



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

Worship & Adult Education Series: Justice, Restoration, and God's Enduring Promises of Hope

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

November brings shorter days, cooler nights, and a season of reflection. It is also a month when many of us yearn for signs of light, hope, and renewal. This year, our worship and study life will journey together into the powerful world of the Old Testament prophets through a three-week sermon series titled “**Justice, Restoration, and God's Enduring Promises of Hope.**”

The prophets were not fortune-tellers or distant mystics. They were real people speaking God's truth into real moments of crisis; calling God's people back to justice, compassion, trust, and courage. Their words challenged complacency, confronted injustice, and reminded weary hearts that God was not finished yet. Walter Brueggemann calls this the “**prophetic imagination,**” the ability to envision God's future even when the world around us feels broken or uncertain.

While these prophetic words are ancient, they are far from outdated. In a world that wrestles with division, fear, and uncertainty, the prophets call us to live with hope rooted in God's character. They push us to imagine what God's justice and peace can look like today: in our lives, our community, and the wider world.

Sermon Series – Sundays at 10:30am

November 9: “Let Justice Roll” – Amos 1:1–2; 5:14–15, 21–24

The prophet Amos speaks to a comfortable nation that has forgotten God's call to justice. Hope begins not with denial, but with honesty—and with lives aligned to God's righteousness. What does it mean for justice to “roll down like waters” in our world today?

November 16: “A Light Shines in the Darkness” – Isaiah 9:1–7

God's people know darkness deeply: fear, conflict, loss, and despair. Into that darkness comes a surprising promise—a child, a Prince of Peace. God's hope doesn't come with force, but through peace, compassion, and transformed hearts. Where do we see God's light breaking in?

November 23: “A Future with Hope” – Jeremiah 29:1, 4–14

Jeremiah writes to exiles living far from home, unsure of their future. God tells them to plant, build, seek the welfare of the city, and trust that a future with hope is still unfolding. What does it look like to plant seeds of hope—even in uncertain soil?

Adult Education with Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh – Sundays at 9:15am, November 2 – December 14

Alongside the sermon series, we are delighted to welcome our scholar-in-residence, Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh to dig deeper into the prophetic voices in November and early December. Dr. Deffenbaugh will help us explore the *prophetic imagination* more deeply, looking not only at the history and context of Amos, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, and Ezekiel, but also at how their voices continue to speak into our time.

Continued

These sessions will help us ask faithful questions:

- Why do the prophets challenge God's people so boldly?
- How do we discern God's truth in a world with so many competing voices?
- What does faithful hope look like when the world feels uncertain?

In every generation, the people of God have needed prophetic voices—voices that remind us who we are, who our neighbors are, and what kind of world God is calling us to build. That need is just as real today.

Come learn, worship, question, and hope with us

Whether you are a lifelong Bible student or new to the prophets, this series offers a chance to grow in faith and imagination. As we prepare to enter Advent, the season of waiting and hope, these prophetic words can help us listen more deeply for God's voice and live more boldly into God's promises.

Join us Sunday mornings:

- **Adult Education at 9:15am with Dr. Deffenbaugh**
- **Worship at 8:30 or 10:30am**

Together, we'll listen for God's enduring promises of justice, restoration, and hope and discover what it means to embody those promises in our world today.

In hope,



Pastor Greg

November Ushers and Greeters

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

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

Shutdown Community Soup Suppers – Join Us in Feeding Our Neighbors

In the Gospels, we read six different stories of Jesus feeding the multitudes, and in Matthew 25 Jesus says, *“I was hungry and you gave me food.”* In the spirit of that calling, and in response to the federal government shutdown suspending SNAP benefits and furloughing many workers in our community, our church is launching **Shutdown Community Soup Suppers** every Thursday evening from **6:00–8:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall, beginning this week.

This ministry was sparked by an idea from Hannah Jensen-Heitmann and Rose Koepp, who wondered: *What if we simply offered a warm meal and a kind welcome to anyone who needs it during the shutdown?* With that inspiration, we are stepping out in faith.

Here’s how you can help:

- Bring a **pot or crockpot of soup** on Thursdays (drop-off around **5:30 p.m.**)
- Stay to eat, visit, and offer hospitality to our guests
- Pray for our neighbors who are struggling during this time, and for the volunteers serving them

Peace Lutheran Church has signed on to host on Tuesdays and First United Methodist Church will host on Wednesdays, creating a weekly rhythm of shared meals in our community.

We have never done anything quite like this before. We do not know how many people will come, how much soup we will need, or how long the shutdown will last. But we trust in the generosity of this congregation and in the guidance of the Holy Spirit. If there are leftovers, wonderful—people can take soup home. If more people come than we expect, we will do our best and learn as we go.

Most of all, this is a chance to embody the love of Christ in a simple, tangible way: a warm bowl of soup and a place at the table.

If you would like to volunteer, bring soup, or learn more, please contact the church office. Thank you for helping us feed our neighbors with grace and joy.



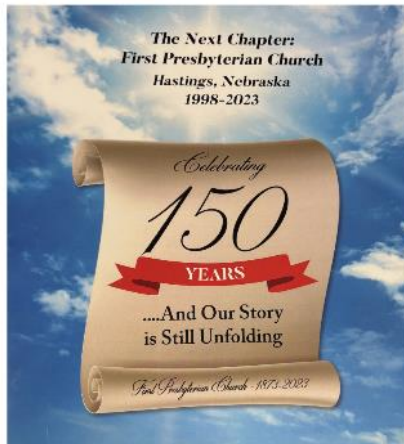
Community-Wide Soup Supper

*Thursdays
6pm-8pm
Fellowship Hall*

Please Bring Soup by 5:30 p.m.
Please plan to stay and help host!

This is an opportunity for our church to help those in the community who are experiencing food insecurity.

150th Book Distribution



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

Please pray for

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

In memory of

Jim Harrenstein, who passed away on September 16, 2025

Tuesday 11/4	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 & Choir Room
	6pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6-7:30pm	WAM Meeting	Anderson Room
Wednesday 11/5	11-11:45am	PW Coord Team	Parlor
	11:45am	PW Program and Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	5-7:15pm	PreK-12 th Grade WNL	Various
	5:30pm-7pm	Adult Bingo Night	Fellowship Hall
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir Practice	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
Thursday 11/6	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Center
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School & Choir Rooms
	5:30pm	Global Mission Committee	Anderson Room
	6pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6pm-8pm	Community-Wide Soup Supper	Fellowship Hall
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 11/7	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	10am-12pm	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room

November Communion Offering

United Harvest

October Communion Offering Update

The October Communion Offering raised a total of **\$1,022.00** which will benefit **Peace and Global Mission**,
Thank you for your generous support.



Prophetic Words for Today

November 9, 16, & 23

9:15 a.m. in the Lydia Room

As we continue to work our way through the Older Testament, Scholar-in-Residence Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh will lead a study of the lives and messages of the prophets. In their ancient words and context, Dan will help us to find God's word speaking to us today.

Sunday 11/9	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
Monday 11/10	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	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains Rehearsal	Choir Room
Tuesday 11/11	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 & Choir Rooms
	5:30pm	Trustees	Basement Youth Room
	5:30pm	Congregational Life Meeting	Anderson Room
	6pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6:45pm	Deacons	Anderson Room
Wednesday 11/12	12pm	Noonday 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	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
Thursday 11/13	9-11am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School & Choir Rooms
	6pm	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	6pm-8pm	Community-Wide Soup Supper	Fellowship Hall
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE Gym
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Friday 11/14	9am	Hastings Pickleball Club	PEACE Gym
	10am	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
Saturday 11/15	9:45-11:30am	United Harvest	PEACE Center
Sunday 11/16	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



Celebrate the Advent Season at First Presbyterian Church Hastings at the

Congregation Nativity Set Share

Display opens in Fellowship Hall at
8:00 a.m. on
Sunday, December 7
and closes at 1:00 p.m.

Instructions:

Bring your family's nativity set to
Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 6
between 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Be sure to provide a written description
and history unique to your creché.

**Enjoy the wonderful variety,
art forms, and unique stories of these
special representations of
the Nativity.**

A special project of the
Worship, Arts, and Music Committee

Hastings College Meal Assistance over Thanksgiving Break

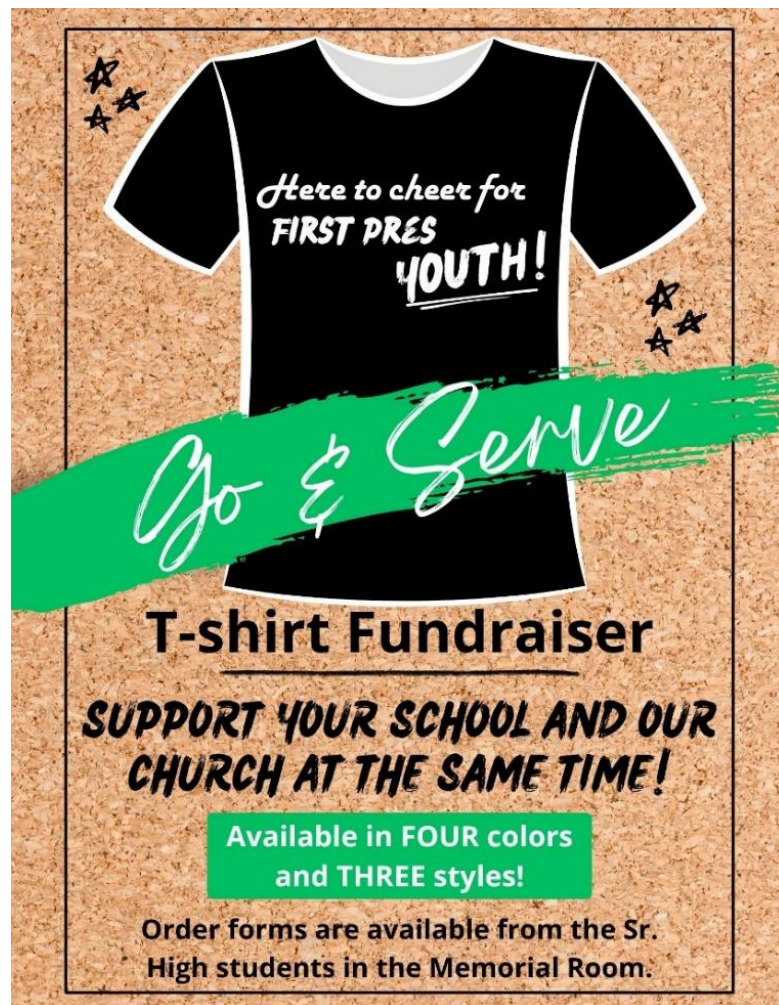
Hello local churches,

We are now looking forward to Thanksgiving Break! During this break, our cafeteria closes and we will have several students on campus (mostly international students) who might appreciate any meals! We are asking this year that meals be delivered to Hazelrigg Student Union!). You may stay and eat with the students or deliver and we will serve. We'll have around 25 students on campus, but they may not all come to all meals!

Please consider providing lunch (11:30-12:30) or dinner (5:30-6:30) on November 21st-28th. Please email me at doodle.harris@hastings.edu, by November 7th, if you are interested in providing a meal or to donate food. If you'd simply like to donate food, we'll pass it out to students staying campus (Mac and Cheese and boxes of cereal are favorites!). Those items can be delivered any time before November 17th!

Thanks so much! I am grateful for all of the support you all show our Hastings College Students!

-Doodle Harris





COMMEMORATION OF OUR
FAITHFUL FAMILY & FRIENDS
DEPARTED IN DEATH
OCTOBER 30, 2024 – OCTOBER 29, 2025

Ken Stein

November 9, 1951 – October 30, 2024

Shirley Streck

April 2, 1931 – February 20, 2025

Eleanor Jorgenson

December 20, 1931 – November 8, 2024

Bill Anderson

September 5, 1938 – February 24, 2025

Melissa Eckhardt

September 26, 1953 – December 26, 2024

Jane Tushaus

November 17, 1943 – April 9, 2025

Pat Kleiber

December 15, 1937 – December 27, 2024

Vicki Nieves

February 13, 1982 – April 15, 2025

Wayne Ganow

December 18, 1935 – January 17, 2025

Ron Bourke

October 1, 1951 – May 9, 2025

Jane Johnson

September 29, 1937 – February 11, 2025

Jim Harrenstein

August 3, 1953 – September 16, 2025



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.



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.

Three Week Fall Series on the Old Testament Prophets



LET JUSTICE ROLL

November 9:
AMOS 5



A LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

November 16:
ISAIAH 9



A FUTURE WITH HOPE

November 23:
JEREMIAH 29

CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP SERVICE

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



**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.



Hangin' of The Greens

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



Free
Concert!



"Ring in the Holidays"

with

The River City Ringers

All are
welcome!

First Presbyterian Church

Sanctuary

Saturday, December 6

3 p.m. - 4 p.m.



Church Women United, Inc.
Agreed to Differ – Resolved to Love – United to Serve
World Community Day 2025 Celebration
Sponsored by Hastings/Juniata Church Women United

choose
Kindness

God's Daughters Living Powerful Lives

"Charm is deceptive, and beauty does not last; but a woman who fears the Lord will be greatly praised." (Proverbs 31:30 (NLT))

BE KIND AT ALL TIMES



Friday, November 7, 2025 • 10:00 am
Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
1338 N Saunders Ave • Hastings NE 68901

Anchor Verse: *"Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you." Ephesians 4:32 (NLT)*

Special Music
Visit from Mother Teresa
Program: The Salvation Army
Major Rachel Irvine

Please join us for a **Soup Luncheon** immediately following this service. Sponsored by the *Hastings/Juniata Church Women United*.

JOIN US!

Christmas Craft Make-and-Take Event!

BRING YOUR FAMILY TO MAKE A CHRISTMAS CRAFT THAT THEY CAN GIVE AS A GIFT THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!
ENJOY A HOT CHOCOLATE BAR WHILE OUR VOLUNTEERS HELP YOUR CHILDREN CRAFT!

13 DEC. / 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
621 N LINCOLN AVE,
HASTINGS, NE

CRAFTS ARE TAILORED TOWARDS ELEMENTARY STUDENTS, BUT FUN FOR ALL AGES!

FREE WILL DONATION

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