



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

# Home Page Newsletter

### Daily Bread, Daily Trust: Kicking Off Our Stewardship Season

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

This October, we begin a journey together as a church family: a journey of faith, trust, and generosity. Stewardship is often associated with pledge cards and budgets, and yes, in the coming weeks you'll receive a letter and pledge card in the mail. But at its heart, stewardship is much more than numbers on a page. It is a way of life, rooted in the conviction that everything we have comes from God and that we are called to respond with gratitude.

On **Sunday, October 5**, I preached from Exodus 16, where God's people in the wilderness worried about their next meal. In their hunger and fear, God provided manna; bread from heaven, enough for each day. They couldn't hoard it or stockpile it; they had to trust God for daily bread, one day at a time.

That lesson is as true for us as it was for the Israelites: **stewardship begins with trust in God's provision.** When we trust God to provide, we can live more open-handedly, generously, and joyfully. And when we see someone else who is experiencing a season of wilderness wandering, we are invited to become manna for them: God's provision through our love, presence, and gifts.

I've seen this truth come alive in my own family. After my dad died in a tragic accident five years ago, my mom entered a season that could only be described as wilderness. She was overwhelmed with grief, but also with the practical matters of daily life that my dad had always handled: finances, home repairs, even mowing the lawn. Living six hours away, I couldn't always be there for her as much as I wanted. She told me one day that she prayed desperately, "Lord, I don't even know how to survive this. How will I make it through tomorrow?"

One of the things she had to do was winterize their RV, and she had no idea how to do that. She posted a note in the RV group that my parents had belonged to, and that very afternoon someone showed up at her door with a toolbox. He fixed what she needed and told her he'd be back to check in. Week after week, people kept showing up: sometimes with tools, sometimes with a casserole, sometimes just to sit and have coffee. Neighbors, church family, and friends became God's manna for her. It wasn't flashy. It wasn't everything she thought she wanted. But it was exactly what she needed: daily bread, daily trust. As she said, "I didn't know how I was going to get through. But God kept sending me what I needed, when I needed it."

Friends, that's stewardship in real life—not about how much money you have, but about trusting that God will provide and being willing to be God's provision for someone else. We are called to

Continued

both trust that God will provide for us, and we are called to provide for others. One way we can do that is by giving generously to the church to support the work we are doing as we seek to provide for our community.

This year's stewardship theme is **Faithful Foundations: Trusting, Listening, Aligning, Building**. Over four Sundays, we will reflect on how God calls us to be faithful stewards—not only of money, but of our time, gifts, and lives:

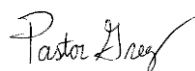
- **October 5 – Daily Bread, Daily Trust: Trusting** (Exodus 16:1–18)  
Stewardship begins with trust in God's daily provision.
- **October 12 – Speak, Lord: Listening** (1 Samuel 3:1–21)  
Stewardship involves attentiveness to God's call on our lives and resources.
- **October 19 – The Heart of the Matter: Aligning** (1 Samuel 16:1–13)  
Stewardship is aligning our hearts and gifts with God's vision.
- **October 26 – A House for God: Building** (1 Kings 5:1–5; 8:1–13)  
Stewardship means building together for God's glory and the generations to come.

Our journey will culminate on **Commitment Sunday, October 26**, when we will dedicate our pledge cards and our lives anew to God's work through this church.

As we step into this season, I invite you to begin each day with gratitude: "Lord, thank you for today's bread." Trust God to provide what you need. And prayerfully consider how your gifts of money, time, and talents can be manna for someone else.

Together, we will discover again that God's grace is enough, Christ's table is wide enough, and the Spirit's abundance is more than enough to sustain us for the journey ahead.

Your Servant in Christ,



Pastor Greg

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## October Ushers and Greeters

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

| October Greeters | Memorial Room           | Narthex                  |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>12</b>        | Kim Creech              | Kathy Utter              |
| <b>19</b>        | Kathy & Curtis Reimer   | Marnie & Doug Soderquist |
| <b>26</b>        | Carolyn & Rich McKenzie | C.L. & Sandra Wimer      |



## **PEACE Center Rain Garden – Volunteers Needed!**

The PEACE Center Rain Garden has finally been upgraded with new drains to better handle heavy rains. Now it's time to bring it to life with native plants!

We need volunteers to help with both planting and ongoing care. The initial planting must be completed by mid-September, so we need your help!

Interested? Please contact John Nelson at 402-469-6001 or [nelsonjc48@hotmail.com](mailto:nelsonjc48@hotmail.com) to join the effort.



## **Join the Church Landscape Committee!**

Do you enjoy planning and design? The Landscape Committee is forming to help shape updates to our church grounds. Members will work with landscape designers and nursery staff to create a master plan, with changes beginning in spring 2026.

Interested? Please contact John Nelson at 402-469-6001 or [nelsonjc48@hotmail.com](mailto:nelsonjc48@hotmail.com).

## **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](mailto:johnpershing1@me.com)**

## *Please pray for*

|                           |                         |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Elaine Schumacher         | Carl Utley              | Willis Horton           |
| Tarah Davis & family      | Barry Thomson           | Pam Canady              |
| Matt Campbell             | Greg Howard             | Francisco Diaz (Beto)   |
| Janey Nottage-Tacey       | Lexi Longshore          | Carter Johnson          |
| Bob Wolf                  | Dave Henderson & family | Sharon Brooks           |
| KyMani Riek               | Zsuzsanna Fazakas       | Alyssa Donley           |
| Janelle Baideme           | The Unger family        | Ken Fisk                |
| family of Jim Harrenstein | Judd Carrier            | Jean Stinnette          |
| Gayle Struss              | Adam Brooks             | Gary & Connie Whitcomb  |
| Carole Pedersen           | Nytha & Dave Glass      | Cynthia Sheppard Jordan |

## *In memory of*

Jim Harrenstein, who passed away on September 16, 2025

## **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!



|                       |          |                                               |                                                                         |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Tuesday 10/7</b>   | 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 & Youth Choir Rooms                                       |
|                       | 6-7:30pm | WAM Meeting                                   | Anderson Room                                                           |
|                       | 6-9pm    | Hastings Pickleball Club                      | PEACE Gym                                                               |
| <b>Wednesday 10/8</b> | 12-1pm   | Noonday Book Club                             | <a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link |
|                       | 5-7:15pm | PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> Grade WNL               | Various                                                                 |
|                       | 5:30pm   | Adult Game Night at FPC                       | Fellowship Hall                                                         |
|                       | 6:30pm   | Woodcarvers Meet                              | Basement                                                                |
|                       | 6:45pm   | Chancel Choir Practice                        | Choir Room                                                              |
|                       | 7:30pm   | Chancel Bells Practice                        | Bell Room                                                               |
| <b>Thursday 10/9</b>  | 9-11am   | Hastings Pickleball Club                      | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                       | 12:30pm  | Dulcimer                                      | HCMA Room 112                                                           |
|                       | 5:30pm   | Hastings Literacy Classes                     | Middle School & Youth Choir Rooms                                       |
|                       | 6pm      | Mexican Folkloric Dance                       | PEACE NE Classroom                                                      |
|                       | 6-9pm    | Hastings Pickleball Club                      | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                       | 7-8pm    | Cub Scouts                                    | Scout Room                                                              |
| <b>Friday 10/10</b>   | 9am-11am | Hastings Pickleball Club                      | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                       | 10am     | Mahjong Ladies                                | Basement Youth Room                                                     |
| <b>Saturday 10/11</b> | 12pm-6pm | Chapel & Fellowship Hall Reserved for Wedding |                                                                         |

## **October Communion Offering**

### **PC(USA) Peace & Global Witness Offering**

#### **a portion will benefit The Hastings Literacy Program**

The Hastings Literacy Program helps individuals aged 16 and older build essential skills for daily life, offering personalized instruction for educationally disadvantaged individuals and those with limited English proficiency. It partners with local organizations to address adult education needs in the greater Hastings area and supports students in achieving their personal goals.

#### **September Communion Offering Update**

The September communion offering raised a total of **\$527.00**,  
which will benefit **The Zone**.

Thank you for your generous support.

|                        |              |                                 |                                                                         |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 10/12</b>    | 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                                                                 |
|                        | 11:30am      | Potluck                         | Fellowship Hall                                                         |
|                        | 2pm          | CROP Walk                       | Lake Hastings                                                           |
| <b>Monday 10/13</b>    | 9-11am       | Hastings Pickleball Club        | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                        | 11:30am      | PEO-GK                          | PEACE NE Classroom                                                      |
|                        | 12pm         | Memorial Committee Meeting      | Anderson Room                                                           |
|                        | 1-3pm        | 1 <sup>st</sup> Pres Pickleball | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                        | 1:30pm       | Quilters                        | PEACE Quilting Room                                                     |
|                        | 6-9pm        | Hastings Pickleball Club        | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                        | 6-8pm        | Mexican Folkloric Dance         | PEACE NE Classroom                                                      |
|                        | 7-9pm        | Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal  | Choir Room                                                              |
| <b>Tuesday 10/14</b>   | 9am-11am     | Hastings Pickleball Club        | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                        | 10:30am      | Staff Meeting                   | In-person                                                               |
|                        | 12pm         | Bible Study                     | Anderson Room                                                           |
|                        | 5:30pm       | Hastings Literacy Classes       | Middle School & Youth Rooms                                             |
|                        | 5:30pm       | Congregational Life Meeting     | Anderson Room                                                           |
|                        | 5:30pm       | Trustees Meeting                |                                                                         |
|                        | 6pm-9pm      | Hastings Pickleball Club        | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                        | 6:45pm       | Deacons Meeting                 | Anderson Room                                                           |
| <b>Wednesday 10/15</b> | 9:30am       | PW Circles 1 & 2                | Fellowship Hall                                                         |
|                        | 12pm         | Noonday Book Club               | <a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link |
|                        | 1:15pm       | PW Circle 3                     | Fellowship Hall                                                         |
|                        | 5-7:15pm     | PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> 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 Rehearsal         | Bell Room                                                               |
| <b>Thursday 10/16</b>  | 12:30pm      | Dulcimer                        | HCMA Room 112                                                           |
|                        | 5:30pm       | Hastings Literacy Classes       | Middle School/Bell Rooms                                                |
|                        | 5:30pm       | Session Meets                   | Anderson Room                                                           |
|                        | 6-8pm        | Mexican Folkloric Dance         | PEACE NE Classroom                                                      |
| <b>Friday 10/17</b>    | 10am-12pm    | Mahjong                         | Basement Youth Room                                                     |
| <b>Saturday 10/18</b>  | 9am-11am     | Coat Drive                      | Memorial Room                                                           |
|                        | 9:45-11:30am | United Harvest                  | PEACE Center                                                            |
|                        | 5pm-8pm      | Pumpkins & PJs                  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Ed. Wing                                          |
| <b>Sunday 10/19</b>    | 8:30am       | Contemplative Worship Service   | Chapel                                                                  |
|                        |              | No Sunday School                |                                                                         |
|                        | 10am-10:30am | HAW Store Open                  | Library                                                                 |
|                        | 10:30am      | Traditional Worship Service     | Sanctuary, Facebook, Radio                                              |
|                        | 11:30am      | HAW Store Open                  | Library                                                                 |

**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>



**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.**



**9:45am-11:30am  
Third Saturday of each month  
at the PEACE Center**

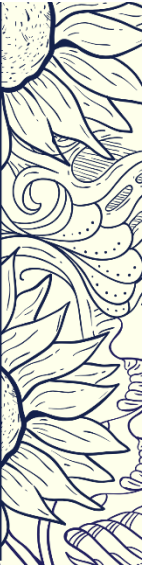
United Harvest Mobile Food Pantry is a joint ministry with First Presbyterian Church & First United Methodist Church. We provide a food distribution to 400+ families.

- If you need food, please feel free to come. The distribution is on a first-come, first-serve basis effective with the September 2025 distribution.
- If you would like to volunteer for this distribution, please come to the church at 9:30am to help us with the distribution.



**Pastor  
Appreciation  
Month**

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





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**

First Presbyterian Church Presents:

# PUMPKINS & PJS!

Saturday, Oct. 18th

5:00 - 8:00 PM



All students 4yrs - 5th grade are welcome!  
Please register so we have an accurate count for food.

## KIDS WILL:

- LEARN ABOUT SAMUEL'S CALL
- LEARN THAT GOD CHOOSES THEM!
- HAVE A YUMMY DINNER
- MAKE CRAFTS
- PLAY GAMES
- DO SCIENCE EXPERIEMENTS

## 3 HOURS

FOR PARENTS TO GO ON A  
DATE, BINGE A NETFLIX  
SHOW, GO GROCERY  
SHOPPING, ETC.!

For Questions, email [rose@fpcchastings.org](mailto:rose@fpcchastings.org) or call the office at (402) 462-5147

**FPC**  
POTLUCK

**October 12**  
following the 10:30 a.m.  
worship service

Congregation asked to bring food items based on  
the first letter of their last name:

**A-G** Salad or Vegetable

**H-M** Main Dish

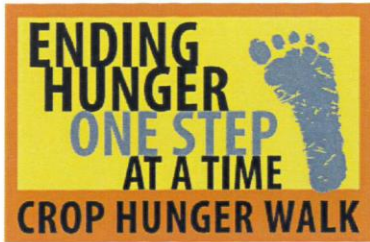
**N-Z** Dessert

## CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP SERVICE

**8:30am Sundays**  
in the Chapel



# CROP HUNGER WALK



Stop Hunger  
and  
Honor Frank Medsker

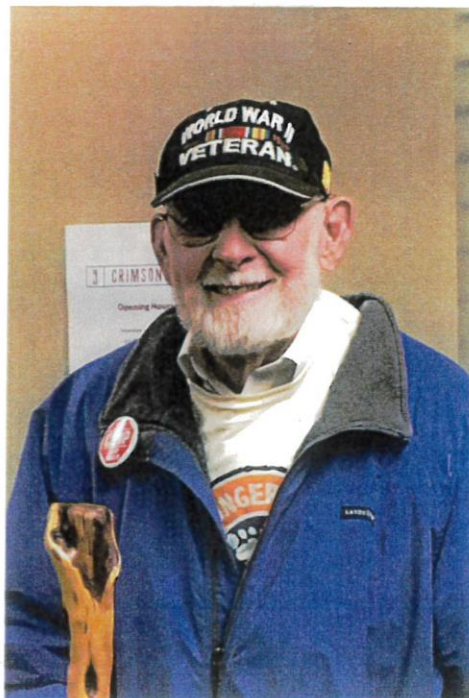
October 12, 2025 @ 2:00 pm  
Lake Hastings, Hastings, NE



Church Women United of the Hastings area is announcing this year's **CROP Hunger Walk** scheduled for **Sunday, October 12, 2025 at 2:00 pm at Lake Hastings**. The walk will raise funds to help Church World Service stop hunger both locally and globally.

Twenty-five percent (25%) of the proceeds collected from the Walk will come back to us and serve the *Food for Thought/Backpack Program*. To register, start a team, join a team, and/or donate online go to [crophungerwalk.org](http://crophungerwalk.org) or donate in our church or school offices (please make checks payable to CWS/CROP).

We are honoring Frank Medsker, a long-time CROP Walk participant. Frank passed in 2024, but had participated every year since the CROP Hunger Walk began in 1946. He donated his age in dollars each year and would have been 100 years old October 1, 2025. Please help us honor Frank's memory again by walking and donating on behalf of him.



# **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

## **WINTER WARMTH GIVE AWAY**

**FREE COATS FOR ALL SIZES**



**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 18  
9AM - 12PM**

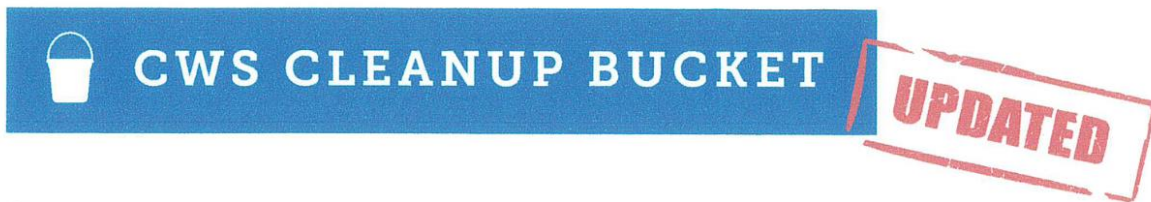


**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
621 N LINCOLN, HASTINGS  
SOUTH DOORS**





Presbyterian Women will be in the in the Memorial Room October 12 collecting items or monetary donations for CWS Clean Up buckets. Please make checks payable to Presbyterian Women.



#### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- ☐ One five-gallon bucket with resealable lid (If reused, please scrub clean. Do not use a bucket that has held chemicals of any kind. Brand labels on the outside are acceptable)
- ☐ Five scouring pads (No stainless steel or pads with soap in them. Remove from packaging)
- ☐ Seven sponges, including one large
- ☐ One scrub brush (With or without handle)
- ☐ 18 reusable, lightweight multipurpose cleaning towels (Not paper towels. Remove from packaging)
- ☐ One 16-34oz bottle of liquid dish soap (antibacterial preferred)
- ☐ One 12-40oz bottle of liquid concentrate household cleaner that can be mixed with water (No spray bottles)
- ☐ One 50-100 ft clothesline (Cotton or plastic line)
- ☐ Five dust masks (N95 particulate respirator dust masks preferred; No surgical masks)
- ☐ Two pairs of heavy-duty, waterproof dishwashing gloves (Latex-free preferred. Durable for multiple use. Remove from packaging)
- ☐ One pair of heavy-duty, reusable work gloves (Such as Nitrile, cotton with leather palm, or all leather)
- ☐ 20-28 heavy-duty or contractor-type 30-45 gallon trash bags on a roll (Remove from packaging)

All cleaning items must be new and all liquid items must be capped and securely tightened. Place all items into the bucket, making sure they are packed securely to avoid damage during shipment. Snap the lid on tight and seal with packing tape.



For more information, including where to ship or drop off your CWS Kits, how to support the Shipping and Processing Fund to help get CWS Kits to their final destinations, and answers to other Frequently Asked Questions, scan this QR code or visit [cwskits.org](http://cwskits.org).



VALUE: \$75

PROCESSING FEE: \$3 per bucket



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