



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

Dear Church Family:

At First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, grace is more than a word we say in prayer—it's central to our faith and it's a way of life that touches everything we do. This year's stewardship campaign, "Grace in Action," highlights the many ways our church is living out God's abundant love. From mission trips to vibrant worship, from Wednesday night fellowship to feeding hundreds through United Harvest, grace is at work in powerful and tangible ways.

Take, for example, the 40-50 people who gather in our Fellowship Hall every Wednesday night. It's not just a meal—it's a symphony of grace. Children laugh as they learn new songs in choir. Our youth dive deep into Bible study, seeking to embody God's love in their daily lives. Kids ring handbells, their music echoing through the halls like a call to community. And our Chancel Choir and Bell Choirs not only practice to make beautiful music, they also care for each other as a family of faith. This weekly gathering of generations is a living testament to what grace looks like in action: people of all ages growing in faith, together.

Consider, too, the way our staff pours themselves into the ministry of this church. Tony, our facilities manager, recently led the charge on implementing capital campaign projects. Whether fixing a leak or overseeing contractors, Tony ensures our building is a welcoming space for all who enter. Linda, our gifted organist and music director, transforms each Sunday into a celebration of sacred music, inspiring hearts and lifting spirits. And Rose, our Director of Christian Education, has brought vibrant energy to our programs for children and youth, shaping the next generation to live lives of grace and love.

Our church buildings are more than just brick and mortar; they are spaces where grace comes alive. From the sanctuary that echoes with music and prayer to the PEACE Center, which houses community groups and ministries, these sacred spaces are tools for sharing God's love and grace. Through this year's campaign, we aim to steward these gifts well, ensuring they can continue to be places where grace abounds for years to come.

But at the heart of it all is you—the people who make this church a beacon of hope. Your tithes, gifts, and talents fuel the ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Hastings. Every dollar you give, every hour you volunteer, multiplies into acts of compassion and transformation. Together, we are building a beloved community where grace is not just received but shared abundantly.



Continued

Pledge cards and Time and Talent Sheets were mailed to every household in the church last week and also included in the bulletin on Sunday. As a family, please prayerfully consider your pledge to the ministries of hope and grace at First Presbyterian Church in 2025. You are invited to drop the pledge cards off in the church office or bring them to worship on Sunday, November 24. If you would prefer to submit your pledge on-line, you can do that at this link: <https://forms.gle/M1JJTJ1gsicsfqyBA>
Please make your pledge by November 24th by submitting it on-line or returning your pledge card to the church. This will allow us to faithfully build our budget for 2025.

As we embark on this year's stewardship campaign, let us celebrate the countless ways we've already seen "Grace in Action." And let us prayerfully consider how we can continue to support this vital work, trusting that through God's grace—and our generosity—there is no limit to what we can accomplish.

Your servant in Christ,



Pastor Greg



GRACIOUS GOD, YOU BLESS US WITH GIFT UPON GIFT.

HELP US TO SEE YOUR GRACE IN ACTION AT WORK IN OUR LIVES, OUR HOMES, OUR CHURCH, OUR COMMUNITY, AND OUR WORLD. MAKE US AWARE OF YOUR PRESENCE AND MOMENTS OF MERCY. BUT DON'T STOP THERE. HELP US TO BE THE NEXT SURPRISING WAY THAT YOU REVEAL YOURSELF TO THE WORLD. MAKE US TO BE YOUR GRACE IN ACTION: YOUR HANDS, YOUR FEET, YOUR EYES OF MERCY.

IN YOUR GENEROSITY, MAKE US MORE GENEROUS. IN YOUR GRACE, MAKE US MORE GRACE-FILLED.

IN THE CREATIVE, JOYFUL, GRACIOUS NAME OF JESUS WE PRAY. AMEN.

Ushers and Greeters

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

NOVEMBER GREETERS	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
24	Jane & Chuck Bauer	Erica & Brent Brooks

December Ushers (Team #4) Captain – George Howard, Susie Graham, Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald, Lori Schroeder, Ted Schroeder

DECEMBER GREETERS	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
1	Kim Hermann	Pat & Dick Kleiber
8	Paul & Lynette Krieger	Clyde Sachtleben, Carolyn Nowka
15	Kathy & Curtis Reimer	Susan Hoff
22	Jenna Jorgensen	Melissa Davis
5:30pm 24	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
7:30pm 24	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
29	Cathy & John Pershing	Milrae & Harold Korb



UPCOMING FORUMS SUNDAYS - 9:15 A.M. - LYDIA ROOM



NOVEMBER 24

“While By Their Flocks: A Christmas Pageant Preview”
Led by Hannah Jensen-Heitmann & Rose Koepf

DECEMBER 1

No Forum - Thanksgiving

DECEMBER 8

“Hope and Humility in Jesus’ Birth”
Led by Dan Deffenbaugh

DECEMBER 15

“Hope and Humility in Jesus’ Birth”
Led by Dan Deffenbaugh

Christmas with Cathedral Brass



Sunday, December 22
3:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
Sanctuary

Tuesday 11/19	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	7pm-8pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
Wednesday 11/20	9:30am	PW Circles 1 & 2	
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	1:15pm	PW Circle 3	
	5pm-7:15pm	PreK-12 th WNL	various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
Thursday 11/21	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Session Meets	Anderson Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 11/22	10am	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
Saturday 11/23	2pm	Eleanor Jorgenson Funeral Service	Sanctuary

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	family of Eleanor Jorgenson
Ken Fisk	Darcie (McDonald) Brink
Howard Mathews	David Hauch
Vicki (Fisk) Nieves	Monte Malouf
Jim Boeve	Eli Struss
Candice Unger	family of Ken Stein
Nytha & Dave Glass	John Pershing
Lexi Longshore	Pat Kleiber

In memory of

Ken Stein, who passed
away on 10/30/24
Eleanor Jorgenson, who passed
away on 11/8/24

Sunday 11/24	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	Hanging of the Greens	
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
Monday 11/25	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	Choir Room
Tuesday 11/26	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity	PEACE NW Classroom
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
Wednesday 11/27	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
		<i>NO WNL</i>	
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
Thursday 11/28		<i>Church Offices Closed- Thanksgiving</i>	
Friday 11/29		<i>Church Offices Closed</i>	
Sunday 12/1	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



The American Red Cross and First Presbyterian Church are hosting a blood drive on Friday, December 13, from 11am-5pm. There is a critical need for donated blood. Please consider making an appointment to give blood during this drive. To make an appointment go to redcrossblood.org, select the drive at First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, and make your appointment.

December Communion Offerings

Giving Tree, Reverse Advent donations, and PC-USA Joy Offering. PC-USA Joy Offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers in need and helps develop future church leaders at schools and colleges that are Presbyterian related.

Christmas Eve at First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

Tuesday, December 24

2:00 p.m. – Service at College View

5:30 p.m. – Family Service in the Sanctuary

7:30 p.m. – Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

11:00 p.m. – Contemplative Service in the Sanctuary



While By Their Flocks

A Christmas Musical

On Sunday, **Dec. 15th** at **10:30am**, the PreK-8th Grade students will be putting on a Christmas musical as part of the morning worship service!



Hastings College Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 8
3 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
of Hastings
Sanctuary

Company and Food Needed for Lonely HC Students

Every year, we know that some students stay at Hastings College for Winter break. HC's Dr. Amanda Solem was fortunate to receive an Innovation Grant to help make sure no one is lonely for the whole break and to foster fellowship between HC and the First Presbyterian Church. Often, Student Engagement has worked with 10-15 students to support them during the break, but we would like to have room for up to 30 if needed. We know that our students are often missing home cooking and feeling part of a community. Part of the funding will go towards a main dish and tableware for potluck meals on campus with students, and we hope you will join us! We realize many of you will probably want to spend time with your own family on the holidays, so we've chosen holiday-adjacent dates:

12/26 – 12-2 p.m. the day after Christmas at
Daugherty Center

12/31 – 2-4 p.m. New Year's Eve afternoon for an
appetizer potluck at Daugherty Center.

For the Christmas-adjacent meal, we'd love to have salads, sides, and desserts. For the New Year's potluck, appetizers are welcome.



JOIN US!

Christmas Craft Make-and-Take Event!

**BRING YOUR FAMILY TO MAKE A CHRISTMAS CRAFT THAT THEY CAN GIVE AS A GIFT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!
ENJOY A HOT CHOCOLATE BAR WHILE OUR VOLUNTEERS HELP YOUR CHILDREN CRAFT!**

7 DEC. / 10 A.M.- 1 P.M.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
621 N LINCOLN AVE,
HASTINGS, NE


CRAFTS ARE TAILORED TOWARDS ELEMENTARY STUDENTS, BUT FUN FOR ALL AGES!

FREE WILL DONATION

Hangings of The Greens

Sunday,
November 24
11:30 a.m.

All are welcome!



Hands Around the World Christmas Open House

Saturday, December 7
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Come check out our new items from SERRV, new shipment of coffee, Christmas decorations, etc.

Please remember your purchase also helps our local mission partner United Harvest, to whom we donate monthly.

POINSETTIAS



Poinsettias may be purchased in honor of or in memory of a loved one. The cost is \$15 each. Money raised over the cost will be donated to Heartland Health Center.

Heartland Health Center has begun providing medical care at 223 E. 14th Street in Hastings. Improving health outcomes for all people in Central Nebraska, Heartland Health Center accepts uninsured, insured, Medicaid, and Medicare patients. Services are paid using a sliding fee scale to reduce costs. Next steps are in the plan to provide dental care and behavioral health.

Your donation makes a difference. *Please return your order form to the church office as soon as possible.*

Poinsettia in memory of:

Poinsettia in honor of:

Given by:

I will take my poinsettia home after the Christmas Eve services: Yes No

I will leave my poinsettia at the church: Yes No

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Mother's Day offering for Presbyterian Women. We presented the proceeds to the Heart Fund at the Morrison Cancer Center. They were very grateful.





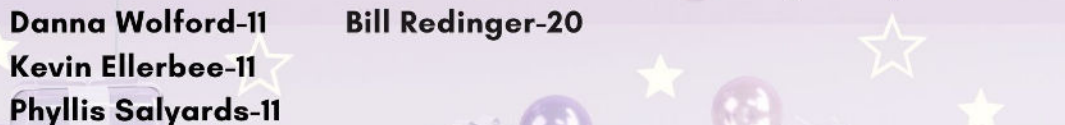
Happy December Anniversary

Charles & Margaret Hermes-12/18/1965
Chris & Inde Wissing-12/21/2002
Heather & Rick Gosda-12/23/2006
Amanda Boyd & Doodle Harris-12/28/2012
BJ & Kaela Pumroy-12/30/1995



Happy December Birthday

Diane Phelps-1	Patrick Moore-11	Justin Osborne-21
Louie Eckhardt-1	John Brooks-12	Barbara Sunderman-21
Sandra Wimer-3	Traci Boeve-12	Kamden Kugel-21
Abigail Shelter-3	Nyaguor Duang-13	Briella Borrell-23
Colton Hemje-3	Mary Fisk-14	Mari Anderson-24
Jeanne Hastings-3	Joyce Moore-14	Tracy Brooks-25
Justin Musgrave-3	Blake Norris-15	Sophia Pankratz-26
Diane Mullen-4	Pat Kleiber-15	Laura Marvel-
Tyson Kerr-5	Kelly Barnett-15	Wunderlich-26
Connie Franzen-6	Marilyn Nielsen-17	Ewan Eckhardt-26
Gary Brandt-7	Esther Allen-Pickett-17	Halligan Little-27
Lynette Krieger-7	Lindsey Stout-17	Ty Moore-27
Tanner Bauer-7	Deb Jensen-18	Jim Wenburg-28
Madilyn Graves-7	Wayne Ganow-18	Kelsey Stokely-29
Steve Wolford-8	Tom Ratzlaff-19	Carolyn Nowka-29
Pam Schlichtman-8	Sue Bradley-19	Laura Peterson-30
Dave Dirks-9	Kili Wenburg-19	Riley Propp-30
Sophia Hemje-9	Skylynn Norris-19	Levi McCoy-30
Todd Pankratz-10	Donald Buhr-19	Maliya Fitzgerald-30
Danna Wolford-11	Bill Redinger-20	
Kevin Ellerbee-11		
Phyllis Salyards-11		



First Presbyterian Church

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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