



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

# Home Page Newsletter

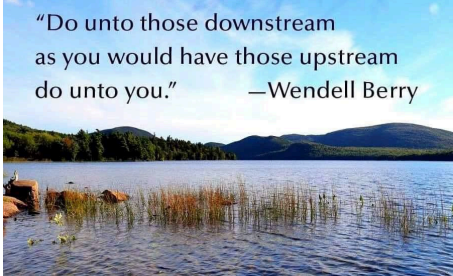
### The Good Samaritan: A Call to Love Our Neighbors

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

On Sunday we heard the *Spiro Spero* singers and some amazing musicians share the beautiful “Misa Criolla” by Ariel Ramírez and we reflected on the familiar parable of the Good Samaritan in the gospel of Luke. If you missed this incredible service or just want to experience it again, you can watch it by clicking here: <https://fb.watch/tVNVZU9PeI/> (you don’t need a Facebook account to watch this video)

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus upholds the Samaritan, who would normally be viewed as an outcast, as the hero in the story for being a good neighbor to the man who he encounters beaten on the side of the road. This story, rich in meaning and challenge, has resonated with Christians for centuries, urging us to extend love and compassion beyond the boundaries of familiarity and comfort. The Samaritan's actions demonstrate a radical, boundary-crossing love that defines true neighborliness.

Reflecting on this parable, I was reminded of Wendell Berry's poignant words: "Do unto those downstream as you would have those upstream do unto you." This quote beautifully encapsulates the interconnectedness of our lives. Just as the Samaritan acted out of a deep sense of shared humanity, we too are called to consider how our actions—or inactions—affect those around us, particularly those who are vulnerable and marginalized.



“Do unto those downstream  
as you would have those upstream  
do unto you.” —Wendell Berry

This October, our church has a unique opportunity to put these teachings into practice during our Music and Mission Trip to the U.S.-Mexico Border. In partnership with Frontera de Cristo, we will journey to the border October 16-21 to meet and learn from our neighbors who live in the shadow of policies and practices that often ignore their dignity and humanity. As we serve, sing, and listen; we will explore what it means to love our neighbors as ourselves. Members of our choir will be going to sing, but you don’t have to be a singer to come on this trip. You just need to bring your curiosity and a desire to share the love of Christ. To learn more about the trip or to sign up, see the flyer in our newsletter or call the church office at 402-462-5147.

*Continued*

Just as the Samaritan's compassion led him to act, so too are we invited to step out of our comfort zones and into the lives of those who may be different from us. By doing so, we live out Jesus' command to "go and do likewise" (Luke 10:37). I hope you will consider joining us on this transformative trip, where we will not only bring the gift of music but also receive the profound wisdom and resilience of our sister and brothers at the border. Let us seek to embody the love of Christ, loving others as He loves us.

Your Servant in Christ,



Pastor Greg

## August Ushers & Greeters

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

AUGUST GREETERS	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
<b>18</b>	Lori & Ted Schroeder	Todd Pankratz & Jessica Meeske
<b>25</b>	Jane Foote, Jean Barber	Lori & Ted Schroeder

## September Ushers & Greeters

**SEPTEMBER USHERS (Team #1)** Captain – Chuck Hastings, Elaine Specht, Kim Creech

SEPTEMBER GREETERS	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
<b>1</b>	Stephanie Bliss, Sue Medsker	Bonnie & Kenton Grams
<b>8</b>	Jeni & George Howard	Clyde Sachtleben, Carolyn Nowka
<b>15</b>	Gayle Fandry	Flossie Sanderson
<b>22</b>	Dixie & Gale McDonald	Lois & John Meeske
<b>29</b>	Jan Bolliger	Susan Hoff

## *Please pray for*

Elaine Schumacher	Ashley Ibach
Dave Schawang	Carl Utley
John Northrop	Barry Thomson
Carter Johnson	Greg Howard
Tarah Davis & family	Ken Fisk
Matt Campbell	Marcia Hogan & family
June Nielsen	Everest Beacon (Zabloudil)
Bob Wolf	Jim Boeve
KyMani Riek	Howard Mathews
Frances Kamler	Vicki (Fisk) Nieves
Jeni Howard	family of Dr. Bill Beck
Katharine Davis	Kathy Amyot
Pam Canady	Monte Malouf
Candice Unger	family of Frank & Carol Medsker
David Hauch	Darcie (McDonald) Brink

## *In memory of*

Dr. Bill Beck, who passed  
away on 6/10/24

Frank Medsker, who passed  
away on 6/12/24

Vernon Groves, who passed  
away on 7/10/24

Carol Medsker, who passed  
away on 7/15/24

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.

<b>August 17, 2024</b>		
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
A, B	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM

Geraldine Carlson 9/1	Caroline Echternach 9/9	Porter Ourada 9/25
Jessica Moore 9/1	Gary Anderson 9/10	Shelby Rhodes 9/25
Dalton Adam 9/2	James Ellerbee 9/11	Tyler Lay 9/28
Mary Crum 9/2	Jane Foote 9/12	Jane Johnson 9/29
Mike Ziemba 9/2	Cade Hemje 9/13	Addyson Hermes 9/30
Neil Riley 9/3	Cora Hemje 9/13	Patrick Hickok 9/30
Daveta Brader 9/4	Neal Hoff 9/14	Phil Odom 9/30
Tethloach Duang 9/4	Kim Kern 9/14	Carole Pedersen 9/30
Willis Horton 9/4	Dixie McDonald 9/14	
Peyton Mitchell 9/4	Cheryl Wray 9/14	
Hilarie Redline 9/4	Ronald Maul 9/15	
Septer Duang 9/5	Roger Schukei 9/16	
Kinnick Pumroy 9/5	Teresa Canady 9/16	
Dave Glass 9/5	Nadine Hunnicutt 9/16	
Pat Ochsner 9/5	Byron Jensen 9/16	
Truman Welsch 9/6	Lennon Launchbaugh 9/16	
Nyanhial Duang 9/6	Calvin Miller 9/16	
Weston Mullen 9/7	Tim Canady 9/17	
Sung Shin 9/7	Karen Doerr 9/17	
Mike Hogan 9/7	Sharon Talbert 9/18	
Joe Black 9/7	Sarah Allen 9/19	
Bill Talbert 9/8	Jeff Howard 9/19	
Constance Malloy 9/8	Lori Schroeder 9/21	
Cheryl Schukei 9/9	Jack Shardelow 9/22	
Mary Olsen 9/9	Jane Marsh 9/22	
Matthew Brooks 9/9	Ted Schroeder 9/25	



Happy  
September  
Birthdays



On Sunday, August 18th  
Alice Throckmorton will be in Hastings to  
visit with friends and celebrate her 90th  
birthday. Everyone is invited to a casual  
get-together with refreshments in  
Fellowship Hall following the  
10:30 a.m. worship service.



Last one  
for the summer!

*Worship in the Park*

**August 18**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Alexander Park**

Please bring your lawn chair

All are welcome!



<b>Tuesday 8/13</b>	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Congregational Life meeting	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Trustees meeting	Confirmation Room
	6:45pm	Deacons meeting	Anderson Room
<b>Wednesday 8/14</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 8/15</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Session Meets	Anderson Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
<b>Friday 8/16</b>	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Lydia Room
	10:30am	Frank and Carol Medsker Memorial Service with Reception to follow	Sanctuary- Memorial Service Fellowship Hall- Reception
<b>Saturday 8/17</b>		United Harvest	



## Cub Scout Open House

Pack 200 Cub Scouts will be holding an open house on August 29 at 7 p.m. for any children in Kindergarten through 5th grade and their adult partners that are interested in joining.

<b>Sunday 8/18</b>	9am	Worship in the Park	Alexander Park
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	11:30am	Alice Throckmorton 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Party	Fellowship Hall
<b>Monday 8/19</b>	12pm	Memorial Committee meeting	Anderson Room
	1-3pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Center quilting room
	5:30pm	Go & Serve meeting	Parlor
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 8/20</b>	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
<b>Wednesday 8/21</b>	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5:30pm	Youth Christian Ed meeting	Fellowship Hall
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bell Rehearsal	Bell Room
<b>Thursday 8/22</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 8/23</b>	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Lydia Room
<b>Sunday 8/25</b>	9:15am-10:15am	Sunday School Kick-Off	Fellowship Hall
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	11:30am	Go & Serve Luncheon	Fellowship Hall

## US-Mexico Border Music and Mission Trip

**Frontera  
de  
Cristo**



**October 16-21, 2024**

Please join us as we help Frontera de Cristo celebrate their 40th Anniversary as a Presbyterian Border Ministry.



The cost of the trip is \$200 per person and includes transportation via a charter bus, lodging and food for the trip.

**If you are interested please call the church office at 402-462-5147 or scan the QR code and fill out the form to let us know of your interest.**



**Congratulations!**

Mary Plock for receiving the  
William H. and Alice T. Lanning Award  
from the Mary Lanning Healthcare Foundation during  
the Stars Come Out! charity event on August 3.

## **Go & Serve Sunday MOVED**

Go & Serve Sunday has been moved to  
Sunday, August 25. If you purchased  
stock and would like to attend the meal,  
please contact the church office at  
402-462-5147 or  
[melissa@fpchastings.org](mailto:melissa@fpchastings.org)  
by August 18.

**Save  
THE  
Date**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
KICK-OFF  
AUGUST  
25**

**9:15am-10:15am**

**WHO: ALL STUDENTS AGE 3 - 12TH GRADE  
AND THEIR GROWN-UPS**

**LOCATION: FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**WHAT TO EXPECT: REVIEW PROCEDURES,  
EXPECTATIONS, AND SCHEDULES, MEET  
TEACHERS, ACOLYTE TRAINING, BIBLE  
PRESENTATION**



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