
11	Flossie Sanderson	Pat & Dick Kleiber
18	Dan Deffenbaugh	Kim Creech
25	Jane Foote, Mary Fisk	Bonnie & Kenton Grams



Imposition of Ashes Service  
Wednesday, February 14  
7pm  
First Presbyterian Church  
Sanctuary



## Harrington Noonday Book Club Group

The focus for the Harrington Noonday Book Group conversations will be *The Greatest Prayer: Rediscovering the Revolutionary Message of the Lord's Prayer* by John Dominic Crossan. We will resume our weekly meetings on Wednesday, January 17, with an introductory discussion of prayer in first-century Judaism and what Jesus would have known growing up.

Email [sbbrooks52@gmail.com](mailto:sbbrooks52@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.

### *Please pray for*

Brad Davis	Pam Canady
Elaine Schumacher	Ashley Ibach
Dave Schawang	Virginia Davis & family
Renee Miller	Carl Utley
John Northrop	Barry Thomson
Shirley Gass	Stephen Gass
Audre Zaroban & family	Greg Howard
Carter Johnson	Ken Fisk
Dave Johnson and family	Everest Beacon (Zabloudil)
Tarah Davis & family	Jim Boeve
Matt Campbell	Howard Mathews
June Nielsen	Paul Nuss
Vernon Groves	Vicki (Fisk) Nieves
Carol Medsker	Dana Odom
Frances Kamler	family of Roberta Lloyd
John Carllson	Bill Beck
Brent Brooks & family	Melissa Davis & family



### *In memory of*

Roberta Lloyd, who passed  
away on 12/8/23

## Calendar of Events

### January 28, 2024-February 4, 2024

<b>Sunday 1/28</b>	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am	Sunday School for all ages	Various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	Annual Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
<b>Monday 1/29</b>	1-3pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30-3:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 1/30</b>	10:15am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
<b>Wednesday 1/31</b>	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for the link
	1:30pm-3:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> WNL	various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
<b>Thursday 2/1</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	5:30pm	Youth Christian Ed. Meeting	Parlor
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 2/2</b>	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
<b>Sunday 2/4</b>		<b>Youth Sunday</b>	
	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am-10:15am	Sunday School for all ages	various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	11:30am	VBS Committee Meeting	Anderson Room
	11:30am	Go & Serve Informational Meeting	Lydia Room

## Calendar of Events

### February 5, 2024-February 11, 2024

<b>Monday 2/5</b>	1-3pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 2/6</b>	10:15am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	WAM Meeting	Anderson Room
<b>Wednesday 2/7</b>	11am	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> for link
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> WNL	Various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
<b>Thursday 2/8</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	5pm	Personnel Committee Meets	As needed
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 2/9</b>	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
	3pm	Jr. High Retreat	Kearney
<b>Saturday 2/10</b>	9am-1pm	Session Retreat	Anderson Room
<b>Sunday 2/11</b>	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
		No Sunday School	
	10am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Narthex
	3pm	Dr. Stephen Hamilton Organ Recital with Reception to follow	Sanctuary- Recital Reception- Fellowship Hall

# Adult Forum

Sundays @ 9:15 a.m.

Lydia Room

**February 18, February 25, March 3, March 17, and March 24:**

*How Israel Was Built, Part 2*

(Five Week Lenten Series)

Presenter: Dan Deffenbaugh

Dear Members and Friends of FPC:

Thank you for your generous gifts. Many of you are using your investments for the benefit of the church. Sometimes these checks come to the church without the contributor's name. Getting these gifts credited to the appropriate contributor is very important to me but without a name, it is very difficult. In an effort to keep our records correct, when you request your gift be sent to the church, please let myself or Melissa know that it is on its way.

Thank you.

Deb Hamburger

Finance Administrator

## **February Communion Offering Recipient Special Children's Fund**

Special Children's Fund Mission is to:

- Assure that every child is able to receive prompt medical treatment
- Reduce financial stress that families may experience during their child's medical crisis
- Prevent delays in medical care
- Promote family unity during times of medical stress



*Thank you!*



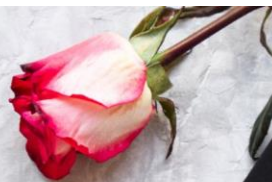
Congregational Life committee would like to thank everyone who stayed after worship to 'Hang the Greens' on Nov. 19th and also to those who helped 'Remove the Decor' on Jan. 7th. A special thanks to Bonnie Grams for organizing the decorations in Fellowship Hall and to Nancy Grams for decorating the tree in the Memorial Room. The committee would also like to give a shout out to the Junior and Senior High students for their work in bringing the decor up from the basement. Although it can seem like work, it is truly a joy to see the fellowship amongst our church family.

Thank you all!

## **College Scholarship Applications**

are available on  
the church website at  
<https://fpchastings.org/scholarships/>  
or  
in the Church Office

The application and essay are **due  
February 29, 2024**. Completed  
applications can be dropped off at the  
church office or emailed directly to  
[tim@redlinepharmacy.com](mailto:tim@redlinepharmacy.com).



## **HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Nytha Glass-1	Meredith Oliver-9	
Carole Storer-1	Doug Phelps-10	
Chanda Essink-2	Dick McClenahan-11	
George Adam-2	Jon Propp-12	
Katie Kingsley-3	Becky Meyer-12	
Nina Meyer-4	Hannah Hafer-13	Thomas Moore-22
Michelle Musgrave-5	Gayle Fandry-13	Ramona Shetler-22
Shirley Gass-6	Kathy Amyot-14	Janey Nottage-Tacey-23
George Howard-6	Rachel Guiai-14	Tyler Koepp-23
Pam Canady-6	Mary Plock-14	Harvey Freetly-24
C. L. Wimer-6	Larry Stromer-16	Sharon Steenbarger-24
Riley Mullen-6	BJ Pumroy-17	Dana Odom-25
Justin Brader-7	Keaton Redline-17	Patti Deveny-26
JoAnn Williams-8	Luca Hultman-18	Brent Brooks-26
Ben Welsch-9	Dacia Hultman-21	Brett Epperson-27

## **HAPPY FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

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

AT THE MIGHTY AUSTIN ORGAN  
First Presbyterian Church  
Presents

# Dr. Stephen Hamilton

Dr. Stephen Hamilton is a touring concert organist and much sought-after virtuoso. His international touring includes concerts in Paris, London, Oxford, Edinburgh, Regensburg and Rome. He also has presented numerous recitals throughout the United States. Hamilton is Minister of Music Emeritus at Church of the Holy Trinity in New York City. He currently makes his home in Minneapolis where he serves as Director of Music and Organist at Olivet Congregational Church in St. Paul.



This organ concert is made possible through the generosity of the late Luella Langenberg. In 2001, through her bequest, Mrs. Langenberg established a fund to support the special music ministries of First Presbyterian Church of Hastings. We are grateful for Luella Langenberg's enduring legacy.

Sunday,  
February 11, 2024  
3 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church  
621 N. Lincoln Ave.  
Hastings, NE

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:** Dr. 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