



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

Journey Through Lent: A Season of Reflection and Renewal

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

The season of Lent invites us into a time of reflection, repentance, and renewal as we prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter. This sacred 40-day journey (excluding Sundays) mirrors Jesus' time of fasting and prayer in the wilderness and calls us to spiritual disciplines such as prayer, fasting, and acts of service. It is a time to acknowledge our need for God's grace, seek reconciliation, and deepen our commitment to following Christ.

Ash Wednesday: Marking the Beginning of Lent

We began our Lenten journey together with a powerful Ash Wednesday service, where we received the imposition of ashes in the shape of a cross—reminding us of our mortality and the promise of God's mercy. Our worship was enriched by beautiful music from our Chancel Bell Choir, Chancel Choir, and organist Linda. If you were unable to attend or would like to reflect further, we invite you to experience these musical offerings again:

"Pulvis Es" – An original Ash Wednesday song written by Dr. Brett Epperson:

<https://youtu.be/c4bCnxoBaBE>

"Sign Us with Ashes" – Sung by the Chancel Choir, one of my favorite hymns for this season: <https://youtu.be/mULdzTlaZmg>

"What Wondrous Love Is This" – Played by the Chancel Bell Choir with soloist Angie Amaya: <https://youtu.be/d1nnI8sksZY>

Lenten Devotional Guide: Walking the Journey Together

This year, we are using a devotional guide published by The Presbyterian Outlook titled "Grieving Change and Loss: The Unpredictable, Non-Linear, Faith-Filled Journey Toward Resurrection." The authors remind us that "the wilderness of Lent is a journey of grief. We prepare ourselves to lose Jesus on the cross... but the hope of Christ's death rests in the new life it offers."

You can access the devotional guide online here: <https://bit.ly/FPCHLent2025> Paper copies are also available in the church office to pick up and will be available at worship services on Sunday.

Continued

Lenten Sermon Series and Study of the Gospel of Luke

We will continue our deep study of the Gospel of Luke during the Season of Lent. The sermon series will switch from “Jesus is making waves” to a Lenten themed series, “Journey to the Cross” as we walk with Jesus through his ministry and to Jerusalem where he will face his trial and crucifixion. Jesus tells a whole series of parables that provide a lot of food for thought that we will explore.



Journey to the cross

- **March 9: Love and Mercy**
 - Luke 10:25-42 The parable of the Good Samaritan
- **March 16: Invite and Welcome**
 - Luke 14 The parable of the wedding feast
- **March 23: Lost and Found**
 - Luke 15:1-32 Parables of lost sheep, lost coin, and lost son
- **March 30: Reflect and weep**
 - Luke 16:19-31 Parable of the rich man and Lazarus
- **April 6: Seek and Save**
 - Luke 18:31-19:10 Healing a blind man, meeting Zacchaeus
- **April 13: Enter and Prepare**
 - Luke 19:29-44 Palm Sunday, Jesus enters Jerusalem

Journey to the cross...
A Lenten Sermon Series

In addition to the sermon series, we will be studying the Gospel of Luke in our adult education forum throughout Lent, including by studying a graphic novel version of the gospel of Luke and hearing from the author of the graphic novel on Sunday, March 23.

May this season be one of deepening faith, renewed hope, and preparation for the new life we celebrate at Easter. Join us in worship, prayer, and study as we journey together.

Grace and peace,

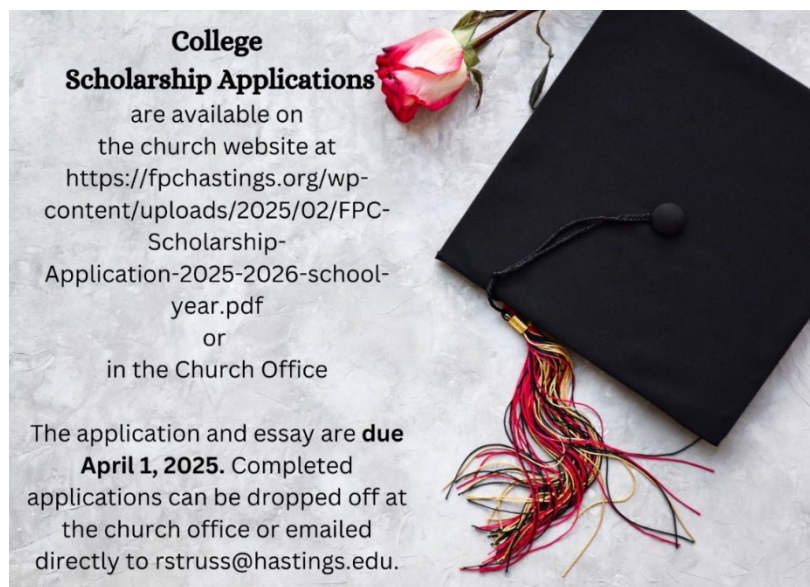


Pastor Greg

March Ushers and Greeters

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

March Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
16	Margaret & Charles Hermes	Sue Medsker
23	Kathy Utter	Melissa Davis
30	Clyde Sachtleben & Carolyn Nowka	Volunteers Needed



**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.

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>



Two Months of Sacred Music at First Presbyterian Church of Hastings



March 2025

April 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

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

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE PRESENTS:

MARCH 19, 2025

Game Night at FPC



JOIN US FOR:

Dinner

Games

Fellowship

Dinner 5-5:30

GAMES
5:30-7:00

**This event is intended for adults. Students will be at their regular WNL activities.

For Questions, contact the office: (402) 462-5147

Please pray for

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

Willis Horton

Jim Boeve

Candice Unger

Nytha & Dave Glass

Bev Stein

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

Doug Rasmussen

Judd Carrier

Jane Tushaus

Charlene Cebell

Linda Carlsson and family

Kim Hermann and family

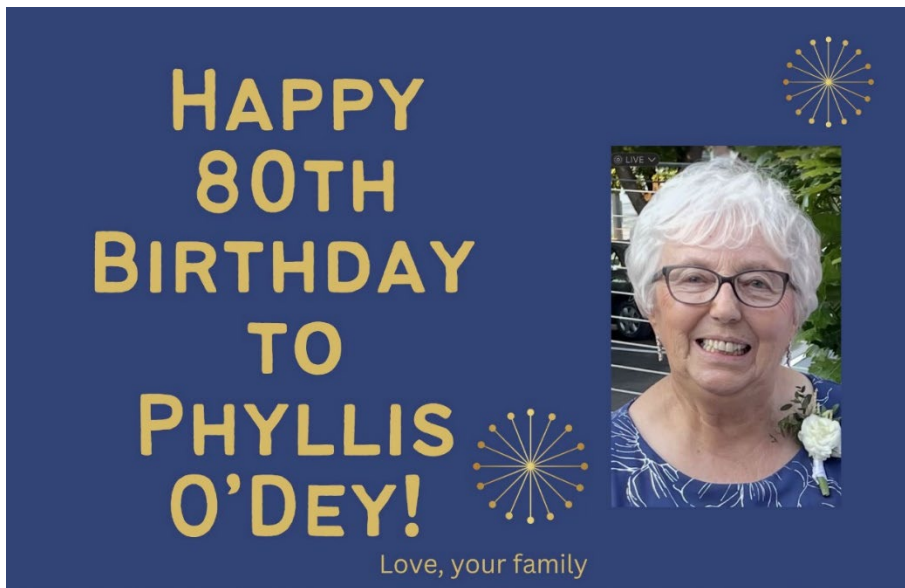
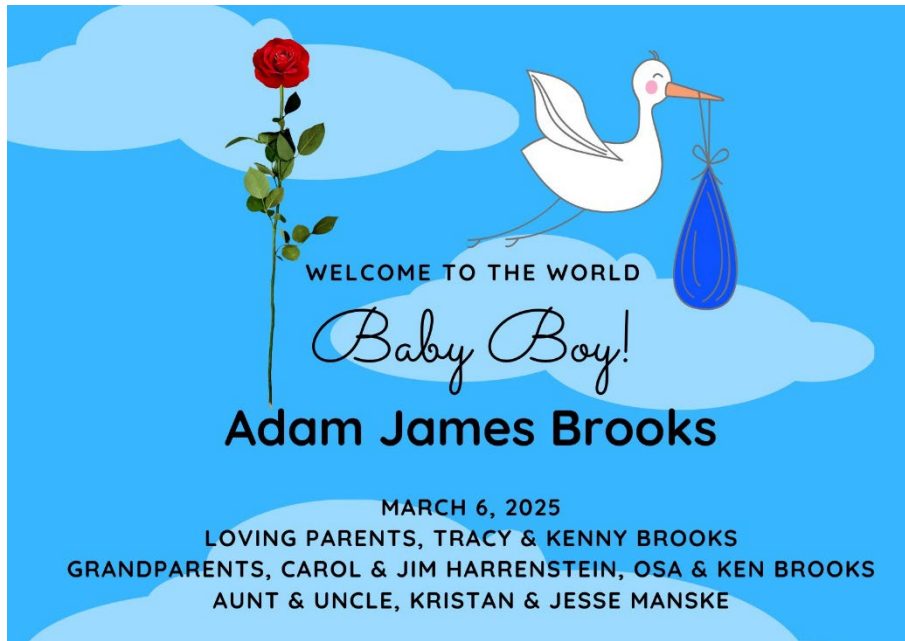
Karla Malouf and family

Mary Lewis

In memory of

Wayne Ganow, who passed away on 1/17/25

Jane Johnson, who passed away on 2/11/25



Tuesday 3/11	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	12pm-6pm	Red Cross Blood Drive	Fellowship Hall
	5:30pm	Congregational Life Meets	Anderson Room
	6:45pm	Deacons Meet	Anderson Room
	7pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
Wednesday 3/12	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	1pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
		NO WNL	
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir Meets	Choir Room
Thursday 3/13	7:30pm	Chancel Bells Meet	Bell Room
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	6pm-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
Friday 3/14	7pm-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
Saturday 3/15	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
	1-3pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
Sunday 3/16	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am-10:15am	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



enCourage Community Safety Team

“The Community Safety Team is a local team working to better protect and support our local immigrant community members. We want to be prepared in case of large-scale immigration enforcement actions. This is being done in partnership with a larger statewide effort led by Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, Nebraska Appleseed, and the Center for Rural Affairs. We’re also coordinating closely with the Multicultural Coalition based in Grand Island.” -Jo Bair

The goal of these meetings reflects those of the statewide meetings:

- Organize local and statewide networks, resources, and volunteers to plan for the safety of immigrant community members and rapidly respond with necessary supports in the event of large-scale immigration enforcement actions (such as workplace raids or mass detention events) or anti-immigrant hate crimes/incidents.
- Intentional non-public scenario response planning to protect the privacy and safety of community members
- Locally led, strength-based approach
- Map local community resources and identify gaps in services where statewide agencies or new fundraising efforts could assist

Sunday 3/16	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am-10:15am	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 3/17	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	12pm	Memorial Committee Meeting	Anderson Room
	1pm	1 st Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
Tuesday 3/18	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	6pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	7pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
Wednesday 3/19	9:30am	PW Circles 1 & 2	Fellowship Hall
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	1:15pm	PW Circle 3	Fellowship Hall
	5-7:30pm	Heartland District Health Department Event	PEACE NE Classroom
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 th Grade WNL	
	5-7pm	Adult Game Night	Fellowship Hall
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
Thursday 3/20	7:30pm	Bell Choir	Bell Room
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Session Meets	Anderson Room
	6pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
Friday 3/21	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
Saturday 3/22	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
		United Harvest	
Sunday 3/23	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

Change of Date for United Harvest Distribution

United Harvest will take place on March 22, 2025.

The South Heartland District Health Department is pleased to offer **FREE** workshop 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 workshop 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.

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>

EASTER LILIES 2025



Easter Lilies are \$12 each. Monies raised above the cost will be donated to Leapfrog Village. Leapfrog Village is a free early childhood family engagement program that provides meals, fun activities, and access to resources so that families can focus their time, hearts, and attention on engaging with each other and strengthening their relationships.

Lily in memory of: _____

Lily in honor of: _____

Given by: _____

I will take my Lily home after the Easter Sunday services: Yes No

I will leave my Lily at the church: Yes No

Are you missing something?

Check the Lost and Found Shelf outside of the Church Office to see if it has been found.



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