



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

# Home Page Newsletter

### Ashes to Ashes

This past Sunday we celebrated All Saints' Day. Each year, in a moving service, we take the time to honor the faithful disciples who have died during the past year and reflect on the treasures they passed along to us before their death. We light candles in their memory, attempting to keep their flame for as long as we can, and dedicate ourselves to passing their wisdom and love along to those who will follow us. It is a ritual of remembrance and centering that helps to connect us to the great eternal cloud of witnesses.

Over the past several months, members of First Presbyterian Church have been considering another way that we can remember and honor our saints in faith. The group has been exploring the possibility of installing a prayer garden and columbarium and memorial wall in the current courtyard space. A columbarium is a structure in which urns holding the cremated remains of loved ones can be housed. Many churches, both historically and contemporaneously, have had a columbarium or a graveyard on their property providing a peaceful resting place for departed saints of the church. These spaces often become sacred areas where people can gather to remember a departed loved one or simply spend time in prayer and meditation. It is the hope that this project will add such a holy space to First Presbyterian Church.

Also, this past Sunday our Scholar in Residence, Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh led an adult Forum titled "Ashes to Ashes: Christian Cremation." In this lesson, which is now available on the church's YouTube page (<https://youtu.be/gnqkThOuDHs>) Dr. Deffenbaugh explores Christian theology related to death, cremation, and eternal life. Dan always does an excellent job exploring a topic and viewing the class is highly recommended.

In addition to the installation of the 160-niche columbarium and memorial wall, this project, which is separate from the capital campaign, would involve adding access to the courtyard from the hallway which connects the education wing to the sanctuary building, enclosing the arches of the exterior breezeway with stained glass, and installing some outdoor seating in the area.

Those who can be inurned in the columbarium include church members and former members, pastors and staff of First Presbyterian Church, and the children, grandchildren, parents, spouses and partners (current and prior) of all of those folks. The same eligibility will apply to the memorial wall, which serves to honor those who are interred elsewhere but wish to be remembered for their relationship to the church.

Of course, there are far more details than what can be covered in this brief article. That is why a second forum has been scheduled for this **Sunday, November 10** at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship

*Continued*

Hall. This forum will be hosted by Dr. John Pershing who has chaired the columbarium committee and will provide great detail as to the scope and specifics of the project. Of course, if you have questions, you can always contact the church office but many of your questions will be answered during this session.

May we continue to honor and treasure the saints in faith who came before us.

Peace and all good,



Damen Jensen-Heitmann

# Ushers and Greeters

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

NOVEMBER GREETERS	MEMORIAL ROOM	NARTHEX
<b>10</b>	Kathy & Curtis Reimer	Melissa Davis
<b>17</b>	May & Ira Wierenga	Sue Medsker
<b>24</b>	Jane & Chuck Bauer	Erica & Brent Brooks

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

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

# Hangings of The Greens

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



## ELECTION DAY PRAYER



First Presbyterian Church of Hastings  
Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 5  
6:45 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Please join us in the sanctuary on election  
night for a brief service of song and  
prayer. We will pray for the elections, for  
our community and nation, and for peace.

## November Communion Offering

### 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 for using a sliding fee scale to reduce costs. Next steps are in the plan to provide dental care and behavioral health.



HASTINGS COMMUNITY MUSIC ACADEMY

# Musical Showcase & FUNDRAISER

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH  
6:30 PM  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

<b>Tuesday 11/5</b>	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	United Harvest Board Meeting	PEACE NW Classroom
	6-7:30pm	WAM Meeting	Anderson Room
	6:45pm	Election Day Prayer	Sanctuary
	7pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
<b>Wednesday 11/6</b>	11am	PW Coord Team	Library
	11:45am	PW Program and Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	5pm-7:15pm	PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade WNL	various
	6:30pm	Woodcarver's	Basement
	6:44pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
<b>Thursday 11/7</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Global Mission Committee	Anderson Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 11/8</b>	10am	Ken Stein Funeral and Luncheon	Funeral- Sanctuary Luncheon- PEACE Center
	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
<b>Sunday 11/10</b>	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
	3pm	Fauré Requiem Concert	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

Eleanor Jorgensen

Ken Fisk

Darcie (McDonald) Brink

Howard Mathews

David Hauch

Vicki (Fisk) Nieves

Monte Malouf

Jim Boeve

Eli Struss

Candice Unger

family of Ken Stein

Wade Giesler

## In memory of

Ken Stein, who passed away  
on 10/30/24



<b>Sunday 11/10</b>	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
	3pm	Fauré Requiem Concert	Sanctuary
<b>Monday 11/11</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 Rehearsal	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 11/12</b>	10:30am	Staff Meeting	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Congregational Life Committee	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Trustees Meeting	Middle School Youth Room
	6:45pm	Deacons	Anderson Room
	7pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
<b>Wednesday 11/13</b>	12pm	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 11/14</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 11/15</b>	10am	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
	5:30pm	HCMA Showcase/Fundraiser	Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, Memorial Room
<b>Saturday 11/16</b>		United Harvest	
<b>Sunday 11/17</b>	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

# 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/>

## Upcoming Forums

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

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

*Prayer Garden & Columbarium*  
Robin Koozer

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

## 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.

## Experiencing the Border

Reflections from 2024  
US/Mexico Border  
Trip Participants

**Forum, Sunday, Nov. 17**  
**9:15 a.m.**



COMMEMORATION OF OUR  
FAITHFUL FRIENDS & FAMILY  
DEPARTED IN DEATH  
DECEMBER 8, 2023 – OCTOBER 29, 2024

*Roberta Lloyd*

August 7, 1935 – December 8, 2023

*Shirley Gass*

February 6, 1930 – May 9, 2024

*Dave Stewart*

August 25, 1939 – January 30, 2024

*Bill Beck*

May 21, 1932 – June 10, 2024

*Dean Meyer*

April 18, 1929 – February 16, 2024

*Frank Medsker*

October 1, 1925 – June 12, 2024

*Don Kramer*

January 24, 1939 – March 10, 2024

*Vernon Groves*

March 20, 1969 – July 10, 2024

*Don Canady*

August 12, 1944 – March 16, 2024

*Carol Medsker*

April 12, 1930 – July 15, 2024

*Sharon Chapel*

August 11, 1943 – April 7, 2024

*Francis Vineyard*

September 30, 1927 – July 26, 2024

*Dave Schawang*

July 5, 1946 – August 18, 2024

# Meal Train for the Struss family

On October 16, Melissa and Ross Struss welcomed their son Eli. Let's support the Struss family by sharing some meals with them.

<https://mealtrain.com/vogmgz>

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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.

November 16, 2024		
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
P, Q, R.	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
A, B	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM



**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**

**Free Concert!**

**FAURÉ  
REQUIEM**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10**  
**3:00 P.M.**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS**

**FEATURING: HASTINGS SYMPHONY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA AND  
 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHANCEL CHOIR  
 SOLOISTS: TYLER KOEPP & MORGAN O'NEILL**

*All are welcome!*

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