



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

# Home Page Newsletter

### Reflecting on Servant Leadership

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

I serve on the Hastings College Board of Trustees. I am often invited to open our Board of Trustees meetings with a brief reflection and prayer. We had a meeting this week, and I decided to offer a reflection on “servant leadership.” While I wrote this reflection and prayer for the Board Meeting, I think it is relevant for all of us. Each of us has the opportunity to be a leader in some capacity whether that is in our family, our work, as a volunteer, in the community, or in the church. I hope these words can provide us all insight on our call to serve as Christ. Below is the reflection that I shared at the meeting followed by a prayer:

In January, February, and March, our church did a deep dive into the gospel of Mark. A pattern emerged as we read the stories of Jesus’ ministry. Jesus taught that true greatness comes from serving others first. In Mark 9, Jesus said, *‘Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.’* And then in Mark 10, Jesus doubles down saying, *‘...Whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve...’*

Over and over again, Jesus reminded his disciples that true greatness comes in service to others. He modeled that servant leadership throughout his earthly ministry, caring for others, teaching through his words and his deeds, and even washing the feet of his disciples. These days, many self-professed leaders can get caught in the trap of serving only themselves; they use power for their own benefit. But Jesus went against the grain, he emphasized that leaders should focus first on meeting the needs of their people and empowering others. That is a somewhat counter-cultural model of leadership, but one I think we are all familiar with.

True leadership requires setting an example. You do this by living out the behavior you wish to see in others. Following Jesus’ example, the early Christian leaders, like the apostle Paul, showed the way in their faith and conduct. Today’s leaders, whether religious or secular, can only earn credibility when they model integrity and values, and seek to serve others. You won’t get others to do something simply by telling them to do it. You need to demonstrate it.

*Continued*

In this way, you'll be walking the talk instead of just repeating empty phrases. Paul did that beautifully for the church in Philippi. He helped plant the church and modeled servant leadership for them while he was there with them. Then he left and a few years later he wrote a letter back to the church, from a prison cell. Let's read a short section of that letter from Philippians 2 and then share a prayer. Listen for how Paul is modeling servant leadership in these words:

Philippians 2:1-4

*Therefore, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort in love, any sharing in the Spirit, any sympathy, complete my joy by thinking the same way, having the same love, being united, and agreeing with each other. Don't do anything for selfish purposes, but with humility think of others as better than yourselves. Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others.*

Let us pray.

Gracious and loving God:

Grant us the wisdom to lead with vision and the humility to embody servant leadership in all our endeavors. In the spirit of service, we reflect upon the timeless words of Jesus and Paul which implore us to be grounded in joy, love, and unity. May we emulate the selflessness and humility demonstrated in these verses as we navigate the path ahead.

May we be ever mindful of those who have come before us. We are standing on the shoulders of giants and we are stewarding the resources of many generations of generous and faithful supporters. Guide our hearts and minds to serve with unwavering dedication, recognizing that true leadership is found in the willingness to serve others. May our actions be a testament to the transformative power of servant leadership, inspiring others to follow in the footsteps of humility and grace.

May your guiding light illuminate our path, empowering us to fulfill our collective mission with integrity, compassion, and unwavering dedication. In your holy and loving name, we pray. Amen.

Your servant in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Greg". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name "Pastor Greg".

Pastor Greg

# May Communion Offering

## Open Table

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### April Ushers and Greeters

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

| APRIL GREETERS | MEMORIAL ROOM                      | NARTHEX     |
|----------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>28</b>      | Lynne Friedewald & Chuck Shoemaker | Jill Kramer |

### May Ushers and Greeters

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

| MAY GREETERS              | MEMORIAL ROOM         | NARTHEX                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>5</b>                  | Daveta & Dick Brader  | Lynette & Paul Krieger  |
| <b>12</b>                 | Kili & Justin Wenburg | Carolyn & Rich McKenzie |
| <b>Chautauqua Park 19</b> | Ginny & Will Locke    | Volunteers Needed       |
| <b>26</b>                 | Dixie & Gale McDonald | Jane & Chuck Bauer      |



**Happy Birthday!**  
*May*

|                     |                     |                        |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Lydia Meyer-2       |                     | Bill Beck-21           |
| Tim Johnson-3       |                     | Amanda Boyd-22         |
| Clyde Sachtleben-4  |                     | Gatlin Stokely-23      |
| Jeremy Struss-4     |                     | Callan Stokely-23      |
| Ginny Locke-4       |                     | John Northrop-23       |
| Shannon Canady-5    |                     | Chuck Hastings-23      |
| Grady Hogan-5       |                     | Yvonne Ziemba-25       |
| Alexis Ahlers-5     |                     | Gale McDonald-26       |
| Michael Boeve-5     |                     | Lyla Adam-26           |
| William Oliver-5    |                     | Dick Kleiber-27        |
| Marnie Soderquist-8 |                     | Jackson Graves-27      |
| Jake Stokely-10     |                     | Brooke Lofquist-27     |
| Susie Pettit-11     |                     | Paula Crozier-28       |
| Sarah Wolf-11       |                     | Sarah Fruehling-28     |
| Rob Kerr-12         |                     | Inde Wissing-29        |
| Eldon Rhodes-13     |                     | Christian Fruehling-29 |
| Jeremy Miles-13     |                     | Paul Nuss-30           |
| Sara Babcock-15     |                     | Brad Whitcomb-31       |
|                     | Hal Overmiller-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 |                        |



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## PW Mother's Day Offering

Every year for Mother's Day, the Presbyterian Women ask for donations for a special group in honor of, or in memory of all our mothers. This year we are donating to the Morrison Cancer Center from the Heart Fund. This will be for the Hastings office. It is only used for patients for things like gas, groceries, medication co-pays, utilities, and overnight stays.

We will be at a table in Memorial Room April 21, April 28, May, 5, and May 12, to take your donations. Or you may send a donation to the church addressed to the Presbyterian Women. Checks should be written to Presbyterian Women.

We thank you in advance for all of your donations.

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CHURCH WOMEN UNITED, INC.  
CWU Celebrations 2024  
May Friendship Day

What Does the Lord Require of CW-You?  
Celebrations 2024 Theme Scripture  
"... the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he  
requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk  
humbly with your God." Micah 6:8 (NLT)

**LOVE MERCY**  
May Friendship Day 2024  
Matthew 5:7

**"Love Mercy"**

Church Women United invites you to attend  
**May Friendship Day Salad Luncheon**  
Friday, May 3, 2024 12pm, Noon Tickets \$8  
at First United Methodist Church

**HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY**

**May**

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



THE MISSION COMMITTEE IS COLLECTING  
LONG-SLEEVED 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.



Register for Vacation Bible School on  
our website: [www.fpchastings.org](http://www.fpchastings.org)



Save the Date for the Inaugural Sachtleben-Throckmorton  
Faith & Science Symposium!

Come to an adult ed class, hear a sermon, and participate in an exciting lecture about the complementary relationship between faith and science. Our guest speaker, Rev. Dr. Robert von Treba has a PhD in organic chemistry and a number of patents, and he now serves as a pastor in the United Church of Christ. He will share his own journey that led him to careers in both science and the church, and will talk about how God has woven together faith and science in beautiful and creative ways in our lives and the world.

Schedule for Sunday, 4/28:  
Adult Ed Forum: 9:15 a.m.  
Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Lecture: 3:00 p.m.



|                       |  |                                  |   |
|-----------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Tuesday 4/23</b>   | 10:15am                                  | Staff Meeting                    | In-person   |
|                       | 11:45am                                  | Habitat for Humanity Board       | Parlor  |
|                       | 12pm                                     | Bible Study                      | Anderson Room   |
|                       | 6:30pm                                   | HCMA Community Bells             | Bell Room   |
|                       | 7-8pm                                    | CCC Dog Obedience                | PEACE NE Classroom  |
| <b>Wednesday 4/24</b> | 12pm-1pm                                 | 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> Grade WNL  | Various   |
|                       | 5pm- Dinner<br>5:30pm-<br>Meeting Begins | Session Meeting with Confirmands | Fellowship Hall   |
|                       | 6:30pm                                   | Woodcarvers                      | Basement  |
|                       | 6:45pm                                   | Chancel Choir                    | Choir Room  |
|                       | 7:30pm                                   | Chancel Bells                    | Basement  |
| <b>Thursday 4/25</b>  | 12:30pm                                  | Dulcimer                         | Lydia Room  |
|                       | 6-8pm                                    | Mexican Folkloric Dance          | PEACE NE Classroom  |
|                       | 7-8pm                                    | Cub Scouts                       | Scout Room  |
| <b>Friday 4/26</b>    | 10am-12pm                                | Mahjong Ladies                   | Fellowship Hall   |

## Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher  
 Dave Schawang  
 John Northrop  
 Audre Zaroban & family  
 Carter Johnson  
 Sarah Snell and family  
 Tarah Davis & family  
 Matt Campbell  
 June Nielsen  
 Vernon Groves  
 Carol Medsker  
 Frances Kamler  
 Brent Brooks & family  
 Katharine Davis  
 Pam Canady

Ashley Ibach  
 Carl Utley  
 Barry Thomson  
 Greg Howard  
 Ken Fisk  
 Marcia Hogan & family  
 Everest Beacon (Zabloudil)  
 Jim Boeve  
 Howard Mathews  
 Paul Nuss  
 Vicki (Fisk) Nieves  
 Dana Odom  
 family of Don Canady  
 Bill Beck  
 Jill Kramer(death of her brother)

## In memory of

Don Canady, who passed  
 away on 3/16/24

|                      |             |   |   |
|----------------------|-------------|---|---|
| <b>Sunday 4/28</b>   | 8:30am      | Contemplative Worship                                       | Chapel  |
|                      | 9:15am      | Sunday School for all ages                                  | Various   |
|                      | 10am        | HAW Store Open  | Library   |
|                      | 10:30am     | Traditional Worship Service                                 | Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio  |
|                      | 11:30am     | Potluck   | Fellowship Hall   |
|                      | 11:30am     | HAW Store Open  | Library   |
|                      | 3pm         | Sachtleben-Throckmorton Faith and Science Symposium Lecture | Sanctuary   |
| <b>Monday 4/29</b>   | 1-3pm       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball                             | PEACE Gym   |
|                      | 1:30pm      | Quilters  | PEACE Quilting Room   |
|                      | 6pm         | Mexican Folkloric Dance                                     | PEACE NE Classroom  |
|                      | 7-9pm       | Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal                              | Choir Room  |
| <b>Tuesday 4/30</b>  | 10:15am     | Staff Meeting   | In-person   |
|                      | 12pm        | Bible Study   | Anderson Room   |
|                      | 6:30-7:15pm | HCMA Community Bells  | Bell Room   |
| <b>Wednesday 5/1</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 |
|                      | 1:30pm      | Quilters  | PEACE Quilting Room   |
|                      | 5-7:15pm    | PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade WNL                             | Various   |
|                      | 5:30pm      | New Members Class   | Anderson Room   |
|                      | 6:30pm      | Woodcarvers   | Basement  |
|                      | 6:45pm      | Chancel Choir   | Choir Room  |
|                      | 7:30pm      | Chancel Bells   | Bell Room   |
| <b>Thursday 5/2</b>  | 12:30pm     | Dulcimer  | Lydia Room  |
|                      | 6-8pm       | Mexican Folkloric Dance                                     | PEACE NE Classroom  |
|                      | 7-8pm       | Cub Scouts  | Scout Room  |
| <b>Friday 5/3</b>    | 10am        | Mahjong Ladies  | Fellowship Hall   |
| <b>Sunday 5/5</b>    |             | <b>Confirmation Sunday</b>                                  |   |
|                      | 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, Facebook, Radio  |
|                      | 11:30am     | HAW Store Open  | Library   |



# Christian Ed Summer Events

JUNE-  
JULY  
**THURSDAYS**

3 PM - 5 PM  
Youth Group  
Game time @ FPC

JUNE  
**2**

5 PM - 7 PM  
Movie Club  
@ FPC

JUNE  
**24-27**

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM  
Camp Firelight  
VBS

JUNE  
**28**

7 PM - 9 PM  
FPC Waterpark  
Night

JULY  
**7**

5 PM - 7 PM  
Movie Club  
@ FPC

JULY AUG  
**27 - 3**

Sr High  
Go & Serve

AUG  
**4**

5 PM - 7 PM  
Movie Club  
@ FPC

AUG  
**9**

8 AM - 6 PM  
Jr High Zoo Trip

AUG  
**25**

9:15 AM - 10:15 AM  
Sunday School  
Kickoff

@reallygreatsite

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