



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

# Home Page Newsletter

### Looking For Questions

Many have noticed but I'll just say it plain. When given a chance, I like to leave a lot of silence in a worship service. Almost immediately after I started helping to lead worship services here at First Presbyterian Church people noticed that the time for silent confession had grown almost exponentially. And there are a few reasons as to why I like a good time of silence so much. The first is that I find there is a lot of noise in the world having a few moments of silence can be quite peaceful and refreshing for all of us. The second is a bit more personal. During a worship service I spend a lot of time talking and it is important for me to be encouraged to listen as well. But the most critical reason is this: it is important to sit with the question.

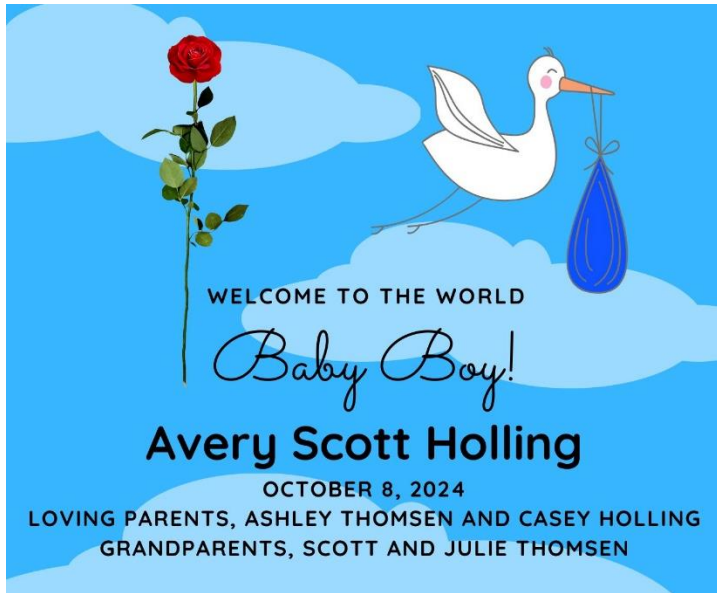
Sitting with a question; turning it over, wrestling with it, and exploring all of its intricacies and implications leads to a depth that we cannot and do not find when we rush to answers or quickly retreat to talking points and known perspectives. Taking the time to sit (or stand or walk or talk) and ponder is an increasingly scarce skill but it is a skill that, when used well, often uncovers hidden depths of knowledge and insight about our God, ourselves, and the world around us.

Over the past month and a half, as a congregation, we have sat with one fundamental question; how are people of faith called to engage with the political realm? And this question has led other equally important and equally interesting questions: What does it mean to recognize that *everyone* is created in the image of God? What if they aren't acting like it? What if *I'm* not acting like? Whose voice do I hear most often? Can I admit that I may be wrong? Have I created any idols lately? To what do I give my ultimate allegiance? None of these questions are simple. None of these questions lead to easy answers and it has been a pleasure to witness as people of faith have sat with them in all earnestness and honesty over the course of the last six weeks.

I understand that many people approach faith and Sunday mornings with an eye towards discovering answers. Though, to be honest, I suspect that we may be better served to approach faith with an eye towards discovering questions. The better our questions and the longer that we sit with them the more we may be able to sink down into our faith and into our God. I wonder, what question is God calling you to discover?

Peace and all good,

Rev. Damen Jensen-Heitmann



## USHERS AND GREETERS

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

OCTOBER GREETERS	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
27	Marnie & Doug Soderquist	Melissa Davis

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

NOVEMBER GREETERS	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
3	Kili & Justin Wenburg	Linda & John Carllson
10	Volunteers Needed	Melissa Davis
17	May & Ira Wierenga	Sue Medsker
24	Jane & Chuck Bauer	Erica & Brent Brooks

# Hanging of The Greens

Sunday,  
November 24  
11:30 a.m.  
All are welcome!



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@fpchs.org](mailto:rose@fpchs.org) or call the office at (402) 462-5147

## Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher	Ashley Ibach
Carter Johnson	Carl Utley
Tarah Davis & family	Barry Thomson
Matt Campbell	Greg Howard
Janey Nottage-Tacey	Pam Canady
Bob Wolf	Kathy Carrier
KyMani Riek	Eleanor Jorgensen
Ken Fisk	Darcie (McDonald) Brink
Ken Stein	David Hauch
Howard Mathews	Monte Malouf
Vicki (Fisk) Nieves	Candice Unger
Jim Boeve	





Thank you for your donation towards the Hastings CROP Walk held October 13, 2024, a beautiful day. So far, First Presbyterian Church of Hastings has raised \$1,200 for a combined total from the walk being close to \$6,000.

We honored the late Frank Medsker and his family. Frank participated each year since CROP Hunger Walk started and donated his age in dollars.

Money is still being collected. With your donation we are able to make a better contribution to CHURCH WORLD SERVICES, providing food, cleaner water, and help educate those in need throughout the world. The many devastating tragedies have made us aware of the need and help the Church World Services to provide worldwide with our donations.

25% of our Hastings walk will go to Open Table in Hastings.

Thank you,  
Sponsored by Church Women United of Hastings and Juniata area.



# HAPPY NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dave & Barbara Fisher 11/4/1972  
Stephanie & Justin Brader 11/10/2001  
Brad & Dawna Whitcomb 11/12/2011  
Jim & Deb Freeburger 11/15/1974  
Bill & Sharon Talbert 11/16/1996  
Tim & Deb Johnson 11/22/1974  
Roger & Karen Doerr 11/23/1979  
Don & Marie Rasmussen 11/25/1951  
Kristen & Chris Schwarz 11/27/2004  
John & Cathy Pershing 11/29/1968



# November

Bill Nottage-Tacey-1  
Grace Brader-2  
Linda Cooke-2  
Evan Turner-2  
Megan Launchbaugh-3  
Flossie Sanderson-3  
Raegan Welsch-4  
Dale Hamburger-4  
Charlie Ratzlaff-4  
Kraig Lofquist-4  
Moses Rhodes-5  
Lynden Hall-5  
Scott Hobson-5  
Neil Jurgena-5  
Mary Kay LaMaster-5  
Monte Malouf-5  
Lauren Overmiller-6  
Malcolm Eckhardt-6  
Susie Graham-6  
Betty Kooy-6  
Stacy Kerr-7  
William Freetly-8  
Pat Kern-8  
Teresa Luther-8

Eldon Mitzelfelt-8  
Ken Stein-9  
Matthew Welton-9  
Taralyn Davis-10  
John Nelson-11  
Dennis Asmus-12  
Gary Bauer-12  
Marcia Hogan-12  
Laurie Johnson-12  
Erikka Rhodes-12  
Sydney Kerr-13  
Lexi Lofquist-13  
Julie Thomsen-14  
Sarah Snell-14  
Jean Barber-14  
Lily Black-14  
Greg Allen-Pickett-15  
Sue Medsker-15  
Sherry Behrens-17  
Nora Hogan-17  
Tammy Lay-17  
Jane Tushaus-17  
Mary Northrop-18

Peter Ratzlaff-19  
Joy White-19  
Ethan Stout-20  
Ross Struss-20  
Chuck Bauer-20  
Roger Sunderman-21  
Kim Graviette-21  
Melissa Karloff-21  
Wilson Welsch-22  
Colleen Adam-22  
McKain Ratzlaff-22  
Bonnie Grams-22  
Marcia Sovereign-22  
Lois Hafer-23  
Gwen Weber-24  
Duang Tang-24  
Jan Bolliger-25  
Lennon Ellerbee-25  
Thomas Freetly-25  
Willy Kummer-25  
Deborah Miles-28  
Ron Wissing-30





# Meal Train for the Ellerbee family

On October 8, Myste and Kevin Ellerbee welcomed their son, Neylan into the world.

Big brothers James and Lennon are excited!

Let's support the Ellerbee family by sharing some meals with them.

Below is the link to sign up to provide a meal.

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/ed3mrl/>



Would you like to be more involved in the church and help us be a community of hope and love? The nominating committee of First Presbyterian Church will be meeting in November to find our new class of church officers in 2025 which includes elders, deacons, and trustees. If you think God might be calling you to serve in a leadership role at the church, please reach out to the church office or the nominating committee chair, Robin Koozer by November 2.

A graphic with a grey background and a red border. It features a circular photo of Dr. Wayne Riggs, a man with short grey hair wearing a blue blazer over a white shirt. The text "Academic Dean" is written in white on a red curved banner below the photo. To the right, the text "Dr. Wayne Riggs" is written in white, followed by "Hastings College" and "Sunday" in a larger font. In a red circle at the bottom left, the text "Forum 9:15 Oct. 27" is written in white.

Academic Dean

Dr. Wayne Riggs  
Hastings College  
Sunday

Forum  
9:15  
Oct. 27

A graphic with a light grey background and a dark grey border. The text "Upcoming Forums" is written in large, bold, black letters at the top. Below it, a horizontal line with a small square at each end is shown. The text "Ashes to Ashes: Christian Cremation" and "Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh" is written in a smaller, italicized font. Below that, "SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3" is written in bold, black, all-caps. At the bottom, "Prayer Garden & Collumbarium" and "John Pershing" is written in a smaller, italicized font. Below that, "SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10" is written in bold, black, all-caps. There are decorative leaf motifs in the top right and bottom left corners.

## Upcoming Forums

*Ashes to Ashes: Christian Cremation*  
*Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh*

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

*Prayer Garden & Collumbarium*  
*John Pershing*

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

<b>Sunday 10/20</b>	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
		<i>NO Sunday School</i>	
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
<b>Monday 10/21</b>	1-3pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5:30pm	Go & Serve meeting	TBD
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 10/22</b>	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity Board Meeting	PEACE NW Classroom
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	7-8pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
<b>Wednesday 10/23</b>	12-1pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade WNL	various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
<b>Thursday 10/24</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	4pm-5:30pm	Hastings College Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	5:30pm	Session Meets	Anderson Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 10/25</b>	10am	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
<b>Saturday 10/26</b>	5:30pm	Pumpkins and PJs	Fellowship Hall
<b>Sunday 10/27</b>		<i>Hastings College Sunday</i>	
	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

**November**  
**Communion Offering**  
Heartland Health

<b>Sunday 10/27</b>		<i>Hastings College Sunday</i>	
	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
<b>Monday 10/28</b>	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	1-3pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5:30pm	Foundation Board Meeting	Anderson Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Gym
<b>Tuesday 10/29</b>	7pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
<b>Wednesday 10/30</b>	7pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a>
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade WNL	Various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
<b>Thursday 10/31</b>	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
<b>Friday 11/1</b>	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
		<i>Langenberg Scholarship Applications Due</i>	
<b>Sunday 11/3</b>	10am	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
		<i>All Saints Day</i>	
		<i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i>	
	8:30am	Contemporary 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	

**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 is November 1, 2024.





# Church Women United, Inc.

*Agreed to Differ – Resolved to Love – United to Serve*

## World Community Day 2024 Celebration

### *Walk Humbly with God*

*God blesses those who are humble,  
for they will inherit the whole earth. Matthew 5:5 (NLT)*

**Friday, November 1 • 10:00 am**  
**Grace United Methodist Church**  
1832 West 9<sup>th</sup> Street • Hastings NE 68901

*Guest Speaker: Dr. Robert P. Amyot*  
Hastings College Professor of Political Science in  
the Communication Studies & Political Science

*Soloist: Emily Dunbar*

**Soup Luncheon to Follow**  
**Freewill Offering**

Sponsored by Hastings/Juniata  
Church Women United



#### 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)*

*Thank  
you*



The 2024 coat drive/give away was another huge success. Thank you all who donated. If you still want to donate you can drop them off for the 2025 give away. We also have people in the community though out the winter still in need.

Our Church is blessed to have some wonderful youth to help organize for the event. Thank you all, it's a huge help! A lot of truth to: Many hands make light work. Thank you all!

I hope your hearts are warmed as much as we warmed other hearts and bodies with the 130 coats that now have a new home.

Thank you,  
Mission Committee

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