



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

It is my pleasure to be writing to you this week and to share about my favorite time of the year! From June 23–26, we will be hosting our four-day Vacation Bible School program here at First Pres. I've gone on record saying things like: "*VBS is my jam*," "*VBS is my favorite holiday*," "*I live for VBS*," and "*VBS is the best part of my job*." While some of those statements might be a bit hyperbolic... the truth remains: I just LOVE Vacation Bible School!

VBS is a special time when we devote hundreds of volunteer hours to teach our children and youth truths about God that will very likely stick with them for a lifetime. (I don't know about you, but I still find myself randomly humming songs I learned in VBS as a child!) This one week in summer can have a profound and lasting impact on a child's faith journey and the way they connect with both God and the Church.

You may not know this, but many churches across the country have discontinued Vacation Bible School in recent years. The reasons vary: a shortage of volunteers, decreased attendance, tight budgets, shifting ministry priorities, or burnout among leaders and staff. That's why it's worth celebrating that none of those challenges are holding us back at First Presbyterian Church. In fact, I'd say quite the opposite is true.

At First Pres, our church family consistently demonstrates a deep commitment to the faith formation of children and youth. That commitment shows up in so many ways: generous financial support, eager and faithful volunteers, and a community culture that values joyful discipleship. Every year, adults show up ready to lead, mentor, and encourage. Every year, our congregation says "yes" to making space for children to experience the good news of God's love. And that is no small thing.

So, what do we have planned for this year's program? I'm glad you asked!

This summer, we'll dive into the theme: "**Scuba diving into friendship with God**" Throughout the week, our children will explore how Jesus is:

- a friend who is *real*,
- a friend who *loves*,

Continued

- a friend we can *trust*, and
- a friend for *everyone*.

Each day will include storytelling, songs, games, crafts, and more—centered around stories from the Gospels and anchored by Proverbs 18:24: “*There is a friend who is closer than a brother.*” We’ll also be collecting a special offering throughout the week in support of our church’s mission partnership with the United Way, helping provide assistance to local individuals and families who might otherwise fall through the cracks.

Whether you’re serving, praying, or cheering us on from afar, thank you for being part of this important work. Together, we are helping plant seeds of faith that will grow for years to come.

With gratitude and excitement,



Rose Koepf
Director of Christian Education for Children & Youth

Coming Soon

Worship in the Park

July 13, 20, 27
August 3, 10, 17

9:00 a.m.
Alexander Park

Please bring your lawn chair

All are welcome!



FPC PRESENTS

ELEMENTARY
MOVIE CLUB

5-7PM

In-coming Kindergarteners - 5th graders are invited to join us for a monthly movie showing and related Bible lesson.

FREE EVENT

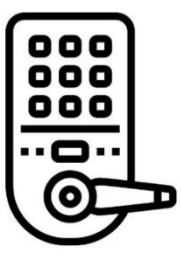
JUNE 1 **JULY 6**
AUG 3

PIZZA AND POPCORN WILL BE PROVIDED

THIS EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

FOR QUESTIONS, CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (402) 462-5147





Door Codes

Our door code system has been updated on our church, kitchen, and PEACE Center doors. You will now need your own individual code to access the church after hours. If you need to access the kitchen door or the PEACE Center, please contact the church office to get a code.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO




WATERPARK NIGHT

SUN. JUNE 22 7-9 PM

HASTINGS AQUACOURT

The church has reserved the waterpark from 7-9pm. Bring your family and friends to a fun evening at the pool!

This event is FREE to the Community!



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 FPC Hastings.org to register!


Celebrate the end of VBS with us!

THURSDAY 6/26

5:30 - 7 PM

We will be celebrating the end of our VBS week on Thursday night with a parking lot party! We encourage families and friends to come join us for games, food, and ice cream!

This event is FREE to the community!

FOR MORE INFORMATION
rose@fpc Hastings.org +402-462-5147



Christian Ed

Summer Events:

JUNE 1 5 PM - 7 PM Movie Club @ FPC	JUNE - JULY THURSDAYS 3 PM - 5 PM Youth Group Game time @ FPC
JUNE 8 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Gather Hastings @ Brickyard Park	JUNE 22 7 PM - 9 PM FPC WaterPark Night Aqua Court
JUNE 23-26 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Scuba! VBS	
JUNE 27 7 PM - 9 PM END of VBS Activity Night (Location TBD)	JULY 6 5 PM - 7 PM Movie Club @ FPC
JULY 26 - 2 Sr High Go & Serve	
AUG 3 5 PM - 7 PM Movie Club @ FPC	AUG 7 8 AM - 6 PM Jr High Zoo Trip
AUG 24 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM Sunday School Kickoff	

Updated April, 2025

June & July Ushers and Greeters

June Ushers (Team #4) Captain – George Howard, Susie Graham, Dixie McDonald, Gale McDonald

June Greeters

June Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
22	John & Linda Carllson	Melissa Davis
29	Karen & Roger Doerr	Cathy & John Pershing

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

July Greeters

July Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
6	Teresa Luther	Jenna Jorgensen
13	Kay Georgiana	Paula Crozier
20	Lesa & Steve Cropley	Amy & Joe Black
27	C.L. & Sandra Wimer	Jan Ham



Thank You

The First Presbyterian Church Hastings Relay for Life team collected \$1,370 for this year's donations given to American Cancer Society for research and patient support. The many names of Cancer affected friends and family members were on our luminaries at the Relay for Life celebration walk June 6 and displayed in our sanctuary Sundays, June 1 and 8.

Thank you from the team leaders for supporting in the fight against cancer. Our loved ones are our focus.

Thoughts and prayers are needed for all those experiencing cancer and the caregivers supporting them. We also need thoughts and prayers for those who have experienced a loss due to cancer and the caregivers who have been by their side.

American Cancer Society Relay for Life continues to provide help to cancer patients and caregivers since 1985.

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

Mary Lewis
Judd Carrier
Charlene Cebell
Alyssa Donley
Nathan Lunstrum
Nytha & Dave Glass
Ashley Ibach
Stacey Eddleman & family
Mary & Ken Fisk
Carl Utley
Barry Thomson

Jody Stutzman
Carole Pedersen
Lexi Longshore
Doug Rasmussen
Willis Horton
Pam Canady
Kathy (Adams) Carrier
Monte Malouf
Zsuzsanna Fazakas
Eli Struss
Greg Howard

In memory of

Ron Bourke, who passed
away on 5/9/25



First Presbyterian Church of Hastings Presents:
Singer/Songwriter Hannah Jensen-Heitmann
Leading us in worship and teaching us original new songs from Vacation Bible School!
Sunday, June 22 10:30am
In-person, on KICS 1550 AM or on Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/fpchastings All are welcome!



“Campfire Folk Music” Sunday
First Presbyterian Church of Hastings
Featuring: 
Join us at 10:30am on Sunday, June 29 – All are welcome!
In-person, on KICS 1550 AM or on Facebook Live: www.facebook.com/fpchastings

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.

June 21, 2025		
P, Q, R	May park and get number starting at:	9:45 AM
S, T, U	May park and get number starting at:	10:00 AM
V, W, X, Y, Z	May park and get number starting at:	10:15 AM
A, B	May park and get number starting at:	10:30 AM
C, D, E	May park and get number starting at:	10:45 AM
F, G, H	May park and get number starting at:	11:00 AM
I, J, K, L	May park and get number starting at:	11:15 AM
M, N, O	May park and get number starting at:	11:30 AM

Cal Johnson 7/1
 George White 7/1
 Brad Davis 7/2
 Jayden Propp 7/2
 Brent Sovereign 7/2
 Cale Henderson 7/2
 Jamie Lay 7/2
 Jacob Shin 7/3
 Lincoln Welsch 7/4
 Seth Schwarz 7/4
 Mike Meyer 7/4
 Stephanie Ourada 7/6
 Owen Hermann 7/7
 Tammie Nowka 7/8
 Eleanor Oliver 7/8
 Caroline Ourada 7/8
 Martha Boyd 7/9
 Connie Hultine 7/9
 Sara McPherson 7/9
 Benjamin Franco 7/11
 Breck Moore 7/11
 Rosie Overmiller 7/12



July

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Kay Georgiana 7/13
 Charles Hermes 7/13
 Marc Hultine 7/14
 Lynne Friedewald 7/14
 Jessica Allen-Pickett 7/14
 Becky Foote 7/15
 Duane Huber 7/16
 Michelle Kerr 7/16
 Bruce Day 7/17
 Annie Mitchell 7/18
 Sharon Reicks 7/18
 May Wierenga 7/18
 Charlie Stout 7/20

Cathy Davis 7/21
 Chris Wray 7/21
 Harrison Welsch 7/22
 Meg Stewart-Magee 7/22
 Chelby Schlichtman 7/22
 Mark Hemje 7/22
 Becky Matticks 7/23
 John Meeske 7/23
 Grace Redinger 7/24
 Dave Fisher 7/25
 Don Rasmussen 7/25
 Kate Hemje 7/26
 Linda Johnson 7/26
 Mary Lewis 7/26
 Jordan Norris 7/26
 Steve Illingworth 7/27
 Lyndie Eddleman 7/29
 Sydni Johnson 7/27
 Claire Lay 7/27
 Mary Seiler 7/30
 Lisa Unger 7/30
 Stella Adam 7/31

Happy July Anniversary

Deb & Byron Jensen 7/1/1979
 Jamie & Tyler Lay 7/5/2014
 Laura & Andy Little 7/9/2011
 Tracy & Kenny Brooks 7/10/2010
 Gary & Janet Brandt 7/14/1990
 Susan & Neal Hoff 7/16/1972
 Teresa & Tim Canady 7/18/1998
 Rose & Tyler Koepp 7/18/2014
 Milrae & Harold Korb 7/24/2010
 Vicki & Jeff Howard 7/26/1980
 Marnie & Doug Soderquist 7/27/2012
 Deb & Dale Hamburger 7/27/1991
 Marsha & John Nelson 7/30/1978
 Leah & Tom Ratzlaff 7/31/2004



Tuesday 6/17	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
Wednesday 6/18	12pm	Noonday Book Club	sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers meet	basement
Thursday 6/19	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	3-5pm	Summer Youth Group	
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
Friday 6/20	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
Saturday 6/21	9:45am	United Harvest	PEACE Center
Sunday 6/22	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	7-9pm	FPC Water Park Night	Hastings Aquacourt
Monday 6/23	8:30am-11:30am	VBS	
	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	Choir Room
Tuesday 6/24	8:30am-11:30am	VBS	
	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity Board	Room 203
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
Wednesday 6/25	8:30am-11:30am	VBS	
	12pm-1pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrook52@gmail.com for link
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	Basement
Thursday 6/26	8:30am-11:30am	VBS	
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	3pm-5pm	Summer Youth Group	
	5:30pm-7pm	End of VBS Activity Night	Church Parking Lot
	6pm-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
Friday 6/27	10am-12pm	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
Sunday 6/29	10am-10:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctury, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library



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