



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

# Home Page Newsletter

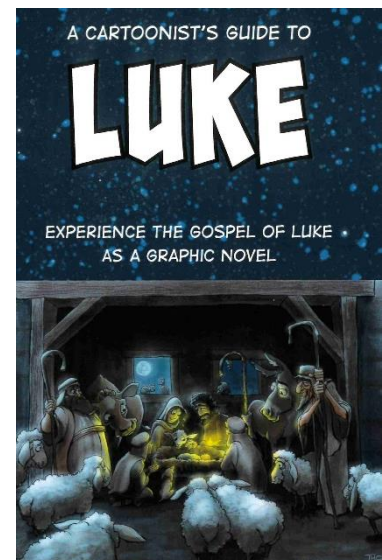
### Studying the Gospel of Luke

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

Since January we have been doing an in-depth study of the Gospel of Luke in our winter sermon series, *Jesus Is Making Waves*. It has been a meaningful and thought-provoking journey which tells the story of Jesus of Nazareth from the perspective of a defender of the poor, the weak, and the outcast. It begins with Jesus' humble birth in a stable and ends with his death on a cross and his resurrection from the dead. Luke also contains unique stories, not found in the other Gospels. We meet Jesus as a twelve-year-old boy debating with the teachers in the Temple. Then, Jesus returns to his hometown in Nazareth and reads from the Isaiah scroll declaring his mission of “bringing good news to the poor and freeing the oppressed.” (Luke 4) Jesus offers parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son. In this account of Jesus’ life, he is a poor traveling teacher who exalts the lowly and brings down the self-inflated. He bucks against his cultural norms and highlights the importance of women, children, outsiders and outcasts. No one is outside of God's love, and all who are lost will be found. Through these stories we have been studying, God seeks the downtrodden and makes sure that everyone has a place at the table. Many in our congregation have shared with me how this deep dive into Luke’s account of Jesus’ life and ministry has challenged and inspired them. If you’d like to rewatch some of the sermons from this series, you can click here: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLrDhGgyNVayw2TQp555FGFvZK9o7p6hNh>

As we move into the season of Lent, we invite you to continue exploring this powerful Gospel with us. Beginning March 16 and continuing through April 13 at 9:15am on Sunday mornings, our Adult Education Forum will provide an opportunity for deeper engagement with Luke’s Gospel. Scholar-in-Residence Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh will lead us in further study, helping us uncover the richness of Luke’s message.

This year, we are also excited to incorporate a creative new resource into our Lenten study—a graphic novel version of the Gospel of Luke entitled “A Cartoonist’s Guide to Luke” written and illustrated by Luther seminary professor Dr. Steve Thomason. If you don’t know what a graphic novel is, think of a comic book, but more in-depth. This visually engaging approach brings Luke’s narrative to life in a fresh and accessible way. On March 23, Dr. Thomason will join us via



*Continued*

zoom to share his creative process and discuss how visual storytelling can enrich our understanding of scripture. Our high school students will be joining the adult ed forum for this exciting and interesting Lenten study on Sundays during Lent.

We encourage you to make time for this special season of study, reflection, and conversation. Whether you've been following *Jesus Is Making Waves* from the beginning or are just now joining us, there is a place for you in this journey. Come, be part of the story!

Your Servant in Christ,



Pastor Greg

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## March Ushers and Greeters

**March Ushers (Team 1)** Captain – Chuck Hastings, Elaine Specht, Kim Creech

March Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
2	May & Ira Wierenga	Katharine Davis
9	Gifts of Women Sunday	Gifts of Women Sunday
16	Margaret & Charles Hermes	Sue Medsker
23	Kathy Utter	Melissa Davis
30	Clyde Sachtleben & Carolyn Nowka	Volunteers Needed



# Two Months of Sacred Music at First Presbyterian Church of Hastings



## March 2025

Sunday, March 2, 10:30am:  
Cathedral Brass

Ash Wednesday, March 5, 7pm:  
Chancel Choir & Bells

Sunday, March 9, 10:30am:  
Women's Choir and String Quartet

Sunday, March 16, 10:30am:  
Men's Choir singing "De Profundis"

Sunday, March 23, 10:30am:  
Children's Choir and Bells

Sunday, March 30, 10:30am:  
Youth Choir

## April 2025

Sunday, April 6, 10:30am:  
Nebraska Festival Singers

Palm Sunday, April 13, 10:30am:  
Children and Youth Choirs

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 7pm:  
Chancel Choir

Good Friday, April 18, 7pm:  
Contemplative Worship

Easter Sunday, April 20, 10:30am:  
Chancel Choir and Cathedral Brass

Sunday, April 27, 10:30am:  
Bach Cantata & Chamber Orchestra

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE



3/5/2025

7 PM

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SANCTUARY

Elaine Schumacher  
 Carter Johnson  
 Tarah Davis & family  
 Matt Campbell  
 Janey Nottage-Tacey  
 Bob Wolf  
 KyMani Riek  
 Ken Fisk  
 Howard Mathews  
 Vicki (Fisk) Nieves  
 Janelle Baideme  
 Bill Anderson  
 Willis Horton  
 Jim Boeve  
 Candice Unger  
 Nytha & Dave Glass

**Please pray for**  
 Carl Utley  
 Barry Thomson  
 Greg Howard  
 Pam Canady  
 Kathy (Adams) Carrier  
 family of Eleanor Jorgenson  
 Darcie (McDonald) Brink  
 David Hauch  
 Monte Malouf  
 Eli Struss  
 Louie Eckhardt and family  
 family of Wayne Ganow  
 Carole Pedersen  
 Lexi Longshore  
 Ashley Ibach  
 family of Jane Johnson

John Pershing  
 family of Pat Kleiber  
 Judd Carrier  
 Jane Tushaus  
 Charlene Cebell  
 Linda Carllson and family  
 Bev Stein

**In memory of**  
 Pat Kleiber, who passed  
 away on 12/27/24  
 Wayne Ganow, who passed  
 away on 1/17/25  
 Jane Johnson, who passed  
 away on 2/11/25



Join us for an informational meeting about our 2025 Go & Serve Youth Mission Trip! Learn where we are going, and how to get involved! We will meet during our regularly scheduled Youth Group time.

**WEDNESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY**

**6:30-7:15 PM**  
**Sr. High Youth Room**  
**(FPC basement)**

621 N Lincoln Ave. Hastings, NE 68901

(402) 462-5147

[rose@fpchastings.org](mailto:rose@fpchastings.org)



**Gather Hastings**

**HASTINGS CITY AUDITORIUM**  
**FEBRUARY 28TH | 6:45 PM - 11:00 PM**  
 (DOORS OPEN @ 6:00 PM)  
**MARCH 1ST | 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM**

Bringing Hastings, Nebraska together to lift high the name of Jesus as the Global Church gathers like never before! Every continent. Every denomination. Together across 25 hours.

**EVENT DETAILS**

- This is a free, open house event. All ages are welcome & you can come and go as you please.
- The main community gathering will be Friday, February 28th at 6:45 PM with doors opening at 6:00 PM and the live music starting at 6:15 PM.
- Concessions will be available both Friday and Saturday

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:**

- Email [gatherhastings@gmail.com](mailto:gatherhastings@gmail.com) or message the Gather 25 Hastings Facebook page with questions.

**CONNECT WITH US:**

Like & follow Gather 25 Hastings on Facebook

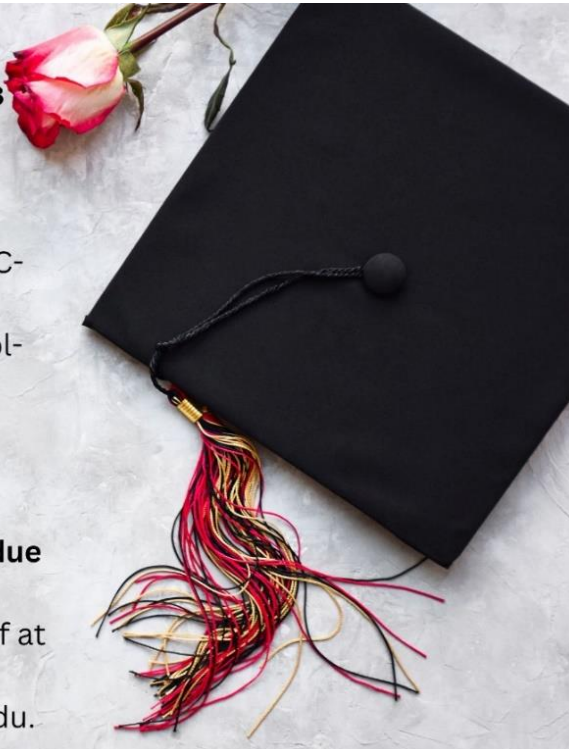


<b>Tuesday 2/25</b>	1030am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity Board Meeting	Middle School Youth Room
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	6-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
<b>Wednesday 2/26</b>	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	1-3pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	5-7:15pm	Pre-K-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade WNL	Various
	6:30pm	Go & Serve Informational Meeting	Sr. High Youth Room
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
<b>Thursday 2/27</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	6-8pm	Hastings Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	6-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 2/28</b>	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
<b>Saturday 3/1</b>	1-3pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym

**College  
Scholarship Applications**

are available on  
the church website at  
<https://fpchastings.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/FPC-Scholarship-Application-2025-2026-school-year.pdf>  
or  
in the Church Office

The application and essay are **due April 1, 2025**. Completed applications can be dropped off at the church office or emailed directly to [rstruss@hastings.edu](mailto:rstruss@hastings.edu).



<b>Sunday 3/2</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
<b>Monday 3/3</b>	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	1pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
<b>Tuesday 3/4</b>	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	United Harvest Board Meeting	PEACE NW Classroom
	6pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
<b>Wednesday 3/5</b>	11-11:45am	PW Coord Team	
	11:45am	PW Program/Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	1pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	5pm	PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade WNL	Various
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	7pm	Ash Wednesday Service	Sanctuary
<b>Thursday 3/6</b>	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Youth Christian Ed Meeting	Fellowship Hall
	5:30pm	Global Mission Committee	PEACE NW Classroom
	6pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Friday 3/7</b>	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
<b>Saturday 3/8</b>	1-3pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
<b>Sunday 3/9</b>		<i>Gifts of Women Sunday</i>	
	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
		<b>No Sunday School</b>	
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library

The South Heartland District Health Department is pleased to offer **FREE** workshops options to support efforts to strengthen adolescent digital wellbeing. Erin Walsh M.A. from Spark & Stitch Institute, will explain brain science and research related to child and adolescent development. Erin uses easy-to-understand language and will cut through conflicting Information about kids and technology.

Erin Walsh's workshops are designed for anyone that strives to enrich the lives of youth of all ages.

The workshops options are listed below:

**iBrain: Learning in the Age of Distractions**

Educator Workshop, Ideal for all Types of Educators

4:00 - 5:30pm, Thursday, April 10th, Hastings City Auditorium, 400 N Hastings Ave, Hastings, NE

**It's Complicated: Kids, Teens, Screens, and Mental Health**

Community Keynote, For Parents and Youth Serving Professionals

6:30 - 8:00pm, Thursday, April 10th, Hastings City Auditorium, 400 N Hastings Ave, Hastings, NE

**Status Update: Adolescents, Technology, and Mental Health**

Professional Development Workshop for Mental Health Professionals and Youth Workers

10:00 - 12:00pm, Friday, April 11th, YWCA Adams County, 2525 West 2nd Street, Hastings, NE

The complete workshop flier and registration can be found attached or at: <https://tinyurl.com/y5ksft7a>. Please pass this information on to the appropriate staff, community members, parents, and grandparents in your area! If there is anyone that you would like me to send this information to, please let me know.

For more information or if you have any questions, contact me, Chris Junker at South Heartland District Health Department, 402-462-6211, [chris.junker@shdhd.ne.gov](mailto:chris.junker@shdhd.ne.gov).

**UPCOMING FORUMS**

**9:15 a.m.**

**Lydia Room**

**FEB 16 - MARCH 2 - ADVENT**

**IMPACT: HOW WHAT WE  
COLLECTED MAKES A  
DIFFERENCE**

**LANGENBERG LESSON SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM** was established to encourage the youth of our church in their musical pursuits through the generosity of the late Luella Langenberg.

- Parents of students in grades 1-12 may apply for up to \$250 per semester to offset the cost of private music instruction. Grants are limited to one per child.
- Areas of study include piano, voice, guitar, or any band/orchestral instrument.
- Parents must be members of First Presbyterian Church, and students must be active participants in the church choir/music program.

Application forms are available in the church office and on the church website.

- *DEADLINE FOR THE Spring 2025 GRANT PROGRAM IS April 1, 2025.*
  - GRANTS ARE RENEWABLE; PARENTS MUST RE-APPLY EACH SEMESTER.
- Applications are available on the shelf outside the Church Offices or on the Church website at:

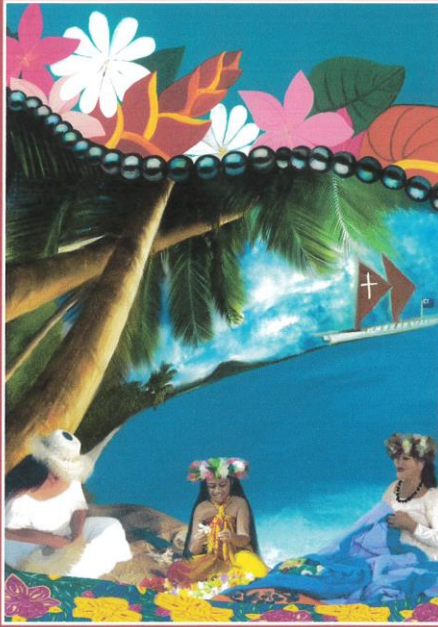
<https://fpchastings.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Langenberg-form-Spring-2025.pdf>



The American Red Cross and First Presbyterian Church are hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, March 11 from 12pm-6pm. 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](http://redcrossblood.org), select the drive at First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, and make your appointment.







# 2025 World Day of Prayer

“I Made You Wonderful”  
*Psalm 139:14*

Artwork: “Wonderfully Made”  
by Tarani Napa and Tevairangi Napa



Program written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of the Cook Islands for WDP 2025. World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

**All Are Welcome!**

Date: March 7, 2025

Time: 9:30 am-Coffee/Fellowship  
10:00 am-Service

Venue: Salvation Army, 400 S Burlington Ave, Hastings NE

Speaker: Captain Irvine

You are invited to join us in worship & fellowship.

Contact: Salvation Army

Phone Number: 402-463-0529

World Day of Prayer USA, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1374, Room F, New York, NY 10115  
212-870-2466 | [www.wdp-usa.org](http://www.wdp-usa.org) | [www.facebook.com/worlddayofprayerusa](https://www.facebook.com/worlddayofprayerusa)



WELCOME TO THE WORLD

*Baby Girl!*

**Bliss Charlotte Overmiller**

FEBRUARY 12, 2025

LOVING PARENTS, LAUREN & MATT OVERMILLER

SIBLINGS, ROSIE & HAL OVERMILLER

GRANDMOTHER, STEPHANIE BLISS

GREAT-GRANDPARENTS, SALLY HATCHER AND MARGARET & CHARLES HERMES

## **Meal Train for the Overmiller family**

On February 12, Lauren & Matt Overmiller welcomed their daughter, Bliss into the world. Siblings Rosie & Hal are excited! Let's support the Overmiller family by sharing some meals with them.

Please visit the website below to sign-up!

<https://mealtrain.com/539qrr>

First Presbyterian Church

621 N. Lincoln Ave.

Hastings, NE 68901

402-462-5147

[fpc@fpchastings.org](mailto: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