



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

# Home Page Newsletter

Reflecting on the Trinity...

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

On Sunday, May 26, we celebrated “Trinity Sunday” at First Presbyterian Church. On Trinity Sunday we proclaim the mystery of our faith in the triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, One-in-Three and Three-in-One. The celebration of Trinity Sunday began among Western Christians in the 10th century and developed slowly until it was formally established on the Sunday after Pentecost by Pope John XXII (1316-1334).

The Holy Trinity is a core doctrine of the Christian Faith, the triune God is the basis of all we are and do as Christians. In the name of this triune God, we are baptized, which was why we read the Great Commission in Matthew 28 where Jesus tells us to baptize, “In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.” As the baptized ones we bear the name and image of the triune God in our very being; we are of the family of the triune God. We affirm this whenever we recite the creeds and say what we believe. Our discipleship is rooted in the mighty acts of our triune God who created us, saved us, and is still active in redeeming the world. The Trinity holds a central place in our faith, and yet it can also be very confusing.

Our Director of Christian Education, Rose Koepp, and I recorded a podcast where we reflected on the doctrine of the Trinity. You can watch that podcast on YouTube by clicking on this link: <https://youtu.be/KXCvVQW14Fc> During the podcast, we talked about how God is infinite, and our human language is finite, so anything we say about God and the Trinity will never be complete. Every attempt that we make to describe the Trinity will eventually fall short because we don't have the language to fully explain a divine mystery, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't talk about and reflect on these things.

Rose used the concept of H<sub>2</sub>O in her message to the children on Sunday, and the three states of water: solid, liquid, and gas. Each state of water can help us when we need it for different things. If we have an injury, ice can numb the pain and reduce the swelling. If we are thirsty, we take a drink of liquid water. If we are cold, we can use steam in radiators to warm our house or use steam to make hot coffee. Ice is not water or steam; water is not steam or ice; steam is not ice or water, but they are all H<sub>2</sub>O. This is a great way to begin to think about the Trinity, at its core it is here to help us. A member of our church who has been a Sunday School teacher for many years, Jill Kramer, went home after worship and took this a step further, ascribing different states of H<sub>2</sub>O to different aspects of each person of the Trinity as a way to explain this to children. Take a look:

Continued

**Water – God – Creator:** What does water come from? God, who gathered the waters and created the seas.

**Ice – Jesus – Son:** Ice is solid and can be touched, felt, and seen. Jesus, as the incarnation of God was fully human and walked the earth. He could be touched, felt, and seen.

**Steam – Holy Spirit:** Steam requires heat. On the day of Pentecost, tongues of fire hovered over the disciples and they were filled with the Holy Spirit in Acts 2.



I love the creativity that Jill came up with to think about the Holy Trinity. It provides a unique way to try to explain a theoretical theological concept to concrete thinkers. We are so blessed to have staff and volunteers that help us learn and grow in our faith journey.

As I mentioned in my sermon, the key takeaway from the mystery of the Holy Trinity is that God models Christian community for us in God’s very nature, and God desires for us to live in Christian community. In the context of that community, we can love and be loved by God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and we can learn to love each other well. So even if you can’t explain or fully comprehend the Trinity, know that you are designed to live in a loving community. And I am grateful for the community that is our First Presbyterian Church family of faith.

Your Servant in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Pastor Greg".

Pastor Greg

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## June Ushers and Greeters

**June (Team #4) Captain –** George Howard, Susie Graham, Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald

JUNE GREETERS	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
9	May & Ira Wierenga	Kim Hermann
16	Brent & Erica Brooks	John & Linda Carllson
23	Andrew Barrows	Karen & Roger Doerr
30	Carol & Jim Harrenstein	Vonda Essex, Melissa Davis



## Presbyterian Women Father's Day Offering

Presbyterian Women will be collecting a Father's Day Offering. We will be set up in the Memorial Room on Sundays, June 9, and June 16 to take donations. You may donate in honor of a father or in memory of a father. Proceeds will go to Living Waters for the World.

Living Waters for the World (LWW) **trains volunteers** to establish and lead water mission teams that partner with communities to **implement and operate** sustainable water purification systems and health education programs.

[LWW Networks](#) come alongside water teams and partners throughout every phase of a water project. They provide essential support for **sustainable** water systems that produce **clean water for a generation**.

Volunteers are the heart and soul of Living Waters for the World. Unlike organizations that rely on paid staff to initiate and execute water projects, Living Waters for the World relies on volunteer teams trained by volunteer instructors working within volunteer-led networks. LWW's small staff of 3 full-time and 3 part-time employees exists to facilitate the activity and long-term impact of this volunteer force.

Over 2,000 individuals have trained at [Clean Water U](#), and they have engaged an estimated 10,000+ volunteers as members of LWW water teams. Volunteers have also guided the establishment of international networks, the development of Clean Water U's curriculum, and much more!

Volunteers have made LWW what it is today and will play an integral role in ensuring clean water for generation in the communities LWW serves.

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## Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher	Ashley Ibach
Dave Schawang	Carl Utley
John Northrop	Barry Thomson
Carter Johnson	Greg Howard
Sarah Snell and family	Ken Fisk
Tarah Davis & family	Marcia Hogan & family
Matt Campbell	Everest Beacon (Zabloudil)
June Nielsen	Jim Boeve
Vernon Groves	Howard Mathews
Carol Medsker	Vicki (Fisk) Nieves
Frances Kamler	Dana Odom
Jeni Howard	family of Don Canady
Katharine Davis	Bill Beck
Pam Canady	Kathy Amyot
family of Shirley Gass	Monte Malouf

Candice Unger  
David Hauch

## In memory of

Shirley Gass, who passed  
away on 5/7/24





### Relay For Life

Relay for Life has been a way for our church family to remember loved ones we have lost to cancer and to honor those who have survived. At the same time we support the American Cancer Society.

Luminaries can be purchased by filling out a form and submitting it with your donation (\$10 each) to our First Presbyterian Church team through our church office or to our team captain, Susie Graham. (402) 469-2638. Please make checks payable to American Cancer Society.

Luminaries will be displayed in our Sanctuary in early June and at the Relay for Life in Kearney at Harmon Park on June 7. Thank you.

American Cancer Society  
Relay for Life of Central Nebraska

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like \_\_\_\_\_ luminaries at \$10 each.

Name of Individual being honored or remembered	In Honor	In Memory	Donation
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<b>Tuesday 6/4</b>	10:15am	NO Staff Meeting	
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	6-7:30pm	WAM Meeting	Anderson Room
<b>Wednesday 6/5</b>	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
<b>Thursday 6/6</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	3-5pm	Youth Group Game Time	TBD
	5:30pm	Global Mission Committee	PEACE NW Classroom
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 6/7</b>	10am	Mahjong	Fellowship Hall

FPC PRESENTS  
**ELEMENTARY MOVIE CLUB**  
**5-7PM**

In-coming Kindergarteners - 5th graders are invited to join us for a monthly movie showing and related Bible lesson.




FREE EVENT

**JUNE 2**

**JULY 7**

**AUG 4**

**PIZZA AND POPCORN WILL BE PROVIDED**

THIS EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

FOR QUESTIONS, CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (402) 462-5147



## JOIN US THIS SUMMER: CAMP FIRELIGHT VBS!

Join us this June for a summer camp experience right in our back yard! Camp Firelight Vacation Bible School is based on Psalm 56:3: "Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you" which reminds us that we can trust God no matter what challenges we face! At Camp Firelight campers will learn and grow through a variety of traditional camp activities. We can't wait to meet you around the campfire!

Register Today!





**June 24-27,  
2024**

**8:30-11:30am**

<b>Sunday 6/9</b>	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	In-person, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
<b>Monday 6/10</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	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 6/11</b>	10:15am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Congregational Life meets	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Trustees meet	Confirmation Room
	6:45pm	Deacons meet	Anderson Room
<b>Wednesday 6/12</b>	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
<b>Thursday 6/13</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	3-5pm	Youth Group Game Time	TBD
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 6/14</b>	10am	Mahjong	Fellowship Hall
<b>Saturday 6/15</b>		United Harvest	
<b>Sunday 6/16</b>	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	In-person, Radio, Facebook
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library

United Harvest Mobile Food Pantry is a joint ministry with First Presbyterian Church & First United Methodist Church. We provide a food distribution to 400+ families.



- If you need food, please come at the time indicated based on the first letter of your last name.
- If you would like to volunteer for this distribution, please come to the church at 9:30am to help us with the distribution.

June 15, 2024		
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
A, B	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM



Damen and Rose invite you to

# Youth Group Summer Meet-ups

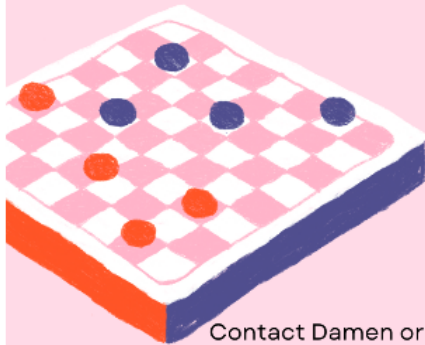
*Games, snacks, and fellowship!*



Every Thursday in June and July, join us at the church for some fun time together!

**3 pm - 5 pm**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**Need a ride? Let us know. We can help coordinate that!**

Contact Damen or Rose if you have questions:  
damen@fpchastings.org rose@fpchastings.org

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH INVITES YOU TO

# WATERPARK NIGHT

**Fri. JUNE 28 7-9 PM**

**HASTINGS AQUACOURT**

The church has reserved the waterpark from 7-9pm. Bring your family and friends to a fun evening at the pool!

This event is **FREE** to ALL!

## June Communion Offering



Calvin Crest sits on 250 acres of rolling hills and bluffs overlooking the beautiful Platte River Valley just outside of Fremont, Nebraska. It is a perfect place to host a retreat. With great facilities that meet the needs of adults and families to engaging activities for the kids, Calvin Crest is a place that many groups call home.

Our programming is tailored to maximize the focus of the retreat or event. And whether that is scrap booking or spiritual disciplines, a youth retreat or a senior adult event, we'll provide opportunities for you to learn and grow while developing those relationships that are essential to our well-being.

During our summer camp programming, we offer a family-like atmosphere. We focus on small groups working on developing the skills necessary to succeed in life and faith. Campers spend time in small cabin groups as well and eat family-style to help develop communication and social skills. Carefully chosen college-aged youth provide direct supervision and mentoring. Adult volunteers with backgrounds in Christian Education provide overall spiritual guidance. Come and enjoy the Calvin Crest Experience.



### LONG-SLEEVED SHIRT DRIVE

**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.**

# 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