



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 black ink and is positioned above the printed name "Pastor Greg".

Pastor Greg

May Communion Offering

Open Table

April Ushers and Greeters

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

APRIL GREETERS	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
28	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
5	Daveta & Dick Brader	Lynette & Paul Krieger
12	Kili & Justin Wenburg	Carolyn & Rich McKenzie
Chautauqua Park 19	Ginny & Will Locke	Volunteers Needed
26	Dixie & Gale McDonald	Jane & Chuck Bauer



FPC
POTLUCK

April 28
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



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	

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.



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



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.

Tuesday 4/23	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
Wednesday 4/24	12pm-1pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 th Grade WNL	Various
	5pm- Dinner 5:30pm- Meeting Begins	Session Meeting with Confirmands	Fellowship Hall
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Basement
Thursday 4/25	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 4/26	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

Sunday 4/28	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
Monday 4/29	1-3pm	1 st 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
Tuesday 4/30	10:15am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	6:30-7:15pm	HCMA Community Bells	Bell Room
Wednesday 5/1	11-11:45am	PW Coord Team	Parlor
	11:45am	PW Program and Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 th 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
Thursday 5/2	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 5/3	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Fellowship Hall
Sunday 5/5		Confirmation 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, 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 Koepf

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