



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

Faithful Foundations: Listening, Aligning, and Building Together

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

Two weeks ago, we began our annual journey of stewardship with a reminder from Exodus 16 that **stewardship begins with trust**; trust in God's daily provision and trust that God will continue to provide for the future of our lives and our church. As we have continued through our series *Faithful Foundations: Trusting, Listening, Aligning, Building*, we have reflected each week on how stewardship is far more than a financial exercise. It is a spiritual practice. It is discipleship. It is how we say "thank you" to God with our lives.

In week two, we moved from **Trusting to Listening** with the story of young Samuel, who prayed, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening." Samuel reminds us that stewardship is not just about giving, it is about listening for God's call and asking how God wants us to use the gifts we've been given. When each of us listens deeply, we discover that God is always inviting us to respond with generosity, compassion, and courage.

In week three, we reflected on **Aligning our hearts with God's purposes**. When the prophet Samuel looked at Jesse's sons, he was drawn to those who appeared strong and capable. But God chose David, someone everyone else had overlooked because, as Scripture tells us, "*the Lord looks on the heart*." When it comes to stewardship, God is not measuring the size of our bank accounts but the intention of our hearts. We are called not to equal gifts, but to equal sacrifice; each of us giving faithfully in a way that aligns our resources with God's vision for this community.

Now, as we enter the final week of our stewardship journey, we turn to the theme of **Building**. Like Solomon, who built the temple as a lasting witness to God's presence, we are called to build something that will bless generations to come: a church rooted in worship, mission, hospitality, and hope. God has given us strong foundations through the faithfulness of those who came before us, and now it is our turn to build.

A Practical Word About Stewardship at FPC Hastings

As we prepare for **Commitment Sunday on October 26**, I want to speak plainly about how our church is funded and why your pledge matters.

First Presbyterian Church of Hastings does not receive financial support from our national denomination. **Every dollar that funds our ministry comes from our members and friends.** Your pledges provide:

- **Our staff**, who shepherd, teach, lead, care, and serve with faith and excellence. Our staff is the largest part of our budget because ministry is about people, and we are blessed with an extraordinary team. This year, we are facing a 10% increase in health insurance costs, and we want to care for our staff as they care for us.

Continued

- **Our facilities**, including our historic church building and the PEACE Center. These spaces are not financial burdens; they are tools for ministry. They allow us to worship God, make music, gather children and youth, host funerals and weddings, offer classes and mission projects, distribute food, welcome immigrant families, and serve the community in Christ's name. Yet with over 50,000 square feet to maintain and insurance costs rising more than 10%, caring for these buildings requires faithful generosity.

This year, we are prayerfully asking every household to **consider increasing their pledge** from last year. As our church continues to grow and expand its ministry impact, your gifts ensure we move boldly into the future God is shaping among us.

Commitment Sunday – October 26

Next Sunday will be Commitment Sunday, when we will bring forward our pledge cards during worship and dedicate them to God. On the back of your pledge card and below, you will find a stewardship prayer. I invite you to place it somewhere visible this week and pray about how God is calling you to trust, listen, align, and build. If you would prefer to make your pledge on-line, you can click on this link: <https://bit.ly/FPCHStewardship>

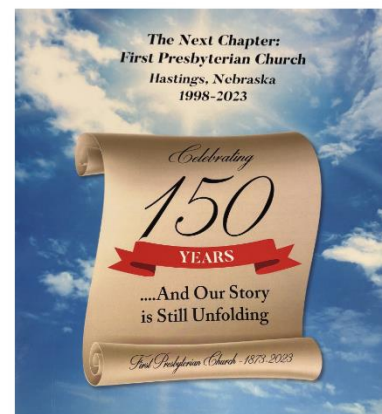
Together, we are creating something beautiful: rooted in faith, centered in Christ, and alive with gratitude. Thank you for being a vital part of this church family and for giving generously to the work God is doing through First Presbyterian Church of Hastings.

With gratitude and hope,

Pastor Greg



150th Book Distribution



Pick up your free copy of the 150th Anniversary book during the week in the Church Office.
(one per family please)

October & November Ushers and Greeters

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

October Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
26	Carolyn & Rich McKenzie	C.L. & Sandra Wimer

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

November Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
2	Linda & John Carllson	Melissa Davis
9	Lois Hafer	Erica & Brent Brooks
16	Sue Medsker	Melissa Davis
23	Jane & Chuck Bauer	Melissa Davis
30	Kim Hermann	Melissa Davis



Elaine Schumacher
Tarah Davis & family
Matt Campbell
Janey Nottage-Tacey
Bob Wolf
KyMani Riek
Janelle Baideme
family of Jim Harrenstein
Gayle Struss
Carole Pedersen
Charles Hermes

Please pray for

Carl Utley
Barry Thomson
Greg Howard
Lexi Longshore
Dave Henderson & family
Zsuzsanna Fazakas
The Unger family
Judd Carrier
Adam Brooks
Nytha & Dave Glass
Cynthia Sheppard Jordan



Willis Horton
Pam Canady
Francisco Diaz (Beto)
Carter Johnson
Sharon Brooks
Alyssa Donley
Ken Fisk
Jean Stinnette
Gary & Connie Whitcomb

In memory of

Jim Harrenstein, who passed away on September 16, 2025



Tuesday 10/21	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School and Choir Rooms
	6-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
Wednesday 10/22	11:55am	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	5pm-7:15pm	PreK-12 th Grade WNL	Various
	5:30pm	Adult Game Night	Fellowship Hall
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir Practice	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells Practice	Bell Room
Thursday 10/23	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School and Choir Room
	6-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 10/24	9am-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	10am-12pm	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room

Langenberg Lesson Scholarship Applications are available on the shelf outside of the Church Offices or on the Church website at: <https://fpchastings.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Langenberg-form-Fall-2025.pdf>. Forms are due November 1.

Presbyterians 101 (and 201!)

- Explore our church history
- Learn about Presbyterianism
- Discover the ministries of FPC Hastings



WHEN: Sundays, October 5, 12, 26 – 9:15am-10:15am

WHERE: Lydia Adult Education Room (next to the church office)

New members welcome. Long-time members encouraged!

Sunday 10/26	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	9:15am	Presbyterian 101 (and 201)	Lydia Room
	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
Monday 10/27	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	1-3pm	1 st Pres Pickleball	PEACE Gym
	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6-8pm	Hastings Literacy Program Orientation	TBD
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
Tuesday 10/28	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity	Room 203
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School Youth and Choir Rooms
	6-9pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
Wednesday 10/29	11:55am	Noondav Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 th Grade WNL	Various
	5:30pm	Adult Game Night	Fellowship Hall
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir Practice	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bell Practice	Bell Room
Thursday 10/30	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School and Choir Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 10/31	10am-12pm	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
Sunday 11/2	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

Thank You!

Presbyterian

Women would like to thank everyone for your donations for the disaster buckets. We were able to put together 9 buckets and had money for shipping and for a donation for other materials that might be needed. With the bad storms this summer, the buckets and donations are needed. Thank you for your generosity!



**Hands Around the World
Gift Shop
Open Sunday Mornings
10 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
and
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

Come check out our new items from
SERRV, Café Justo coffee,
decorations, etc.

**Please remember your
purchase also helps our local
mission partner United Harvest,
to whom we donate monthly.**



CONGREGATIONAL
LIFE
PRESENTS:

Wednesday
Evening

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

FAITHFUL FOUNDATIONS:

Trusting, Listening, Aligning, Building

2025 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS



**Trusting in
God's Provision**
Exodus 16:1-18



**Listening
for God's Call**
1 Samuel 3:1-21



**Aligning with
God's Vision**
1 Samuel 16:1-19



**Building for
God's Glory**
1 Kings 5:1-5, 8:1-13

TOP 5 REASONS TO TURN IN A PLEDGE CARD

1. Pledging is an act of faith

It says, "I trust God & want to be part of what God is doing through our church."

2. Pledging helps you grow spiritually

Giving is a spiritual practice that forms us in gratitude and deepens trust.

3. Pledging strengthens our ministry

Your commitment helps us plan faithfully for worship, mission, education, and outreach.

4. Pledging supports people

Our incredible staff and volunteers are empowered by your generosity.

5. Pledging builds our future

Your giving helps us grow now and bless the next generation of believers.

**Every pledge matters. Every gift makes a difference.
Commitment Sunday is October 26!**

WHAT YOUR GIVING SUPPORTS AT FPC HASTINGS

Ministry Area

Your Impact

Worship & Music

Inspiring services, choir, bells, musicians, technology

Staff & Leadership

Faithful pastoral and program leadership for all ages

Mission & Outreach

United Harvest, Open Table meals, mission partners

Children & Youth Ministry

Sunday school, WNL, Youth Group, Confirmation

Pastoral Care

Hospital visits, deacons, prayer ministry, home communion

Facilities & Utilities

Maintains 50,000+ sq ft of space for church & community

Hospitality & Fellowship

Meals, gatherings, new member welcome, and more!

**Faithful giving changes lives!
Thank you for being part of God's work through FPC Hastings.**

Bill Nottage-Tacey-1
 Grace Brader-2
 Linda Cooke-2
 Evan Turner-2
 Megan Launchbaugh-3
 Flossie Sanderson-3
 Raegan Welsch-4
 Dale Hamburger-4
 Charlie Ratzlaff-4
 Kraig Lofquist-4
 Moses Rhodes-5
 Lynden Hall-5
 Scott Hobson-5
 Neil Jurgena-5
 Mary Kay LaMaster-5
 Monte Malouf-5
 Lauren Overmiller-6
 Malcolm Eckhardt-6
 Susie Graham-6
 Betty Kooy-6
 Stacy Kerr-7
 William Freetly-8
 Pat Kern-8
 Teresa Luther-8
 Eldon Mitzelfelt-8
 Taralyn Davis-10
 John Nelson-11
 Dennis Asmus-12
 Gary Bauer-12
 Marcia Hogan-12
 Laurie Johnson-12
 Erikka Rhodes-12
 Sydney Kerr-13
 Lexi Lofquist-13
 Julie Thomsen-14

November



Sarah Snell-14
 Jean Barber-14
 Lily Black-14
 Greg Allen-Pickett-15
 Sue Medsker-15
 Sherry Behrens-17
 Nora Hogan-17
 Tammy Lay-17
 Mary Northrop-18
 Peter Ratzlaff-19
 Joy White-19
 Ethan Stout-20
 Ross Struss-20
 Chuck Bauer-20
 Roger Sunderman-21
 Kim Graviette-21
 Melissa Karloff-21
 Wilson Welsch-22
 Colleen Adam-22
 McKain Ratzlaff-22
 Bonnie Grams-22
 Marcia Sovereign-22
 Lois Hafer-23
 Gwen Weber-24
 Duang Tang-24
 Jan Bolliger-25
 Lennon Ellerbee-25
 Thomas Freetly-25
 Willy Kummer-25
 Deborah Miles-28
 Ron Wissing-30

IN LOVING MEMORY MEMORIAL WALL

The Prayer Garden Columbarium & Memorial Wall is nearing completion. Memorialization of those persons who have had a connectional relationship with First Presbyterian Church can be remembered on the Memorial Wall. We are gathering names to be remembered at this time.

Dedication of the Prayer Garden Columbarium & Memorial Wall is planned for All Saints Sunday November 2nd.

If you wish to remember someone please contact John Pershing for further information.

John Pershing
 402-984-6442
johnpershing1@me.com

Congregational Life Committee presents:

BINGO NIGHT

Free
Event!

All are
Welcome!



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

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



HAPPY NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dave & Barbara Fisher 11/4/1972
Stephanie & Justin Brader 11/10/2001
Brad & Dawna Whitcomb 11/12/2011
Jim & Deb Freeburger 11/15/1974
Bill & Sharon Talbert 11/16/1996
Tim & Deb Johnson 11/22/1974
Roger & Karen Doerr 11/23/1979
Don & Marie Rasmussen 11/25/1951
Kristen & Chris Schwarz 11/27/2004
John & Cathy Pershing 11/29/1968



Hanging of The Greens

Sunday,
November 23
11:30 a.m.
All are welcome!



Pastor Appreciation Month

THANK YOU
PASTOR GREG AND
PASTOR DAMEN
FOR ALL THAT YOU DO FOR OUR
CONGREGATION



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 & Youth Bells
Director: Dr. Byron Jensen
Youth Choir Director: Linda Johnson
Children Choir Director: Teresa Canady
Children 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