



## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

# Home Page Newsletter

Greetings, Church Family!

I am so excited to be writing to you this week to share about our upcoming Vacation Bible School program! From June 22-25, we will be hosting a four-day VBS here at the church. Over these four days, preschool-5th graders will immerse themselves in an island adventure where they will be on the Search for Godly Treasures!

What exactly are Godly Treasures, you might be wondering? These are the things that Jesus teaches us to value; things we know that God cares about because of the way Jesus talked about them or embodied them. Our theme verse for the week comes from Matthew 6:21: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Throughout the week, students will discover that what we treasure shapes our hearts, our priorities, and the way we live.

On Monday, students will learn that God treasures us by engaging with the parable of the lost sheep. On Tuesday, students will learn that God treasures our time and attention through the examples of Jesus going off to pray on his own and teaching his disciples how to pray. On Wednesday, they will learn that God treasures community by exploring the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000. And finally, on Thursday, students will learn that God treasures rest by digging into the story of Jesus sleeping through a storm and then calming the storm.

This VBS curriculum has been designed to help students build a foundation for what it means to live like Jesus and to be "Kingdom-oriented." Jesus said and did a lot of things, so when we are told to "be like Jesus," that can feel overwhelming. This curriculum highlights some of the values Jesus returned to again and again, helping students understand not only what Jesus taught, but why these things matter. As students discover what God treasures, they are invited to shape their own hearts around those same values.

VBS is always an exciting time for students to explore faith in a fun and engaging way. They will sing songs, play games, make crafts, and do science experiments that all tie into the Godly Treasure of the day. Engaging Bible stories from all of these different angles helps students internalize their learning, making it more likely to stick long after the week is over.

In addition to all of these activities, another important aspect of VBS is the fellowship. Something really special about our VBS program is the intergenerational ministry and

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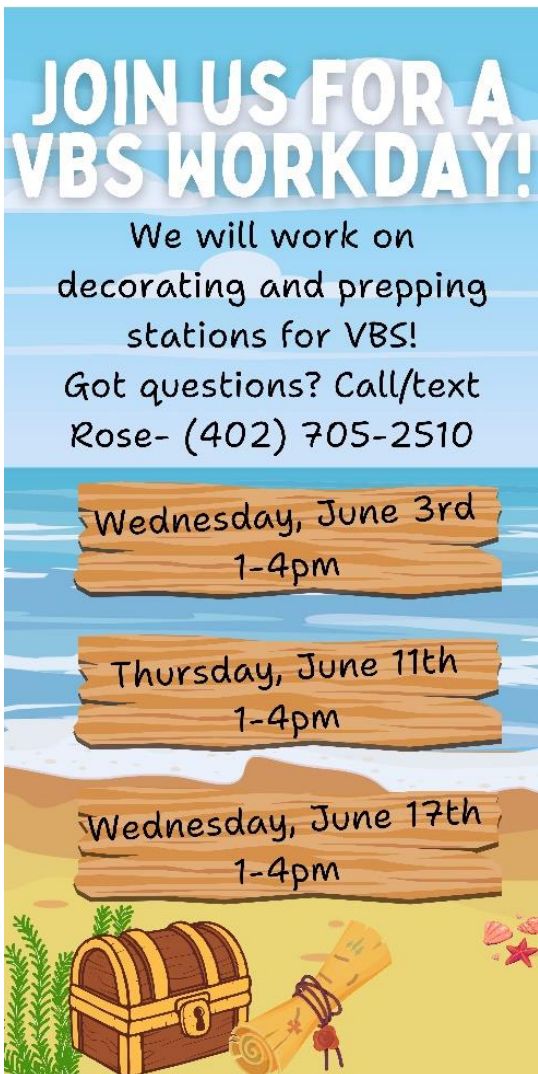
fellowship that happens throughout the week. We have volunteers ranging in age from 12 to 80, and students from ages 3 to 11. When all of these people learn, serve, and grow together, something truly wonderful happens. Relationships are formed, faith is nurtured, and our church family is strengthened.

As we prepare for VBS, I invite you to keep our students, volunteers, and leaders in your prayers. Pray that our children would have fun, make friends, and encounter God's love in meaningful ways. Pray that together we would discover the treasures that Jesus points us toward and that our hearts would be shaped by the things that matter most to God.

With gratitude and excitement,



Rose Koeppe  
Director of Christian Education for Children & Youth




# JOIN US FOR A VBS WORKDAY!

We will work on decorating and prepping stations for VBS!  
Got questions? Call/text Rose- (402) 705-2510

Wednesday, June 3rd  
1-4pm

Thursday, June 11th  
1-4pm

Wednesday, June 17th  
1-4pm



# VBS 2026

## THE SEARCH FOR GODLY TREASURES

JUNE 22-25  
8:30-11:30 AM

INCOMING  
PREK-5<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

Join us for a 4-day adventure to find the treasures of God's Kingdom!  
All are welcome!  
Register online [fpchastings.org](http://fpchastings.org)



## June Ushers and Greeters

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

June Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
<b>14</b>	Erica & Brent Brooks	Jan Bolliger
<b>21</b>	Cheryl & Ed Lockwood	Susan Cole
<b>28</b>	Karen & Richard Doerr	Mary Kay LaMaster

### United Harvest June Distribution Date

Volunteers for the United Harvest Mobile Food Pantry! In June, the folks at Foodbank for the Heartland will be delivering our food on the fourth Saturday rather than our usual third Saturday. That will make it Saturday, June 27th. In July, we will resume our usual third Saturday schedule...July 18th.

### June Communion Offering

Open Table



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.

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.



JUNE 7



JULY 5

AUG 9

PIZZA AND POPCORN WILL BE PROVIDED

THIS EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE YOUTH ROOM

FOR QUESTIONS, CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (402) 462-5147

**PURPLE CHURCH,  
RED STATE**

*Finding Common Ground in an Age of Polarization*

**GREG ALLEN-PICKETT**

This book tells the story of one congregation in the heart of the Midwest and what it can teach about hope in a divided world.

In a time when politics and faith often drive people apart, and the electoral map is divided into red and blue states, this book offers a different vision: a purple church where conservatives and liberals sit in the same pews, sing the same hymns, and serve side by side. Through stories of sack lunches, shared tables, prayer vigils, cultural partnerships, and courageous conversations, this church shows how communities can resist the pull of polarization and discover the joy of building the beloved community together. Each chapter tells a heart-warming story of finding common ground and concludes with discussion questions and a brief biblical reflection, perfect for a book group or Bible study.

**Pastor Greg Wrote a Book!**

*Purple Church, Red State:  
Finding Common Ground in an Age of Polarization*

It is available in the Hands Around the World Store and Church Office. All proceeds benefit the mission projects and ministry partners of First Presbyterian Church of Hastings.

# Christian Ed

## Summer Events:

<b>JUNE 7</b> 5 PM - 7 PM <i>Movie Club @ FPC</i>	<b>JUNE - JULY THURSDAYS</b> 3 PM - 5 PM <i>Youth Group Game time @ FPC</i>	
<b>JUNE 21</b> 7 PM - 9 PM <i>FPC WaterPark Night Aqua Court</i>	<b>JUNE 22-25</b> 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM <i>Vacation Bible School</i>	<b>JUNE 25</b> 5:30 PM - 7 PM <i>END of VBS Activity Night FPC Parking Lot</i>
<b>JULY 5</b> 5 PM - 7 PM <i>Movie Club @ FPC</i>	<b>JULY AUG 25 - 1</b> <i>Sr High Go &amp; Serve</i>	<b>AUG 6</b> 8 AM - 6 PM <i>Jr High Zoo Trip</i>
<b>AUG 9</b> 5 PM - 7 PM <i>Movie Club @ FPC</i>	<b>AUG 30</b> 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM <i>Sunday School Kickoff</i>	<b>SEPT 13</b> 9:15 AM - 10:15 AM <i>Kids' Church Resumes!</i>

## June 9, 2026 – June 21, 2026

<b>Tues. 6/9</b>	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Congregational Life Meeting	Anderson Room
	5:30pm	Trustees	Anderson Room
	6:45pm	Deacons	Anderson Room
<b>Wed. 6/10</b>	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	basement
<b>Thur. 6/11</b>	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Fri. 6/12</b>	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
<b>Sun. 6/14</b>	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, YouTube, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
<b>Mon. 6/15</b>	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
<b>Tues. 6/16</b>	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
	6-8pm	Immigration Updates	PEACE SW Classroom
<b>Wed. 6/17</b>	12pm	Noonday Book Club	<a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers Meet	Basement
<b>Thur. 6/18</b>	9am	Senior Action Inc. event	PEACE W. Classrooms
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	5:30pm	Session Meets	Anderson Room
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
<b>Fri. 6/19</b>	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
<b>Sun. 6/21</b>	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Radio, YouTube
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	7-9pm	FPC Waterpark Outing	Aquacourt



### *Worship in the Park*

**July 26      August 16**  
**August 2     August 23**  
**August 9     August 30**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Alexander Park**

Please bring your lawn chair

All are welcome!



# SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, July 12, 2026

Following the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
PEACE Center Gym

Please join us for a lunch in honor and in  
celebration of the Allen-Pickett family and their  
time at First Presbyterian Church of Hastings!



RSVPs ensure we have enough food. Please call or email by  
July 5<sup>th</sup> to let us know you'll be there!

(402) 462-5147 • [melissa@fpchastings.org](mailto:melissa@fpchastings.org)

## Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher  
Tarah Davis & family  
Matt Campbell  
Janey Nottage-Tacey  
Bob Wolf  
KyMani Riek  
Carole Pedersen  
Tony Glenn  
Judd Carrier

Molly Kammerer and family  
Carl Utley  
Barry Thomson  
Greg Howard  
Lexi Longshore  
Nytha & Dave Glass  
family of Ramona Shetler  
family of Becky Foote  
Kathy Struss

Pat Kelley  
Mary Lewis  
Zsuzsanna Fazakas  
Pam Canady  
Francisco Diaz (Beto)  
Carter Johnson  
Alyssa Donley  
Ken Fisk  
Sammy Nahorny

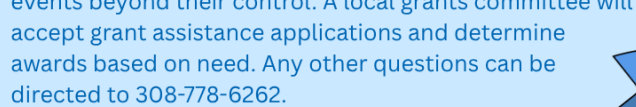




## P.W. Father's Day Offering

Every year the Presbyterian Women collect an offering in honor of, or in memory of, our fathers. We will be set up in the Memorial Room at church for four Sundays (May 31, June 7, June 14, and June 21.) We have decided that this year the offering will go to wildfire relief in the sandhills of Nebraska. If you remember, in March, The Morrill wildfire burned at least 643,074 acres of land. It destroyed the grasslands, fencing, homes, and animals. Thank you for your continued support.

### Nebraska Sandhill Rancher Fire Relief



Our mission statement: The primary purpose of the fund shall be to assist victims of natural fires in Nebraska, primarily in the counties of Garden, Morrill, Arthur, Keith, and Grant. To assist in disaster recovery. We hope to enhance and improve the quality of life of the Nebraska residents that have suffered a financial hardship due to events beyond their control. A local grants committee will accept grant assistance applications and determine awards based on need. Any other questions can be directed to 308-778-6262.



## Thank You

The First Presbyterian Church Hastings Relay for Life team collected \$1,615 for this year's donations given to the American Cancer Society for research and patient support. The many names of Cancer affected friends and family members were on our luminaries at the Relay for Life celebration walk in Kearney on June 5 and displayed in our sanctuary on Sundays, May 31 and June 7.

Thank you from the team leaders for supporting in the fight against cancer. Our loved ones are our focus.

Thoughts and prayers are needed for all those experiencing cancer and the caregivers supporting them. We also need thoughts and prayers for those who have experienced a loss due to cancer and the caregivers who have been by their side.

American Cancer Society Relay for Life continues to provide help to cancer patients and caregivers since 1985.

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  
**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