



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF HASTINGS**

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

Building the beloved community in an age of polarization: The power of table fellowship:

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

In this season of our community and our nation, it can feel like we're more divided than ever. But as Christians, we are called to something deeper—building a community grounded in love, hope, and humility. This fall, our sermon series and adult education classes at First Presbyterian Church, “Building the Beloved Community in an Age of Polarization,” invites us to explore how the stories of the Bible and our faith in Jesus Christ can guide us in that call.

On September 15, we reflected on Genesis 15 and Ephesians 2, focusing on the story of Abram. The sermon was entitled: “Fear not, abound in hope!” and it reminded us that we are called to break down the dividing walls of hostility and be people of hope and not fear. If you missed that sermon, you can watch it at this link:

https://youtu.be/_zjIThjPyzk?feature=shared

On September 22, Pastor Damen preached on the story of Joseph in Genesis 37 and 50 and got us thinking about humility and forgiveness with a sermon entitled “Group Think.” These sermons highlighted two key pillars of community life: hope that bridges divides and the humility required to forgive and reconcile. In these times of polarization, such values are not only relevant but crucial. If you missed that sermon, you can watch it at this link:

<https://youtu.be/qij9vVeGOBo?si=htLmhyprOCBvIC6>

A central part of fostering this beloved community is what we call “table fellowship”—gathering together, breaking bread, and sharing life. Throughout Jesus’ ministry, we see time and again the significance of the table. He dined with tax collectors, sinners, and disciples alike, reminding us that the table is a place where we can meet others just as they are, even those with whom we disagree. Jesus modeled for us that sharing a meal can be a powerful act of grace and reconciliation.

The song “Let’s Just Have Supper” by Korby Lenker and Nora Jane Struthers echoes this sentiment. You can hear that song at this link: https://youtu.be/zAf_xGw-wGQ?feature=shared It’s a beautiful reminder that sometimes, the simple act of sitting

Continued

down for a meal can break down barriers, even among people who might have fundamental disagreements. Around the table, we can lay aside our differences and see one another through the eyes of love.

At First Presbyterian, we are creating opportunities for this kind of table fellowship. Whether through our adult education classes, the trivia night at Steeple Brewery on Sunday, September 29th, the Blessing of the Pets service on October 2nd, or the churchwide potluck on October 13th, we believe in the power of gathering together. Presbyterian Women’s groups also continue to build connections through shared meals and meaningful conversations, reminding us that no matter our differences, we are all part of the same body of Christ. I encourage you to join us for these opportunities to share table fellowship.

As we journey through this sermon series together, may we take up the call to be builders of the beloved community, sitting down at tables with open hearts, ready to listen, share, and break bread together in love.

Your Servant in Christ,



Pastor Greg

Ushers and Greeters

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

SEPTEMBER GREETERS	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
29	Jan Bolliger	Susan Hoff

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

OCTOBER GREETERS	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
6	Kili & Justin Wenberg	Cathy & John Pershing
13	Kathy Utter, Kim Creech	Laurie & Brian Johnson
20	Kathy & Curtis Reimer	Carolyn & Rich McKenzie
27	Marnie & Doug Soderquist	C.L. & Sandra Wimer

Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher
Carter Johnson
Tarah Davis & family
Matt Campbell
Janey Nottage-Tacey
Bob Wolf
KyMani Riek
Frances Kamler
Jeni Howard
Pam Canady

Ashley Ibach
Carl Utley
Barry Thomson
Greg Howard
Ken Fisk
Marcia Hogan & family
family of Dave Schawang
family of Frank & Carol Medsker
Stephanie Adam & family
Candice Unger

David Hauch
Monte Malouf
Darcie (McDonald) Brink
Jim Boeve
Howard Mathews
Vicki (Fisk) Nieves

In memory of

Dave Schawang, who passed away on 8/18/24



FPC
POTLUCK

Rescheduled Date
October 13
following 10:30
worship service

Congregation asked to bring food items based on the first letter of their last name:

- A-G** Dessert
- H-M** Salad or Veggie
- N-Z** Main Dish



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
TRIVIA
NIGHT

SEPTEMBER 29TH
STEEPLE BREWING COMPANY
GAME STARTS AT: 05:00PM

FREE TO PLAY
BRING A TEAM OF SIX
OR JUST SHOW UP!
ALL AGES WELCOME

October Communion Offering



Our Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and across the world.

Thank you for your participation in the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

IF WE ALL
DO A LITTLE,
IT ADDS UP
TO A LOT!



The Peace & Global Witness Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the twenty-first century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.



WAYS TO GIVE



Through your congregation



Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/peace-global



Text PCUSAPEACE to 41444 or scan this QR code for more information.



Exciting News: New restrooms off the sanctuary now open!

We are pleased to announce that the new restrooms off the sanctuary are now open for use. These are *family restrooms*, meaning they are single-seat restrooms with locking doors that can be used by anyone, just like the bathrooms in our houses. This design is the industry standard for new restrooms, for example you will see all of the public restrooms at the College View Retirement Community are this way.

These family restrooms provide added flexibility and convenience, especially for those assisting loved ones with dementia, mobility issues, or for parents helping young children. We hope these new facilities will enhance the sense of welcome at our church for our members and the community.

By September 8, the former women's restroom off the sanctuary will be converted into a "Wiggle Room" for families with small children that will also include one additional single seat family restroom with a locking door and a changing table.

We will also be updating the restrooms behind the fellowship hall with new flooring, tile, and fixtures. Those will continue to be a *Men's Room* and a *Women's Room*.



CLEANING OUT YOUR CLOSETS??



**The First Presbyterian Church
would love to receive your gently
used winter coats for our coat drive
that
will be held on October 19.
Coats of all sizes are needed for
Men, Women and Children.
(Adult XL and XXL are in high need)**

**Donations are being accepted
at these Hastings locations:
First Presbyterian Church,
Pershing Orthodontics.
Thank you in advance!!**

BLESSING OF THE PETS!

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Each year at First Presbyterian Church, we hold a service in which we talk about how animals are a wonderful part of God's creation. During this service, Pastor Greg offers a blessing for any pets present.



**WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 2ND**

We will be holding this special service in place of our typical Wednesday Night Live programming.

5:00-6:00 pm Dinner/Fellowship for everyone

6:00-6:30 pm Service/Pet Blessing

6:30-7:00/15 pm Regular WNL Bible Time

WHAT TO BRING

If you'd like to bring your pet, please do! But please keep it on a leash or in a carrier. You could also bring a picture of your pet.



Happy October Birthdays

Fiona Eckhardt 10/2
Dwight Marsh 10/2
Laura Kate Oliver 10/2
Luke Brooks 10/3
Karen Dielman 10/3
Molly Gosda 10/3
Jason Hafer 10/3
Paxton Rhodes 10/3
Jim Donohue 10/5

LeRoy Echternach 10/5
Elizabeth Klaassen 10/5
Vonda Essex 10/6
Emma Redinger 10/6
Steve Cropley 10/7
Virginia Davis 10/7
Heather Gosda 10/7
Rose Koepp 10/7
Scott Snell 10/7
Elmer Heeren 10/8
Kris Horton 10/8
Sue Horton 10/8
Junko Jurgena 10/8
Katharine Davis 10/9
Vicki Howard 10/9
Patty Kingsley 10/9
Ava Klug 10/9
Brooks Borrell 10/10
Jade Guiai-Lou 10/10
Scott Kummer 10/10
Roger Doerr 10/11
Jeff Hermann 10/11
Tanner Lay 10/12
Jan Ham 10/13
Mia Ahlers 10/14
Ryan Barker 10/14

Nathan Jensen 10/14
Lucy Nielsen 10/15
Madalynn Redline 10/15
Kim Bogan 10/16
Nyabong Duang 10/16
Sally Hatcher 10/16
Carter Wenburg 10/16
Nan Huey 10/17
Grant Hunter 10/17
Jim LaMaster 10/17
Tyler Adam 10/18
Cindy Fricke 10/18
Susan Hoff 10/18
Chris Schukei 10/18
Linda Hall 10/19
Bev Rader 10/19
Margaret Hermes 10/20
Richard Johnson 10/21
Justin Wenburg 10/22
Nancy Ziemba 10/22
Liesel Hogan 10/24
Paige Redline 10/24
Jeanne Reynolds 10/24
Mark Funkey 10/26
Selah Wenburg 10/26
Ruei Duang 10/27
Amy Hermes 10/27
Matt Fong 10/28
Mary Creigh 10/28
Kristen Eckhardt 10/29
LaVern Franzen 10/29
Maddie Gosda 10/29
Tim Redline 10/29
Milrae Korb 10/30
Stephanie Brader 10/31



Sunday 9/22	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am	Sunday School for all ages	Various
	10:00am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	In-person, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
Monday 9/23	1-3pm	1 st Pres. Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
	7pm	“Building the Beloved Community in an age of polarization” Conversation	Steeple Brewing Company
Tuesday 9/24	10:30am	Staff Meeting (canceled)	In person
	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity	PEACE NW Classroom
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	7-8pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
Wednesday 9/25	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Center Quilting Room
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 th Grade WNL	Various
	5pm	Mexico Mission Trip Choir Practice	Sanctuary
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
Thursday 9/26	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 9/27	10am	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
Sunday 9/29	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
	5pm	FPC Trivia Night	Steeple Brewing Company

Langenberg Lesson Scholarship Applications are available on the shelf outside the Church Offices or on the Church website at:

<https://fpchastings.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Langenberg-form-Fall-2024.pdf> The deadline in November 1, 2024.

Monday 9/30	1-3pm	1 st Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
	7pm	“Building the Beloved Community in an age of polarization” conversation	Steeple Brewing Company
Tuesday 10/1	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	United Harvest Board Meeting	PEACE NW Classroom
	6pm	WAM meeting	Anderson Room
	7-8pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
Wednesday 10/2	11am	PW Coord Team	
	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
	5-6:15pm	Blessing of the Pets service	Parking Lot
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
Thursday 10/3	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Mission Committee Meeting	PEACE NW Classroom
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 10/4	10am	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
Sunday 10/6		World Communion 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

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE SCHEDULE

5:00 - 5:30 Family Meal Time
Come when you can; meal is cafeteria style. Table Parents will be at each table to help facilitate meal time. ALL family members are welcome!

5:30 - 7:00 PreK-K Frolic

5:30 - 6:00 1st-5th Bells; 6th-12th Choir

6:00 - 6:30 1st-5th Choir; 6th-12th Bells

6:30 - 7:15 6th-12th Youth Group

6:30 - 7:00 1st-5th Bible Time

7:00 - 7:15 *optional* PreK-5th Recreation Time
(Rec. time is intended for students who need to wait for a ride.)

WE ASK THAT A GROWNUP COMES INTO THE BUILDING TO PICK UP STUDENTS AT THE END OF THE NIGHT.

First Presbyterian Church Presents:

PUMPKINS & PJS!

Saturday, Oct. 26th

5:30 - 8:30 PM

All students 3yrs - 5th grade are welcome!
Please register so we have an accurate count for food.

KIDS WILL:

- LEARN ABOUT SAMUEL'S CALL
- LEARN THAT GOD CHOOSES THEM!
- HAVE A YUMMY DINNER
- MAKE CRAFTS
- PLAY GAMES
- DO SCIENCE EXPERIEMENTS

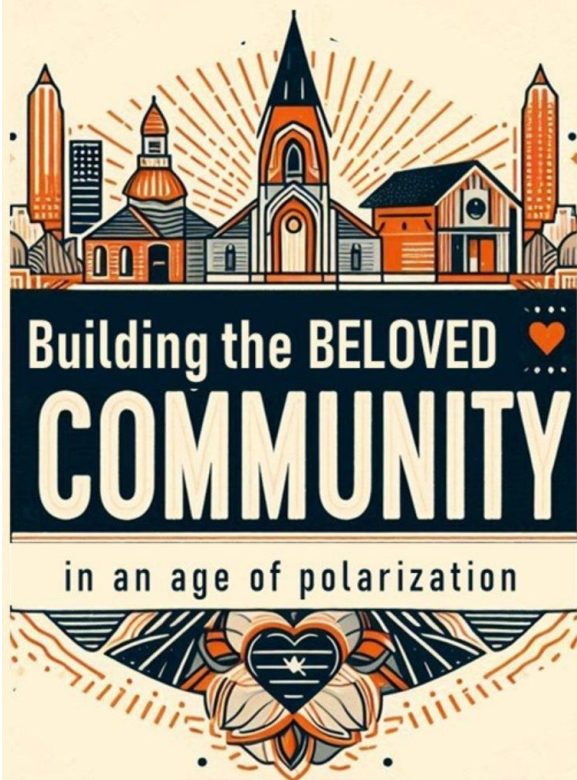
3 HOURS
FOR PARENTS TO GO ON A DATE, BINGE A NETFLIX SHOW, GO GROCERY SHOPPING, ETC.!

For Questions, email rose@fpchastings.org or call the office at (402) 462-5147



Hastings CROP Hunger Walk
Sunday, October 13, 2024 at 2 p.m.
Lake Hastings

Register on the south side of the Lake
25% raised goes to OPEN TABLE
Sponsored by Church Women United



Putting our faith before our politics.
Building the beloved community amid polarization.
Beginning Sunday, Sept 15 please join in conversation
during this 5 week study.

Sunday Worship

8:30 & 10:30

Sept. 15, 22, 29, Oct. 6, 13

Bible Study

Tuesdays @ Noon

Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, 8, 15

Book Club

Wednesdays @ Noon

Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16

Adult Forum &

Heirs Apparent

Sept. 15, 22, 29, Oct. 6, 13

Conversation @ Steeple Brewing Company

7 p.m. - Sept. 16, 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14

Happy
October

Anniversaries

Kim and Jeremy Borrell 10/19/2013
Karen & Kirk Dielman 10/12/1985
Kaleena & Matt Fong 10/27/2007
Amy & William Hermes 10/11/2003
Linda & Richard Johnson 10/01/2005
Dana & Brett Miller 10/19/2013
Javae & Bill Redinger 10/11/1997
Cheryl & Roger Schukei 10/15/1966
Carole & Denny Storer 10/06/1962

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