



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

Christmas Eve Report and New Year Invitation

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

This past Christmas Eve was a beautiful testament to the joy and hope we find in Christ's birth. Over the course of four services, our church welcomed 560 people in-person and another 130 online to worship together and celebrate the coming of Emmanuel, God with us. Each service was a unique expression of worship, filled with music, candlelight, and community.

At 2:30 p.m., we took the Christmas Eve service beyond our walls to the residents of College View Retirement Community. With our incredible organist lending her talent on the piano and members of our choir lifting their voices in song, it was a deeply moving experience. Bringing the joy of Christmas to those who might not have been able to attend otherwise was a beautiful reminder of the heart of our mission: to serve and love our neighbors.

The 5:30 p.m. Family Service was brimming with energy and excitement. With more than 60 children in attendance, the sanctuary was alive with the wonder and joy of the season. From the opening notes of the prelude to the children's laughter during the service, it was a celebration of the Christ child that reminded us all of the beauty of faith through the eyes of a child.

Each of our services featured stunning music that uplifted our hearts and prepared us to receive the message of Christmas. The sacred moment of passing the candlelight during the singing of "Silent Night" was especially meaningful. As the light spread throughout the sanctuary, it symbolized the light of Christ that shines in the darkness, filling us with peace and hope.

As we enter this new year, we invite you to continue worshiping with us as we grow together in faith. We are now in the midst of an eight-week sermon series entitled "Jesus Is Making Waves," a deep dive into the stories of Jesus' life and ministry in the Gospel of Luke. Through these stories, we explore why Jesus' teachings and actions were so transformative in his time and continue to be today.

Two weeks ago, we studied the story in Luke 2 of Jesus' presentation in the temple as an infant, and the impact he made as a 12-year-old child in Jerusalem. Last week we studied the ministry of John the Baptist and how he called the people to "bear fruit

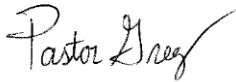
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worthy of repentance.” We were invited to think about what kind of fruit our own faith is bearing in our lives and in the world. This week we will be studying one of my favorite passages in the Gospel of Luke in chapter 4. It is the start of Jesus’ earthly ministry when he walks in to the temple and reads the scroll quoting the prophet Isaiah:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

You can join us in worship on Sundays, listen to our weekly podcast, "[First Thoughts](#)," or take part in our Tuesday noon Bible study to explore this Gospel and discover how Jesus is still making waves in our lives and world today. Together, let us seek to shine God’s light and make waves of love and hope in our community and beyond.

Your Servant in Christ,



Pastor Greg

January Ushers and Greeters

January Ushers (Team #5) Captain – Melissa Davis, Matt Fong, Julie Thomsen, Justin Brader

January Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
19	Roger & Karen Doerr	Susie Graham
26	Erica & Brent Brooks	Susan Cole

February (Team #6) Chanda Essink, Lynne Friedewald, Chuck Shoemaker

February	Memorial Room	Narthex
2	Julie Thomsen	Melissa Davis
9	Dan Deffenbaugh	Jean Barber
16	Kim Creech	Mary Kay LaMaster
23	Bonnie & Kenton Grams	Mary Fisk

Tuesday 1/14	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Congregational Life Meeting	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Trustees Meeting	Middle School Youth Room
	6:45pm	Deacons Meeting	Anderson Room
Wednesday 1/15	9:30am	PW Circles 1 & 2	Fellowship Hall
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	1-3pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	1:15pm	PW Circle 3	Fellowship Hall
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 th grade WNL	Various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers meet	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
Thursday 1/16	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Session Meeting	Anderson Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
Friday 1/17	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
Saturday 1/18	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
		United Harvest	

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 AT 11:30AM, FPC SANCTUARY

Annual Congregational Meeting

ANYONE CAN ATTEND, ALL MEMBERS CAN VOTE



Sunday 1/19	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
Monday 1/20	<i>Church Offices Closed- Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>		
	9am-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	1-3pm	1 st Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5:30pm	Hastings College Honor Band & Choir Concert	Sanctuary
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
Tuesday 1/21	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
Wednesday 1/22	1-3pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 th Grade WNL	Various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
Thursday 1/23	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 1/24	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE gym
	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
Sunday 1/26	9:15am	Sunday School for all ages	Various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary



February Anniversaries

Karla & Monte Malouf 2/4/1977

Lesla & Steve Cropley 2/10/1979

Uschi & Larry Butler 2/18/1967

Jessica & Greg Allen-Pickett 2/24/2001

Irina Belikova-Erickson & Brett Erickson 2/27/1998



**The Church Offices will
be closed on Monday,
January 20 in
observance of Martin
Luther King Jr. Day**

Upcoming Forums

January 12, 19, and 26

“Poverty Alleviation: The Bridging Forward Program”

Bridging Forward, a program created by the Community Impact Network and United Way of South Central Nebraska is an innovative effort to engage all of us in putting individuals, families, and this community on the road to stability. During this three part series Brady Rhodes will share a program overview, members of First Pres will share their experiences as volunteers, and we'll hopefully have an opportunity to hear directly from Bridging Forward participants as well.

January Communion Offering



RiteCare Clinics of Nebraska provide pediatric speech therapy for children who exhibit communication delays. Our child-centered, family-friendly process involves parents as partners in each child's individual treatment for long-term success at home, in school and beyond. We work with kids who are not meeting specific speech and language developmental milestones.

Nebraska's RiteCare Clinics have been providing clinical services for children in Nebraska for more than 40 years, with locations in Omaha, Lincoln, Hastings, and Kearney.

Services are provided at no cost to families, thanks to the generous support of Nebraska's Scottish Rite Masons and our community of donors.

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.

January 18, 2025		
A, B	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM



Winter Sermon Series: Jesus is making waves!

- **January 5:** Luke 2
Boy in the temple
- **January 12:**
Matthew 2 & Luke 3
The Magi and Baptism
- **January 19:** Luke 4
Prophecy of Isaiah
- **January 26:** Luke 5
A great catch & fishing for people
- **February 2:** Luke 6
Sabbath healing & preaching
- **February 9:** Luke 7:1-17
Healing & raising from the dead
- **February 16:** Luke 7:18-35
Jesus affirms John the baptizer
- **February 23:** Luke 7:36-50
Forgiven at Jesus' feet

Jesus is making waves!

A sermon series on the gospel of Luke

Join us this winter for a sermon series on the gospel of Luke that shows how Jesus was shaking things up. He makes waves with the visit of the Wise Men, his baptism, preaching and teaching, performing miracles, working on the sabbath, healing and raising people from the dead, quoting prophecies, affirming John the Baptist, offering forgiveness to sinners and inviting others to join him.

What can we learn from his example?

Free Organ Concert

First Presbyterian Church

Presents

**Gregory Peterson
and
Jon Stender**

Sunday,

February 2, 2025

3 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
621 N. Lincoln Ave.
Hastings, NE

All are welcome!



Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher	Carl Utley	Jim Boeve
Carter Johnson	Barry Thomson	Candice Unger
Tarah Davis & family	Greg Howard	Nytha & Dave Glass
Matt Campbell	Pam Canady	Lexi Longshore
Janey Nottage-Tacey	Kathy (Adams) Carrier	Ashley Ibach
Bob Wolf	family of Eleanor Jorgenson	family of Ken Stein
KyMani Riek	Darcie (McDonald) Brink	John Pershing
Ken Fisk	David Hauch	family of Pat Kleiber
Howard Mathews	Monte Malouf	Judd Carrier
Vicki (Fisk) Nieves	Eli Struss	Jane Tushaus
Janelle Baideme	Louie Eckhardt and family	Linda Carllson and family
Bill Anderson		Bev Stein

In memory of

Pat Kleiber, who passed
away on 12/27/24

Happy February Birthdays

Nytha Glass-1	Meredith Oliver-9	
Carole Storer-1	Doug Phelps-10	
LaRaesha Kugel-1	Dick McClenahan-11	
Chanda Essink-2	Jon Propp-12	
George Adam-2	Becky Meyer-12	
Katie Kingsley-3	Hannah Hafer-13	Dacia Hultman-21
Nina Meyer-4	Gayle Fandry-13	Thomas Moore-22
Dawson Kugel-5	Kathy Amyot-14	Ramona Shetler-22
Michelle Musgrave-5	Rachel Guiai-14	Janey Nottage-Tacey-23
George Howard-6	Mary Plock-14	Tyler Koepp-23
Pam Canady-6	Mike Kleppinger-15	Harvey Freetly-24
C.L. Wimer-6	Larry Stromer-16	Sharon Steenbarger-24
Riley Mullen-6	Lainey Hermann-16	Dana Odom-25
Justin Brader-7	BJ Pumroy-17	Patti Deveny-26
JoAnn Williams-8	Keaton Redline-17	Brent Brooks-26
Ben Welsch-9	Luca Hultman-18	Brett Epperson-27

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