



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

Celebrating Faith, Science, and Space: A Weekend with Astronaut Clayton Anderson

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

Last weekend, the second annual **Sachtleben/Throckmorton Faith and Science Symposium** offered our congregation and the Hastings College community a rare and remarkable opportunity: to explore the intersection of faith and science with someone who has seen God's creation from outer space.

Astronaut and Hastings College alumnus Clayton Anderson returned to his alma mater and to First Presbyterian Church of Hastings for a weekend of conversations, reflections, and public lectures that inspired awe and wonder. Clay Anderson, who graduated *cum laude* from Hastings College in 1981 with a degree in Physics, studied under Dr. Clyde Sachtleben and the late Dr. Carl Throckmorton—two beloved professors whose legacies live on through this annual symposium.

Clay Anderson went on to serve as an engineer at NASA for 15 years and as an astronaut for another 15, logging 167 days in space over two missions. During his visit, he shared stories from his time aboard the International Space Station, described the humbling experience of viewing Earth from orbit, and reflected on how those experiences deepened his Christian faith:

"To see God's creation from that vantage point did give me a different perspective. What I really took away from this experience was that my life and all its accomplishments are gifts from God. And viewing Earth from space showed me that none of this is random. My faith was only strengthened by my time in outer space."

The weekend began on Friday morning in French Memorial Chapel at Hastings College, where students, faculty, and community members gathered for a free public lecture. Clay Anderson's presentation was both educational and spiritual, highlighting the ways scientific exploration and belief in God can enrich one another. He also met with a group of science and religion students over lunch and with the Hastings College Board of Trustees in the afternoon.

On Sunday morning, Clay Anderson joined us at First Presbyterian Church for a panel discussion in the Adult Education Forum that included religion professor Dr. Dorothy Dean and biology professor Dr. Amanda Solem. If you missed that incredible conversation, you can watch it on YouTube here: <https://youtu.be/OeX9i5S9S2w>



Continued

Clay then shared a powerful reflection during our 10:30 worship service that included him singing and playing the piano. You can watch that reflection here:

<https://youtu.be/3duWF6snYg8>

The day concluded with a second public lecture at 3:00pm in our sanctuary, drawing an even wider audience that included church members, community members, Hastings College students, and lots of children who were excited to meet a “real live astronaut!” He shared an inspiring message, which you can watch here: <https://youtu.be/ocmz7xU4x1w>

This extraordinary weekend is made possible through the vision and generosity of Dr. Clyde Sachtleben, who established the symposium in honor of the rich, thoughtful conversations he shared with students about cosmology, creation, and belief. Dr. Sachtleben often reminded his students that science and faith are not at odds, but rather companions in humanity’s ongoing search for truth. He delighted in showing how a universe billions of years old could still be a testament to God’s creative love.

First Presbyterian Church is proud to co-host this annual event with Hastings College, and we give thanks for the ongoing legacy of Dr. Sachtleben and Dr. Throckmorton, for the powerful testimony of Clayton Anderson, and for a congregation that continues to seek understanding, wonder, and reverence at the place where faith and science meet.

Mark your calendars for next year’s symposium which will be held in April—it promises to be another unforgettable encounter with our Creator God, through both Scripture and the scientific method.

Your Servant in Christ,



Pastor Greg

Ushers and Greeters

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

Greeters

May	Memorial Room	Narthex
11	Kili & Justin Wenburg	Carolyn & Rich McKenzie
18	Ginny & Will Locke	Dixie & Gale McDonald
25	Jane & Chuck Bauer	Sue Medsker

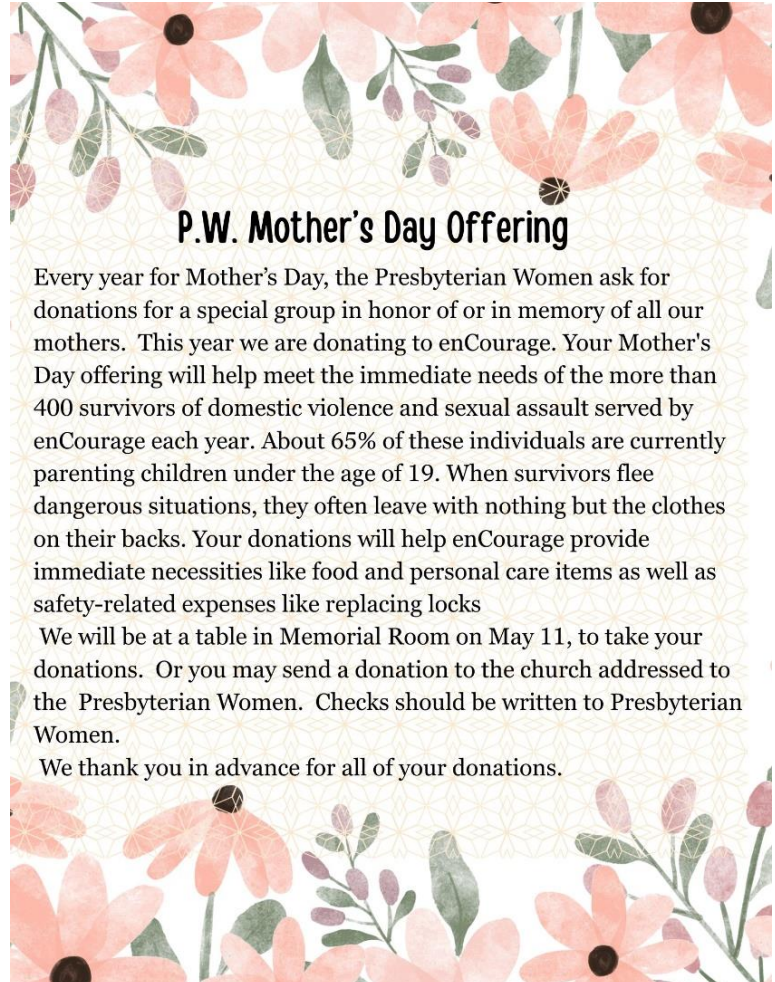
Your DONATION STATIONS in the Fellowship Hall are missing all of you. We need long-sleeved shirts for our migrant workers coming later this spring, displaced spouses need soaps and shampoos, etc. to lift their spirits (enCourage/SASA), babies and toddlers always need a fresh diaper (Happy Nappies), small children always love a new story book (Brooks' Books), and the Food Pantry always welcomes non-perishables for those in need. All of our bins are clearly marked, and your Mission Committee tries to deliver your contributions promptly. Thanks!



IT'S TIME FOR SPRING CLEANING IN YOUR CLOSET. THE MISSION COMMITTEE IS COLLECTING LONG-SLEEVED SHIRTS FOR OUR MIGRANT WORKERS.

THESE SHIRTS ARE IMPORTANT TO PROTECT OUR WORKERS FROM THE SUN AND EXPOSURE TO AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS.

**SHIRTS CAN BE DROPPED OFF IN THE DESIGNATED BIN IN FELLOWSHIP HALL.
THE MIGRANT WORKERS WILL BE ARRIVING IN HASTINGS THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY.
THE MISSION COMMITTEE THANKS YOU.**



P.W. Mother's Day Offering

Every year for Mother's Day, the Presbyterian Women ask for donations for a special group in honor of or in memory of all our mothers. This year we are donating to enCourage. Your Mother's Day offering will help meet the immediate needs of the more than 400 survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault served by enCourage each year. About 65% of these individuals are currently parenting children under the age of 19. When survivors flee dangerous situations, they often leave with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Your donations will help enCourage provide immediate necessities like food and personal care items as well as safety-related expenses like replacing locks

We will be at a table in Memorial Room on May 11, to take your donations. Or you may send a donation to the church addressed to the Presbyterian Women. Checks should be written to Presbyterian Women.

We thank you in advance for all of your donations.

May Communion Offering

Open Table

April Communion Offering Update

The April communion offering raised a total of **\$1,293**, which will benefit
One Great Hour of Sharing.
 Thank you for your generous support.

Tuesday 5/6	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	6pm	WAM Meeting	Anderson Room
	7-9pm	Hastings High School Spring Concert Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	7-8pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
Wednesday 5/7	11am	PW Coord Team	Parlor
	11:45am	PW Program and Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	5pm-7pm	WNL end-of-year picnic	Libs Park
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	Anderson Room
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
Thursday 5/8	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 5/9	10am-12pm	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
Saturday 5/10	7pm	Hastings High School Spring Concert	Sanctuary

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.

May 17, 2025		
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
A, B	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM

Sunday 5/11	Mother's Day		
	8:30am	Contemplative Worship	Chapel
	9:15am	Sunday School for all ages	Various
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
Monday 5/12	1-3pm	1 st 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
Tuesday 5/13	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Congregational Life Meeting	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Trustees Meeting	Confirmation Room
	6:45pm	Deacons Meeting	Anderson Room
	7pm	CCC Dog Obedience	PEACE NE Classroom
Wednesday 5/14	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Sanctuary/Memorial Room
Thursday 5/15	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Session Meeting	Anderson Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 5/16	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
	6pm	HC Baccalaureate	Sanctuary
Saturday 5/17		United Harvest	PEACE Center
Sunday 5/18	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library



Confirmands

Maddie Gosda

Mentor: Dana Miller

Parents: Heather & Rick Gosda

Date of Birth: 10/29/2010

Baptism Date: 4/14/2019

Meredith Oliver

Mentor: Kathy Reimer

Parents: Susan & William Oliver

Date of Birth: 2/9/2011

Baptism Date: 10/2/2011

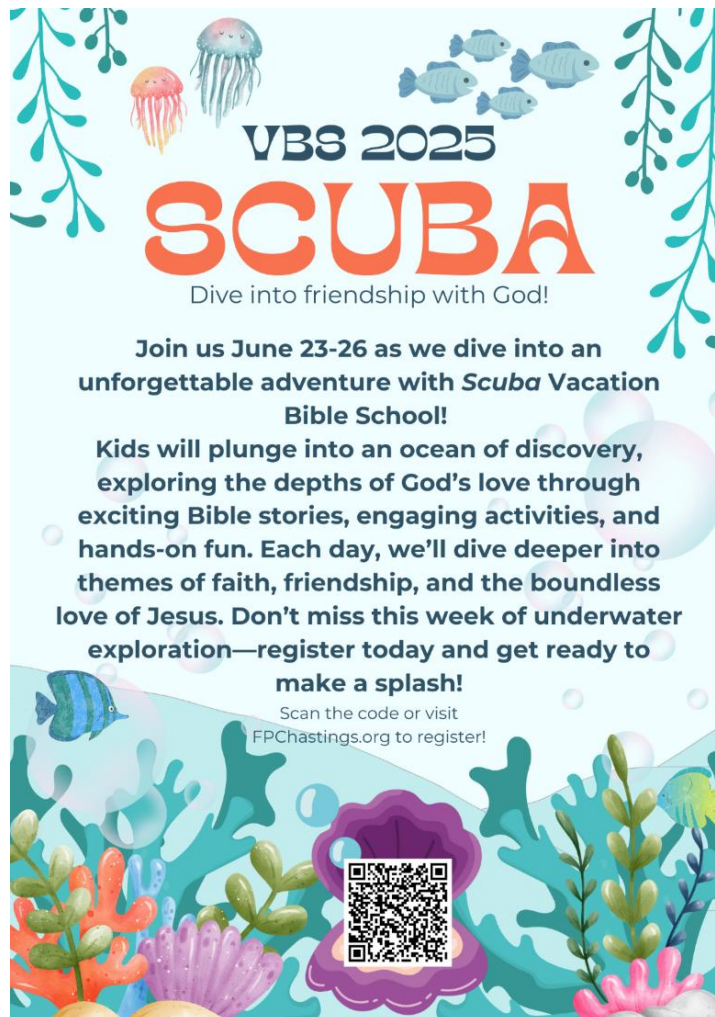
Gabe Snell

Mentor: Justin Brader

Parents: Sarah & Scott Snell

Date of Birth: 6/30/2010

Baptism Date: 10/17/2010



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF HASTINGS

PRESENTS

Daniel Christian



Saturday, June 7, 2025

7 p.m.

*First Presbyterian Church
of Hastings*

Sanctuary

Daniel Christian is a Nashville recording artist known for his heartfelt lyrics, storytelling, and Americana charm. A former high school English teacher, he's spent over a decade touring nationally, performing at venues like the Bluebird Cafe and SXSW. Daniel has opened for acts including The Fixx, Selah, and Montgomery Gentry, and earned two National Country Music Festival awards along with nine Omaha Entertainment Award nominations. A member of NARAS, the Nebraska Arts Council, and a founding member of NSAI Nebraska, he continues to write, record, and inspire audiences across the country.



Join us for the last two Adult Education Forums before summer break!

Sunday 5/4 at 9:15am

***Ascension, Pentecost,
and Trinity Sunday!***

Pastor Greg and Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh share a conversation about the "liturgical trifecta" of three key Sunday celebrations in the church calendar

Sunday 5/11 at 9:15am

***What is the trinity
and why does it
matter?***

Join Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh as he dives deeper into the theological concept of the Holy Trinity

Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher
Carter Johnson
Tarah Davis & family
Matt Campbell
Janey Nottage-Tacey
Bob Wolf
KyMani Riek
Janelle Baideme
John Pershing
Susan Oliver and family
Jim Boeve

Carl Utley
Barry Thomson
Greg Howard
Pam Canady
Kathy (Adams) Carrier
Monte Malouf
Eli Struss
Carole Pedersen
Lexi Longshore
Doug Rasmussen
Willis Horton

Mary Lewis
Judd Carrier
family of Jane Tushaus
Charlene Cebell
Alyssa Donley
Nathan Lunstrum
Nytha & Dave Glass
Ashley Ibach
Stacey Eddleman & family
Mary & Ken Fisk

In memory of

Jane Tushaus, who passed away on 4/9/25



First Presbyterian Church

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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