



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

Extending the Table: Practicing Hospitality and Mutual Mission with Partners from the US-Mexico Border

“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” – Hebrews 13:2

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

Hospitality is more than opening our homes or setting an extra place at the table. In the Reformed tradition, hospitality is a spiritual practice—an outward expression of God’s love that breaks down barriers and builds beloved community. It is about seeing the image of God in each person we meet and creating space for mutual transformation.

This month, we have a special opportunity to live out that call to radical hospitality as we welcome a delegation from *Frontera de Cristo*, our longtime mission partners on the U.S.-Mexico border. From July 19–26, we will host a group of musicians, pastors, Christian educators, church members, and mission co-workers from Douglas, Arizona and Agua Prieta, Sonora. This visit continues a rich tradition of mutual exchange, learning, and service.

As many of you know, a delegation from our congregation traveled to the border in October 2024 to participate in *Frontera de Cristo*’s 40th Anniversary celebration. That trip, which I reflected on in an article for *The Presbyterian Outlook* titled [“Crossing Borders with Song”](#), was a profound experience of mutual mission. We listened to stories of resilience and faith. We sang and worshiped in Spanish and English. We saw firsthand the challenges—and the beauty—that our border siblings navigate each day.

Now, we have the privilege of receiving our mission partners here in Hastings. It is our turn to welcome them with the same warmth and grace they offered to us. And there are so many ways for you to get involved:

Sunday, July 20 – Worship and Baseball

Come to worship at either the 9:00am outdoor service at Alexander Park or the 10:30am traditional service in the sanctuary. Rev. Jocabed Gallegos, a Presbyterian pastor and environmental advocate from Mexico, will serve as liturgist alongside Pastor Damen and me. Then, join us that evening for *First Presbyterian Night* at the Hastings Sodbusters game! We’ll gather at 5:30pm for a picnic at Harms Park (just south of the stadium) and head to the ballgame at 6:30pm. Bring a chair, a dish to share, and your best baseball spirit as we cheer, eat, and connect with our guests.

July 21–24 – Music, Meals, and Mission

Throughout the week, the delegation will be helping lead a bilingual, bicultural *Music Camp* in collaboration with our church and the Hastings Community Music Academy. This is an incredible opportunity for local children to learn songs, rhythms, and stories from both sides of the border.

Continued

Each day at 12noon, we will provide lunch for the delegation and the camp leaders. If you'd like to help prepare or serve lunch (Monday through Thursday), please contact Rose Koepp at rose@fpchastings.org

Friday, July 25 – Food, Fellowship, and Celebration

On Friday morning from 9:00am to 12:00pm, our guests will teach a *Mexican cooking class* in our newly renovated kitchen. Come learn how to make authentic dishes and hear stories from the border while you cook.

Then at 5:00pm, we'll host a church-wide *community dinner* in Fellowship Hall, featuring the food we've prepared together. No need to RSVP, please come. This is open to the whole church family!

At 6:30pm, the children and youth from Music Camp will share a final presentation—a joyful celebration of what they've learned.

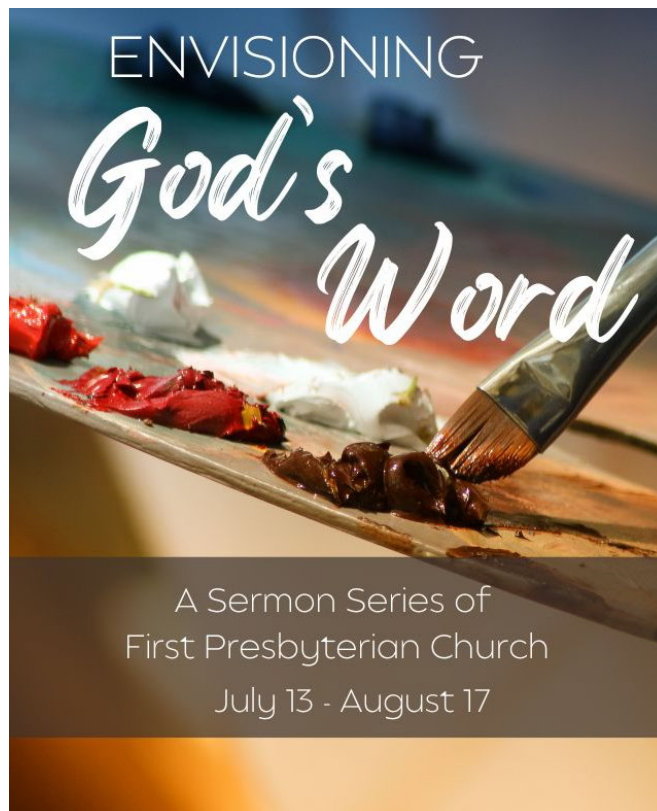
We hope you'll join us in offering open arms and warm hearts to our mission partners from *Frontera de Cristo*. This is more than a cultural exchange. It is an opportunity to live out our faith in tangible ways—to embody the love of Christ through hospitality, friendship, and shared mission.

Let us open our doors, our kitchens, and our lives. Let us welcome the stranger as kin. Let us cross borders with songs of grace, and may we discover anew the beauty of the body of Christ—diverse, united, and always on the move.

Your Servant in Christ,



Pastor Greg





July Communion Offering



Proteus, Inc. serves agricultural workers and their families who are experiencing lower socioeconomic statuses and need access to more resources.

Our programs are centered around our mission — providing agricultural workers and their families with affordable health care, education assistance, and job training.



Worship in the Park

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

**9:00 a.m.
Alexander Park**

Please bring your lawn chair

All are welcome!

June Communion Offering Update

The June communion offering raised a total of **\$707.16**, which will benefit **Central Navigators of the Community Impact Network** through **United Way**. Thank you for your generous support.

You're invited to our annual:

Jr High Zoo Trip!

Thurs, Aug. 7th
8am-7pm

Incoming 6th-Graduated
8th Graders are welcome!

We will leave the church at 8am and head to Omaha, stopping for lunch. Then we will spend the afternoon at the Henry Doorly Zoo, and be home around 7pm.

The cost for this trip is \$15; this will cover admission and lunch. Any additional expenses are the student's responsibility.



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



Happy August Birthday

Gregg Lay- 8/1	Elise Koepp- 8/12	Lauren Canady- 8/23
Linda Vollweiler- 8/1	Ashley Mullen- 8/13	Vivian Fong- 8/23
Alphonse Tako- 8/1	Kim Creech- 8/13	Melissa Struss- 8/24
Madelyn Koepp- 8/2	Jerry Seiler- 8/14	Camden Smith- 8/24
Kathy Duval- 8/3	Denny Storer- 8/14	Jessica Klaassen- 8/25
Allie Bauer- 8/3	Shiloh Hall- 8/15	Kim Day- 8/25
Jim Harrenstein- 8/3	Beth Wissing- 8/16	Holly Urrutia- 8/26
Ira Wierenga- 8/4	Kathy Utter- 8/16	Ed Lockwood- 8/26
Terry Hall- 8/5	Ashley Fitzgerald- 8/16	Sharon Brooks- 8/26
Rick Matticks- 8/6	Richard Brader- 8/16	Abigail Kerr- 8/27
JoAnn Seiler- 8/6	Theodore Klaassen- 8/16	Brian Johnson- 8/27
Doug Soderquist- 8/6	Jonah Snell- 8/17	Karen Portwood- 8/27
Susan Meeske- 8/6	Chris Johnson- 8/17	Dana Miller- 8/28
Julia Klaassen- 8/6	Pastor Damen- 8/18	Faith Brader- 8/28
Audre Zaroban- 8/7	Chaudier Duang- 8/19	Todd Lay- 8/29
Chuck Shoemaker- 8/9	Don O'Dey- 8/19	Chris Junker- 8/30
Vera Zabloudil- 8/9	Gary Grummert- 8/19	Jane Bauer- 8/30
Erica Olsen- 8/12	Alice Throckmorton- 8/20	Margaret Marsh- 8/30
Tristan Propp- 8/12	Connie McClenahan- 8/21	Matt Malouf- 8/31
Carolyn McKenzie- 8/12	Stephanie Bliss- 8/22	



Tuesday 7/15	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-Person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
Wednesday 7/16	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	basement
Thursday 7/17	3-5pm	Summer Youth Group	Basement Youth Room
	7pm	Migrant Workers Picnic	Lake Hastings
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
Friday 7/18	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
Saturday 7/19	9:45am	United Harvest	PEACE Center
Sunday 7/20	9am	Worship in the Park	Alexander Park
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	11:30am	Reception for Rev. Bill Nottage-Tacey	Fellowship Hall
	5:30pm	Sodbuster's Picnic/Game	Harm's Park/Duncan Field
Monday 7/21	9am-12pm	K-8 th Grade Multi-Cultural Music Camp	
	1-3pm	1 st Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEAC NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
Tuesday 7/22	9am-12pm	K-8 th Grade Multi-Cultural Music Camp	
	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity	Room 203
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
Wednesday 7/23	9am-12pm	K-8 th Grade Multi-Cultural Music Camp	
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	Basement
Thursday 7/24	9am-12pm	K-8 th Grade Multi-Cultural Music Camp	
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	3-5pm	Summer Youth Group	Basement Youth Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
Friday 7/25	9am-12pm	Mexican Cooking Class	Kitchen
	10am	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
	5pm	Church-Wide Community Dinner	Fellowship Hall
	6:30pm	Music Camp Concert	Sanctuary
Sunday 7/27	9am	Worship in the Park	Alexander Park
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library

July and August Ushers and Greeters

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

July Greeters

Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
20	Lesa & Steve Cropley	Amy & Joe Black
27	C.L. & Sandra Wimer	Jan Ham

August Ushers (Team #6) Lynne Friedewald, Chuck Shoemaker, Chanda Essink

August Greeters

August Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
3	Jill Kramer	Mary Kay LaMaster
10	Linda & Richard Johnson	Julie Thomsen
17	Carolyn & Rich McKenzie	Jean Barber
24	Lori & Ted Schroeder	Stephanie Bliss
31	Todd Pankratz & Jessica Meeske	Sue Medsker

Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher
 Carter Johnson
 Tarah Davis & family
 Matt Campbell
 Janey Nottage-Tacey
 Bob Wolf
 KyMani Riek
 Janelle Baideme
 Nadine Hunnicutt
 Jim Harrenstein
 Eli Struss
 Carole Pedersen

Mary Lewis
 Judd Carrier
 Charlene Cebell
 Alyssa Donley
 Nathan Lunstrum
 Nytha & Dave Glass
 Mary & Ken Fisk
 Carl Utley
 Barry Thomson
 family of Dorothy Larabee
 Greg Howard
 Monte Malouf

Lexi Longshore
 Don & Marie Rasmussen
 Willis Horton
 Pam Canady
 Kathy (Adams) Carrier
 Zsuzsanna Fazakas



Sarah & Scott Snell- 8/2/2003
 George & Jeni Howard- 8/4/1979
 Jenni & Ben Welsch- 8/5/2006
 Jake & Kelsey Stokely- 8/6/2016
 Becky & Rick Matticks- 8/7/1987
 Ruth & Erik Nielsen- 8/7/1997
 Kim & Bruce Day 8/11/1990
 Peggy & Barry Thomson- 8/11/1968
 Kathy & Bob Amyot- 8/11/1990
 Chris & Colleen Schukei- 8/12/2000
 Traci & Jim Boeve- 8/12/1994
 Katharine & LaVern Davis- 8/12/1972
 Robin & Ann Koozer- 8/14/1976
 Kili & Justin Wenburg- 8/14/1998
 Virginia & Brad Davis- 8/20/2016
 Lauren & Matt Overmiller- 8/22/2020
 Beth & Ron Wissing- 8/22/1986
 Janey & Bill Nottage-Tacey- 8/24/1975
 Martha & Bill Boyd- 8/28/1976
 Tom Kreager & Sandra Spurgeon- 8/30/2014

Dear The First Presbyterian church,
 I wanted To say THANK YOU
 for paying my whole trip to
 camp! Some of my favorite things
 about camp is learning about
 god, my camp friends, and the
 food! This year's theme was "Another
 way". I read a scripture about
 using God's strength especially during
 hard times. So once again I

THANK YOU for paying for my
 trip to camp! loves

-Molly Gosda



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.

July 19, 2025

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

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

Interim Chancel Choir Director: Dr. Robin Koozer

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 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