



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

Reflections and celebrations of baptisms and new members!

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family:

As we move through this season of transition together, I've found myself reflecting on the beautiful signs of life and hope we continue to witness at First Presbyterian Church.

On Sunday, May 10, we celebrated the baptism of a child in our congregation. This coming Sunday, May 17, we will welcome a class of new members into the life of the church. Just two weeks ago, we celebrated confirmands publicly professing their faith and joining the church as well.

These moments are more than milestones. They are reminders of who we are.

In baptism, we remember that we belong to Jesus Christ. Before we accomplish anything, before we hold any office, before we agree or disagree on any issue, we are claimed by God's grace. In the waters of baptism, God says, "You are my beloved." Baptism reminds us that the church is not built around one pastor or one generation, but around the promises and faithfulness of God.

And in the Presbyterian tradition, baptism is never just about the individual being baptized. The congregation also makes promises. We promise to nurture one another in faith, to walk together in love, and to help one another follow Jesus Christ. In other words, we promise to be the church together.

As I reflected on Sunday's baptism, I realized that during my ministry here we have celebrated 60 baptisms together, with at least three more still to come before my final Sunday on July 12 — including one baptism on that final Sunday itself. What a beautiful gift and testimony to God's ongoing work in this congregation.

Likewise, with the confirmands who joined on May 3 and the new members joining on May 17, we will have welcomed nearly 190 new members into the life of First Presbyterian Church during these years together.

Those numbers are not simply statistics. They are stories. They are people. They are signs of the Holy Spirit continuing to move in and through this church.

Every baptism, every profession of faith, every new member received has been a reminder to me

Continued



that God is not finished with First Presbyterian Church of Hastings. Far from it. The ministry of this church will continue because Christ continues to call people, transform lives, and send us out into the world as the hands and feet of Jesus.

Pastors come and go. Seasons change. But the mission of the church remains the same: to worship God, to love our neighbors, to share the good news of Jesus Christ, and to be the church together.

And friends, I am deeply hopeful because I have seen you do exactly that.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of walking alongside you in this chapter of the church's story. I cannot wait to see what God will continue to do through First Presbyterian Church in the years ahead.

In Grace and Hope,



Pastor Greg

May & June Ushers and Greeters

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

May Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
17	Dixie & Gale McDonald	Volunteers Needed
24	John & Linda Carllson	Sue Medsker
31	Ann & Robin Koozer	Carol Harrenstein

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

June Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
7	Connie & Richard McClenahan	Jean Stinnete
14	Erica & Brent Brooks	Jan Bolliger
21	Cheryl & Ed Lockwood	Susan Cole
28	Karen & Richard Doerr	Mary Kay LaMaster



IT'S TIME FOR SPRING CLEANING IN YOUR CLOSET. THE MISSION COMMITTEE IS COLLECTING LONG-SLEEVED SHIRTS FOR OUR MIGRANT WORKERS.

THESE SHIRTS ARE IMPORTANT TO PROTECT OUR WORKERS FROM THE SUN AND EXPOSURE TO AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS.

SHIRTS CAN BE DROPPED OFF IN THE DESIGNATED BIN IN FELLOWSHIP HALL.

THE MISSION COMMITTEE THANKS YOU.

A colorful poster for VBS 2026. At the top, "VBS 2026" is written in a black, handwritten-style font. Below it, "THE SEARCH FOR GODLY TREASURES" is written in large, bold, brown, sans-serif capital letters. The background features a blue sky with white clouds and birds, a brown wooden ship on the left, and a small island with a palm tree and a treasure chest on the right. In the center, the dates "JUNE 22-25" and time "8:30-11:30 AM" are listed on the left, and "INCOMING PREK-5TH GRADERS" is listed on the right. At the bottom, there is a treasure chest on the left and a red star on the right. The text "Join us for a 4-day adventure to find the treasures of God's Kingdom! All are welcome! Register online fpchastings.org" is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of volunteers who would like to serve as additional Ushers for 2026.

Team 1 (March & September)

Team 5 (January & July)

Team 6 (February & August)

Please let the Church Office know if you are able to help out.
We appreciate any help we can receive.

Volunteers Needed at the Rain Garden

The PEACE Center Rain Garden is waking up! Volunteers are needed to help weed the garden and encourage plants and bushes to mature. An attractive garden provides habitat for birds, butterflies, and pollinators, while also creating a colorful landscape. The work can be done at your convenience. If interested, contact John Nelson at 402-469-6001 or njcelk11@gmail.com

Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher	Molly Kammerer and family
Tarah Davis & family	Carl Utley
Matt Campbell	Barry Thomson
Janey Nottage-Tacey	Greg Howard
Bob Wolf	Lexi Longshore
KyMani Riek	Nytha & Dave Glass
Carole Pedersen	family of Ramona Shetler
Tony Glenn	family of Becky Foote
Judd Carrier	Kathy Struss
Mary Lewis	Carter Johnson
Zsuzsanna Fazakas	Alyssa Donley
Pam Canady	Ken Fisk
Francisco Diaz (Beto)	Sammy Nahorny



In memory of

Becky Foote, who passed
away on 3/18/26
Ramona Shetler, who
passed away on 4/3/26

Tues. 5/12	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School and Choir Rooms
	5:30pm	Congregational Life Meeting	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Trustees Meeting	PEACE West Classrooms
	6:45pm	Deacons Meeting	Anderson Room
Wed. 5/13	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	5-7pm	PreK-12 th Grade WNL Picnic	Lib's Park
	6pm	Chancel Bells	Bell Room
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
Thur. 5/14	12:30pm	Dulcimer	Lydia Room
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School and Choir Rooms
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Fri. 5/15	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
Sat. 5/16	9:45am-11:30am	United Harvest	PEACE Center

Sun. 5/17	8:30am	Contemplative Worship Service	Chapel
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Radio, YouTube
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
Mon. 5/18	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
Tues. 5/19	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School & Choir Rooms
Wed. 5/20	9:30am	PW Circles 1 & 2	PEACE West Classroom
	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	1:15pm	PW Circle 3	PEACE West Classroom
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
Thur. 5/21	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Hastings Literacy Classes	Middle School & Choir Room
	5:30pm	Session Meets	Anderson Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Fri. 5/22	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
Sun. 5/24	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Radio, YouTube
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
Mon. 5/25	Church Office Closed-Memorial Day		



May Communion Offering
Hastings Middle School Garden



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.
- If you would like to volunteer for this distribution, please come to the church at 9:30am to help us with the distribution.



P.W. Mother's Day Donations

DONATION IN HONOR OF:

Gail Dreher
Kathy Essink
Hannah Jensen-Heitmann
Patty Kneale
Ann Koozer
Carol Kyle
Laura (Hoff) Little
Renee Miller
Robyn Nedderman
Marsha Nelson
Judy Reimer
Madeline Weiland
Pam Witte
Dorothy & Betty, our mothers

DONATION IN MEMORY OF:

Jeannine Bauer
Anne Fairbanks Bohlke
Jeanne Butz
Lois Davidson
Caroline Leeman Dorr
Dorothy Etmund
Susie Grams
Annabelle Hafer
Billie Johnson
Bernice Kleiber
Frances Koozer
Gretchen Lainson
Edna Lewis
Mary Lou Leymaster
Dama Lind
Robertta Lloyd
Alvis Magill
Julia McDougal
Carol Medsker
Virginia Metzger
Verna Meyer
Edna Nelson
Victoria Nieves
Our mothers
Our mothers
Isabel Perrie
Eldene Pershing
Olive Plock
Leona Porter
Shirley Shepherd
Marietta Vollweiler
Ruth Walker
ReNelda Wenburg
Rogene Wenburg
Anna Wierenga
My mothers
My mother (Melba) and Billie Unger

GIVEN BY:

the Essink family
the Essink family
Byron & Deb Jensen
Curtis & Kathy Reimer
Maggie & Mac; Catherine & Dan
Bee, Meghan, & Morgan Kyle
the Little kids
Mary Fisk
Calvin Nedderman
John Nelson
Curtis & Kathy Reimer
Max & Beatrix Nedderman
the Essink family
Susie & Kenny Graham

GIVEN BY:

Jane Bauer
Constance Malloy
John & Cathy Pershing
Lynette Krieger
Sally Hatcher
Jane Bauer
Bob & Nancy Grams
Charlie & Lois Hafer
Linda & Richard Johnson
Richard Kleiber
the Koozer family
Mary, Jorn, Erica, & Chris Olsen
Ira & May Wierenga
Charlie & Lois Hafer
John & Marsha Nelson
Jeni & George Howard
Nan & Jon Huey
the Koozer family
Sue Medsker, Nan & Jon Huey
Linda & Richard Johnson
Michael & Rebeca Meyer
John & Marsha Nelson
Mary Fisk
Bonnie & Kenton Grams
Roger & Cheryl Schukei
Bob & Nancy Grams
John & Cathy Pershing
Mary & Richard Plock
Phyllis O'Dey
Michael & Rebecca Meyer
Linda Vollweiler
Mary & Richard Plock
Jim Wenburg
Justin, Kili, Carter & Selah Wenburg
Ira & May Wierenga
Joy White
Lisa Unger

First Presbyterian Church

621 N. Lincoln Ave.

Hastings, NE 68901

402-462-5147

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. Miggi Angangco

Chancel Bells & Youth Bells

Director: Dr. Byron Jensen

Youth Choir Director: Linda Johnson

Kids Choir Director: Teresa Canady

Kids 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

Custodian: Keidy Debbe

Bookkeeper: Deb Hamburger

Scholar in Residence: Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh