



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

# Home Page Newsletter

### Join us on our Holy Week journey!

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

During the announcements at worship on Palm Sunday, I said that Holy Week is like our March Madness and Super Bowl weekend all rolled into one. I don't use sports analogies very often, but this one is pretty accurate. In the liturgical year, the events and worship services during Holy Week represent both the foundation and pinnacle of our faith.

An Episcopal priest from Florida, Rev. Tim Schenck, wrote this:

*When you hear clergy strongly encouraging you to attend the services of Holy Week, especially the Great Three Days (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil), it's not just because they like to see more people in the pews, or it's good for their egos, or they want parishioners to see how much effort goes into these liturgies.*

*It's because they believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the transforming power of the Christian faith. It's because they love you and want nothing more than for you to have such a moving encounter with our Lord, that it will change your life. It's an invitation rooted in profound love, and a recognition that there is literally nothing more important in the entire world than to participate fully as we collectively journey from the Upper Room to Calvary to the Empty Tomb.*

With that introduction, I want to personally invite you to our Holy Week services. Below I briefly describe why we hold these services and what happens at them:

**Maundy Thursday 3/28:** In the gospel of John, Jesus says, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another like I have loved you." The Latin word for commandment is "maundy," so we have the chance to embody the commandment of Jesus to love one another. At this service we will remember the night that Jesus was betrayed and arrested, and participate in communion and an optional footwashing ritual as a tangible sign of love for others. This service is at 7pm in the sanctuary and includes our choir.

*Continued*

**Good Friday 3/29:** Despite the terrible crucifixion of Christ that we remember at this service, this day has been called Good Friday because it leads to the resurrection of Jesus and his victory over death and sin and the celebration of Easter. We will have a candlelit service where we extinguish the candles while we read the story of Jesus trial and death. This is a contemplative service with simple music that is at 7pm in the sanctuary.

**Prayer Vigil 3/29-3/31:** We hold a prayer vigil from the conclusion of our Good Friday Service until Easter Morning, commemorating the time that Jesus lay in the tomb. In prayer we come before God to acknowledge that we are the body of Christ, to pray for ourselves, our community, and our world, and to ask for God's guidance and presence. You are invited to sign up for one hour time slots to come into the Chapel to pray or to participate from home. There will be prayer stations set up in the Chapel to use during the Vigil including prayers collected from our church members during our prayer calling on Monday of Holy Week. The Vigil is open to anyone in our family of faith who is willing to commit one hour to intentional prayer during the weekend of Easter. You can sign up for our prayer vigil by calling the church office or clicking on this link: <https://bit.ly/FPCVigil>

**Easter Sunday:** Join us on Easter morning at 8:30am or 10:30am for a joyful celebration of the resurrection of Christ! Our Easter services include special music from our Choir, Bell Choir, Organist, and the Cathedral Brass. The special music is used to triumphantly proclaim our hope as resurrection people! At this service we will read the story of the empty tomb and we will reflect on the word "Hallelujah" and the image of the butterfly as a symbol of our new life in the risen Christ. Please join us and we encourage you to invite your family, neighbors, and friends.

I hope and pray that Holy Week is a meaningful time of contemplation, reflection, and worship for all of you as we prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate the glorious resurrection of Jesus on easter morning!

Your servant in Christ,



Pastor Greg

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## **Easter Ushers and Greeters**

### **EASTER USHERS**

8:30 a.m.- Julie Thomsen, Duane Huber, Melissa Davis

10:30 a.m.- (Team #1) Captain- Chuck Hastings, Elaine Specht, Danna & Steve Wolford,  
Kim Creech

### **EASTER GREETERS**

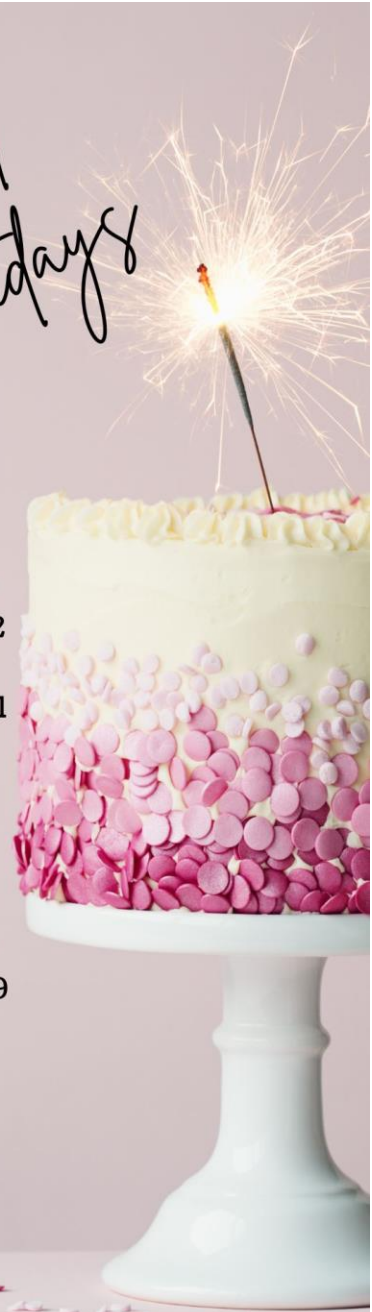
8:30 a.m.- Cathy & John Pershing (Memorial Room), Melissa Davis (Narthex)

10:30 a.m.- Jan Bolliger (Memorial Room), Melissa Davis (Narthex)

Jacob Shin 4/3  
 Brett Erickson 4/3  
 Wendy Propp 4/4  
 Will Locke 4/6  
 Andrea Franzen 4/6  
 Norma Saathoff 4/6  
 Ruth Swingle 4/6  
 Kevin Turner 4/6  
 Kenton Grams 4/6  
 Michael Brooks 4/7  
 Barb Harrington 4/8  
 Doug Ourada 4/8  
 Irina Belikova-Erickson 4/8  
 Launa Epp 4/9  
 Anne Halbert 4/9  
 Dennis McPherson 4/9  
 Cathy Pershing 4/9  
 John Pershing 4/9  
 Mattie Eddleman 4/11  
 Carol Medsker 4/12  
 Sarah Nottage-Tacey 4/12  
 William Hermes 4/13  
 Kevin Junker 4/13  
 Marty Hoch 4/14  
 Monroe Runcie 4/15  
 Harold Korb 4/15  
 Collin Hermes 4/16  
 Jaxen Mitchell 4/17  
 Doodle Harris 4/17  
 Evelyn Smidt 4/18  
 Belinda Nuss 4/20

Robert Grams 4/20  
 Kenny Graham 4/22  
 Jenni Bauer 4/22  
 Kathy Warriner 4/21  
 Norah Snell 4/24  
 Elaine Specht 4/26  
 Brett Miller 4/26  
 Thomas Kerr 4/27  
 Curtis Reimer 4/27  
 Dave Johnson 4/27  
 Kristan Manske 4/29  
 Julia Reimer 4/30

April Birthdays



## April Anniversaries

**Marcia & Mike Hogan 4/2/1983**  
**Jodi & Danny Graves 4/6/2002**  
**Belinda & Paul Nuss 4/8/1978**  
**Tammy & Todd Lay 4/11/1987**  
**Judy & Marty Hoch 4/21/1979**  
**Vera & Dan Zabloudil 4/21/1973**  
**Mary & Jorn Olsen 4/26/1975**  
**Colleen & George Adam 4/26/1975**  
**Sandra & Dave Dirks 4/29/1989**





# Easter Prayer Vigil



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2024

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

<https://bit.ly/FPCVigil>



## Good Friday, 8 p.m. 3/29 through Easter Morning, 8 a.m. 3/31

We will hold our annual prayer vigil from the conclusion of our Good Friday Service until Easter Morning. You are invited to sign up for one hour time slots to come into the Chapel to pray or to participate from home. There will be prayer stations set up in the Chapel to use during the Vigil. The Vigil is open to anyone in our family of faith who is willing to commit one hour to intentional prayer during the weekend of Easter. In prayer we come before God to acknowledge that we are the body of Christ, to pray for ourselves, our community, and our world, and to ask for God's guidance and presence.

# Holy Week Schedule



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

Radio broadcast KICS 1550 AM and 92.7 FM

## Palm Sunday, March 24

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, March 28

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

## Good Friday, March 29

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

## Easter Sunday, March 31

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

# Ushers

We are in need of Ushers for the 8:30 a.m. service on Easter Sunday. Please let Melissa know if you are able to help out. (402-462-5147 or [melissa@fpchastings.org](mailto:melissa@fpchastings.org))

Thank You



## April Ushers and Greeters

**April Ushers (Team #2)** Captain – Duane Huber, Steve Illingworth, Daveta Brader, Lois Hafer, Dick Brader

APRIL GREETERS	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
7	Gifts of Women Sunday	Gifts of Women Sunday
14	Julie Thomsen	Melissa Davis
21	Kay Georgiana, Jan Ham	Cathy & John Pershing
28	Lynne Friedewald & Chuck Shoemaker	Jill Kramer

## April Communion Offering

### One Great Hour of Sharing

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

## Benefit Recital for Hastings Community Music Academy

Sponsored by  
Sigma Alpha Iota  
from Hastings College

Friday, April 5th  
6:30 pm  
First Presbyterian Church

<b>Tuesday 3/26</b>	10:15am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm-6pm	Red Cross Bloodmobile	Fellowship Hall
	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity	TBD
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	7-8pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
<b>Wednesday 3/27</b>	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5pm-7:15pm	PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade WNL	Various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
<b>Thursday 3/28</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
	7pm	Maundy Thursday Service	Sanctuary
<b>Friday 3/29</b>	10am	Mahjong	Fellowship Hall
	7pm	Good Friday Service	Sanctuary
	8pm-12am	Easter Prayer Vigil Begins	
<b>Saturday 3/30</b>	12am-12am	Easter Prayer Vigil	

## Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher	Pam Canady
Dave Schawang	Ashley Ibach
John Northrop	Carl Utley
Audre Zaroban & family	Barry Thomson
Carter Johnson	Greg Howard
Dave Johnson and family	Ken Fisk
Tarah Davis & family	Everest Beacon (Zabloudil)
Matt Campbell	Jim Boeve
June Nielsen	Howard Mathews
Vernon Groves	Paul Nuss
Carol Medsker	Vicki (Fisk) Nieves
Frances Kamler	Dana Odom
Brent Brooks & family	family of Don Canady
family of Dave Stewart	Bill Beck
family of Dean Meyer	Jill Kramer (death of her brother)
Katharine Davis	

## In memory of

Dave Stewart, who passed away on 1/30/24  
Dean Meyer, who passed away on 2/16/24  
Don Canady, who passed away on 3/16/24



<b>Sunday 3/31</b>	12am-8am	Easter Prayer Vigil	
	8:30am	Easter Service	Sanctuary
		No Sunday School	
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Easter Service	Sanctuary
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
<b>Monday 4/1</b>		Church Office Closed- Easter Monday	
		Langenberg Scholarship Applications Due	
	1-3pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5:30pm	Global Mission Committee	PEACE NW Classroom
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 4/2</b>	10:15am	Staff Meeting	in person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	6-7:30pm	WAM Meeting	Anderson Room
	7-8pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
<b>Wednesday 4/3</b>	11-11:45am	PW Coord Team	Parlor
	11:45am	PW Program and Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade WNL	Various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
<b>Thursday 4/4</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	5:30pm	Christian Ed Committee	Parlor
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 4/5</b>	10am-12pm	Mahjong	Fellowship Hall
	6:30pm	HCMA Benefit Recital	Sanctuary
<b>Sunday 4/7</b>		Gifts of Women Sunday	
	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am	Sunday School for all ages	various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary/Radio/Facebook
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library



**The Church Office will be Closed on  
Monday, April 1st.**

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