



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

Walk with Jesus and your Church Family for Palm Sunday and Holy Week: Opportunities to engage at First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

As we draw near to Palm Sunday and Holy Week, we invite you to be part of this sacred journey through worship, music, prayer, service, and reflection. Whether you've walked this path many times before or are experiencing it anew, the next two weeks offer rich opportunities to engage deeply in the life of our church.

Palm Sunday – April 13

Celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with palms and praise!

- **Sunday Worship at 8:30am and 10:30am**

At the 10:30am service, children are invited to participate in the palm processional—come a few minutes early to receive your palm branch and parade up and down the aisles as we sing HOSANNA!

Holy Week Worship & Events:

Prayer Monday – April 14, 6:30-8pm (Via phone)

Our Deacons, Session, and Church Staff will call every family in the church to collect prayer requests, pray with our church members, and share details about Holy Week. If your phone rings between 6:30-8pm on Monday, answer it!

Maundy Thursday – April 17, 7:15pm (Memorial Room)

A contemplative service with communion, remembering the Last Supper. We'll gather around the Lord's table and reflect on Jesus' command to love one another. The Chancel Choir will offer special music.

Good Friday – April 18, 7:00pm (Sanctuary)

Through scripture, silence, and music, we will journey to the cross and hold space for the sorrow and mystery of Good Friday. Pastor Damen will lead this service on guitar.

Prayer Vigil in the Chapel – April 18 – April 20 (Chapel or at Home)

We will hold a prayer vigil from the close of Good Friday worship until Easter morning. Sign up for an hour timeslot to pray in the Chapel (or at home) during this time at this link:

<https://bit.ly/ChapelVigil>

Easter Sunday – April 20 (Sanctuary)

Celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with joy and hope!

- **Worship at 8:30 and 10:30am (Sanctuary & Livestream)**

With brass, choir, our tradition of singing the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's Messiah, and the great good news: *Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!*

Continued

Other Ways to Engage in our Easter Journey over the next two weeks:

- **Saturday April 12, 9am-12pm – Church Workday**
 - Join your church family to help clean our church grounds. Bring gloves and garden tools and help us beautify our church campus for Palm Sunday and Easter!
- **Saturday, April 19, 9am-12pm – United Harvest Food Distribution**
 - Help us feed our hungry neighbors with a food distribution in the PEACE Center parking lot.
- **Watch the First Thoughts Podcast to reflect on the Palm Sunday and Holy Week Scriptures:**
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLrDhGgyNVaywoxXR4NvbjrLXeMyPSOsBG&feature=shared>
- **Continue reading our Lenten Devotional Guide:** <https://bit.ly/FPCHLent2025>
- **Invite a friend or neighbor to worship**—Holy Week is a beautiful time to extend a warm invitation.
- **Pray with us**—take time each day to reflect on the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Let this Holy Week be a time of transformation as we walk with Christ from palms to passion, from cross to resurrection. Come, be part of the story!

Your Servant in Christ,



Pastor Greg

April Ushers and Greeters

April Ushers (Team 2) Captain – Duane Huber, Steve Illingworth, Daveta Brader, Lois Hafer, Dick Brader

| April Greeters | Memorial Room | Narthex |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 13 | Jan Ham | Mary Kay LaMaster |
| Easter 8:30 a.m. 20 | Volunteers Needed | Volunteers Needed |
| Easter 10:30 a.m. 20 | Jan Bolliger | Jill Kramer |
| 27 | Melissa Davis | Volunteers Needed |

Easter Greeters needed: We are in need of Greeters for the 8:30 a.m. service on Easter. Please let Melissa (melissa@fpchastings.org or 402-462-5147) know if you are able to help out. Thank you!

Easter Ushers needed: We are in need of Ushers for the 8:30 a.m. service on Easter. Please let Melissa (melissa@fpchastings.org or 402-462-5147) know if you are able to help out. Thank you!



VBS 2025
SCUBA
 Dive into friendship with God!

Join us June 23-26 as we dive into an unforgettable adventure with *Scuba Vacation Bible School!*

Kids will plunge into an ocean of discovery, exploring the depths of God's love through exciting Bible stories, engaging activities, and hands-on fun. Each day, we'll dive deeper into themes of faith, friendship, and the boundless love of Jesus. Don't miss this week of underwater exploration—register today and get ready to make a splash!

Scan the code or visit FPChastings.org to register!




Thank you so much! Morgan

Blessings in your generosity! Dan Sawfield

Thank you so much for your support! Ophelia Schuman

Thank you! Ashley Agnew

Richard French

Muchas Gracias!

Thank you for everything! Susan Clark Peck

Thank you so much!! Jennifer Paul

Your generosity is so appreciated! Ophelia Schuman

Thank you! Greg Allen-Pickett

God's Bless You for all you do for Jesus

Thank you for your support! Jessica Walker

Thank you so much! Amanda Schroeder

Thank You

A heart-felt "Thank-you!" for your generous support of Gather25 Hastings.

Your giving helped us to fulfill the vision of bringing the community of Hastings together, along with others all over the world, to lift high the name of Jesus.

Thank you again so much for your willingness to support this event.


Sincerely,
 The members of the Gather25 Hastings Committee;



Noonday Book Group

The Noonday Book Group will begin discussion of Paula Fredriksen's book ***Ancient Christianities: The First Five Hundred Years*** beginning April 2nd. Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh will lead the weekly conversations online. All are welcome to login at 11:55 a.m. every Wednesday. Please contact Sharon Brooks at sbbrooks52@gmail.com for more information about connecting online.

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------|---------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday 4/8 | 10:30am | Staff Meeting | In-person |
| | 12pm | Bible Study | Anderson Room |
| | 5:30pm | Congregational Life Meeting | Anderson Room |
| | 5:30pm | Trustee Meeting | Middle School Youth Room |
| | 6-9pm | Hastings Pickleball Club | PEACE Gym |
| | 6:45pm | Deacons | Anderson Room |
| | 7pm | CCC Dog Obedience | PEACE NE Classroom |
| Wednesday 4/9 | 12pm | Noonday Book Club | Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link |
| | 5-7:15pm | PreK-12 th Grade WNL | Various |
| | 5-7pm | Adult Game Night | Meal-5pm-5:30pm; Games-5:30pm-7pm Fellowship Hall |
| | 6:30pm | Woodcarvers Meet | Basement |
| | 6:45pm | Chancel Choir | Choir Room |
| | 7:30pm | Chancel Bells | Bell Room |
| Thursday 4/10 | 12:30pm | Dulcimer | HCMA Room 112 |
| | 6pm | Mexican Folkloric Dance | PEACE NE Classroom |
| | 6pm-9pm | Hastings Pickleball Club | PEACE Gym |
| | 7pm | Cub Scouts | Scout Room |
| Friday 4/11 | 9am-11am | Hastings Pickleball Club | PEACE Gym |
| | 10am | Mahjong Ladies | Basement Youth Room |
| Saturday 4/12 | 9am-12pm | Church Work Day | |



Holy Week at First Presbyterian

Palm Sunday 4/13 at 8:30 and 10:30am

Prayer Monday 4/14 6:30-8pm

Maundy Thursday 4/17 at 7:15pm

Good Friday 4/18 at 7pm

Prayer Vigil 4/18-4/20 in the Chapel

Easter Sunday 4/20 at 8:30 & 10:30am

All services held at First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, 621 N. Lincoln Street – www.fpchastings.org
Palm Sunday & Easter 10:30am service will be livestreamed at www.facebook.com/fpchastings

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Sunday 4/13 | Palm Sunday | | |
| | 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 |
| Monday 4/14 | 11:30am | HAW Store Open | Library |
| | 9am-11am | Hastings Pickleball Club | PEACE Gym |
| | 1-3pm | 1 st Pres. Pickleball | PEACE Gym |
| | 1:30pm | Quilters | PEACE Quilting Room |
| | 6-8pm | Mexican Folkloric Dance | PEACE NE Classroom |
| | 6:30-8pm | Prayer Calls | |
| | 6-9pm | Hastings Pickleball Club | PEACE Gym |
| Tuesday 4/15 | 7-9pm | Chorus of the Plains | Choir Room |
| | 10:30am | Staff Meeting | In-person |
| | 12pm | Bible Study | Anderson Room |
| | 6-9pm | Hastings Pickleball Club | PEACE Gym |
| Wednesday 4/16 | 7-8pm | CCC Dog Obedience | PEACE NE Classroom |
| | 9:30am | PW Circles 1 & 2 | Fellowship Hall |
| | 12pm | Noonday Book Club | Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for the link |
| | 1:15pm | PW Circle 3 | Fellowship Hall |
| | 5-7:15pm | PreK-12 th Grade WNL | Various |
| | 5-7pm | Adult Game Night | Meal-5pm-5:30pm Games-5:30pm-7pm Fellowship Hall |
| | 6:30pm | Woodcarvers | Basement |
| | 6:45pm | Chancel Choir | Choir Room |
| Thursday 4/17 | 7:30pm | Chancel Bells | Bell Room |
| | 12:30pm | Dulcimer | HCMA Room 112 |
| | 6-9pm | Hastings Pickleball Club | PEACE Gym |
| | 6-8pm | Mexican Folkloric Dance | PEACE Gym |
| | 7:15pm | Maundy Thursday Service | Memorial Room |
| Friday 4/18 | 7-8pm | Cub Scouts | Scout Room |
| | 9am-11am | Hastings Pickleball Club | PEACE Gym |
| | 10am-12pm | Mahjong Ladies | Basement Youth Room |
| | 7pm | Good Friday Service | Sanctuary |
| Saturday 4/19 | 8pm-11:59pm | Prayer Vigil | Chapel or Home |
| | 12am-11:59pm | Prayer Vigil | Chapel or Home |
| | 9:30-11:30am | United Harvest | PEACE Center |
| Sunday 4/20 | Easter | | |
| | 12am-8am | Prayer Vigil | Chapel or Home |
| | 8:30am | Easter Service | Sanctuary |
| | 10am | HAW Store Open | Library |
| | 10:30am | Traditional Worship Service | Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio |

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 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.

March Communion Offering Update

We are pleased to announce that the March communion offering raised a total of **\$1,095**, which will benefit the **enCourage Community Safety Team**. This generous contribution will go towards supporting their vital work in our community.

The Church Offices will be closed on Monday, April 21 in observance of Easter Monday.

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.

| 4/19/2025 Easter Weekend | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| I, J, K, L | May park and get number starting at: | 9:45 AM |
| M, N, O | May park and get number starting at: | 10:00 AM |
| P, Q, R | May park and get number starting at: | 10:15 AM |
| S, T, U | May park and get number starting at: | 10:30 AM |
| V, W, X, Y, Z | May park and get number starting at: | 10:45 AM |
| A, B | May park and get number starting at: | 11:00 AM |
| C, D, E | May park and get number starting at: | 11:15 AM |
| F, G, H | May park and get number starting at: | 11:30 AM |

April Communion Offering

 **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT



March 5–April 20, 2025

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

WAYS TO GIVE —

- + Through your congregation
- + Online at pcusa.org/give-oghs
- + Text OGHS to 91999 to give



-or-

You can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by One Great Hour of Sharing Offering by making an online gift at any time throughout the year. Checks may be sent Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); P.O. Box 643700; Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

Thanks to your heartfelt gifts, One Great Hour of Sharing currently supports projects in over 100 countries.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

To learn more about how your gift to One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference, visit pcusa.org/oghs



One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four annual special offerings. The four churchwide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the twenty-first century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

12128-25-103

 **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Repairing the breach

ISAIAH 58

PROVIDING RELIEF FROM
NATURAL DISASTERS,
FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY,
AND SUPPORT FOR THE
POOR AND OPPRESSED.



COVER IMAGE PAUL JEFFREY

EASTER LILIES 2025



Easter Lilies are \$12 each. Monies raised above the cost will be donated to Leapfrog Village, 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

Please pray for

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Elaine Schumacher | Carl Utley | Judd Carrier |
| Carter Johnson | Barry Thomson | Jane Tushaus |
| Tarah Davis & family | Greg Howard | Charlene Cebell |
| Matt Campbell | Pam Canady | Alyssa Donley |
| Janey Nottage-Tacey | Kathy (Adams) Carrier | Nathan Lunstrum |
| Bob Wolf | Darcie (McDonald) Brink | Willis Horton |
| KyMani Riek | Monte Malouf | Jim Boeve |
| Ken Fisk | Eli Struss | Nytha & Dave Glass |
| Vicki (Fisk) Nieves | Louie Eckhardt and family | Bev Stein |
| Janelle Baideme | Carole Pedersen | Ashley Ibach |
| John Pershing | Lexi Longshore | Mary Lewis |
| Susan Oliver and family | Doug Rasmussen | Mary Northrop |



Prayer Calls



On Monday, April 14 from 6:30pm-8pm, your church leaders and staff will be calling every family in the church. We will be collecting prayer requests, joys, and concerns, so that we can pray for you. So, if your phone rings on Monday night, please answer it. You will have a chance to talk with a church leader and they will pray for you.

Thank you

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