



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

Dear Members and Friends of First Presbyterian Church,

It's nearly Go & Serve week! On July 25th a group of eight youth and four adults will pack themselves into vans and head to Hazard, Kentucky. During the week we'll spend our days doing light construction work in partnership with the Housing Development Alliance of Hazard County Kentucky. During the evenings we'll cook meals and fellowship with one another. All the while, we will be growing in our faith and attempting to live as reflections of God in the world.

The theme for this year's trip is "Something Bigger than Me" and all during the week our students will be encouraged to consider the ways that their lives connect with something bigger than themselves. Being a part of something bigger than ourselves helps us to find meaning, purpose, and direction for our own lives. And whether they realize it or not, our students and chaperones are already a part of something much bigger than themselves.

To begin with, by choosing to be part of Go & Serve they have connected themselves to a ministry with more than 60 years of history. They find themselves already within a long line of faithful disciples who have given of their time, talent, and resources in order to serve others in the name of Christ. Second, during the week our students and chaperones will commit themselves to one another. Being dedicated to the fellowship and well-being of one another draws us into a community that is larger than our individual selves. Being patient, and kind, and encouraging of one another creates a holy community. And even if that community is only together for a short while it serves as a reminder of the importance of being a part of something bigger than our selves.

And finally, by giving a week of their lives in service to others they become a part of a calling that is larger than any of us can imagine. They have chosen to be a part of Jesus' command to love both God and neighbor. This is a way of being that is bigger than anything we might imagine for our lives.

The generous heart of this congregation enables this important ministry to continue. Your prayers, blessings, and financial gifts are the things that allow us to help young people to connect to the very heart of God. And truly, there is nothing bigger or better for us than to become united with God. As we pack our bags and prepare to head into the hills, we ask for your continued support through prayer and the offering of blessings upon us. We are sure to have a great week and we look forward to returning and telling you all about it.

Peace and all good,

Damen Jensen-Heitmann

July Ushers and Greeters

July Ushers (Team #5) Captain – Melissa Davis, Matt Fong, Julie Thomsen, Justin Brader

July Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
26	Amy & Joe Black	Margaret & Charles Hermes

August Ushers and Greeters

August Ushers (Team #6) Chanda Essink, Lynne Friedewald, Chuck Shoemaker

August Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
2	Linda & Richard Johnson	Sally Hatcher
9	Milrae & Harold Korb	Lois Hafer
16	Mary Kay LaMaster	Melissa Davis
23	Daveta & Dick Brader	Melissa Davis
30	Sue Medsker	Mary Kay LaMaster



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!

July 21, 2026 – August 3, 2026

Tues. 7/21	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
Wed. 7/22	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
Thur. 7/23	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	3-5pm	Summer Youth Group	Basement Youth Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
Fri. 7/24	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
Sat. 7/25		Go & Serve Participants Depart	
Sun. 7/26	9am	Worship in the Park	Alexander Park
	9am	Open Table Set-up	Fellowship Hall
	9:45am	Open Table Early Bird Assembly	Fellowship Hall
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Radio, YouTube
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	11:30am-12:30pm	Open Table Assembly	Fellowship Hall
	12:30pm	Senior Recital	Sanctuary
Mon. 7/27	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilters
	5:30pm	Foundation Board Meeting	Anderson Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
Tues. 7/28	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity	Middle School Youth Room
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
Wed. 7/29	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
Thur. 7/30	8am-6pm	Jr. High Zoo Trip	Henry Doorly Zoo
	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
Fri. 7/31	10am	Mahjong	Basement Youth Room
Sun. 8/2	9am	Worship in the Park	Alexander Park
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Radio, YouTube
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	4pm	South Central Nebraska Children's Chorale Concert	Sanctuary
Mon. 8/3	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	6pm	WAM Meeting	Anderson Room
	7pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room



Happy Anniversary

Sarah & Scott Snell- 8/2/2003

George & Jeni Howard- 8/4/1979

Jenni & Ben Welsch- 8/5/2006

Jake & Kelsey Stokely- 8/6/2016

Becky & Rick Matticks- 8/7/1987

Ruth & Erik Nielsen- 8/7/1997

Kim & Bruce Day 8/11/1990

Peggy & Barry Thomson- 8/11/1968

Kathy & Bob Amyot- 8/11/1990

Chris & Colleen Schukei- 8/12/2000

Traci & Jim Boeve- 8/12/1994

Katharine & LaVern Davis- 8/12/1972

Robin & Ann Koozer- 8/14/1976

Kili & Justin Wenburg- 8/14/1998

Virginia & Brad Davis- 8/20/2016

Lauren & Matt Overmiller- 8/22/2020

Beth & Ron Wissing- 8/22/1986

Janey & Bill Nottage-Tacey- 8/24/1975

Martha & Bill Boyd- 8/28/1976

Tom Kreager & Sandra Spurgeon- 8/30/2014



Happy Birthday

Gregg Lay- 8/1

Linda Vollweiler- 8/1

Alphonse Tako- 8/1

Madelyn Koepp- 8/2

Kathy Duval- 8/3

Allie Bauer- 8/3

Ira Wierenga- 8/4

Terry Hall- 8/5

Rick Matticks- 8/6

JoAnn Seiler- 8/6

Doug Soderquist- 8/6

Susan Meeske- 8/6

Julia Klaassen- 8/6

Audre Zaroban- 8/7

Chuck Shoemaker- 8/9

Vera Zabloudil- 8/9

Erica Olsen- 8/12

Tristan Propp- 8/12

Carolyn McKenzie- 8/12

Elise Koepp- 8/12

Ashley Mullen- 8/13

Kim Creech- 8/13

Jerry Seiler- 8/14

Denny Storer- 8/14

Shiloh Hall- 8/15

Beth Wissing- 8/16

Kathy Utter- 8/16

Ashley Fitzgerald- 8/16

Richard Brader- 8/16

Theodore Klaassen- 8/16

Jonah Snell- 8/17

Chris Johnson- 8/17

Pastor Damen- 8/18

Chaudier Duang- 8/19

Don O'Dey- 8/19

Gary Grummert- 8/19

Alice Throckmorton- 8/20

Connie McClenahan- 8/21

Stephanie Bliss- 8/22

Lauren Canady- 8/23

Vivian Fong- 8/23

Melissa Struss- 8/24

Camden Smith- 8/24

Jessica Klaassen- 8/25

Kim Day- 8/25

Holly Urrutia- 8/26

Ed Lockwood- 8/26

Sharon Brooks- 8/26

Abigail Kerr- 8/27

Brian Johnson- 8/27

Karen Portwood- 8/27

Dana Miller- 8/28

Faith Brader- 8/28

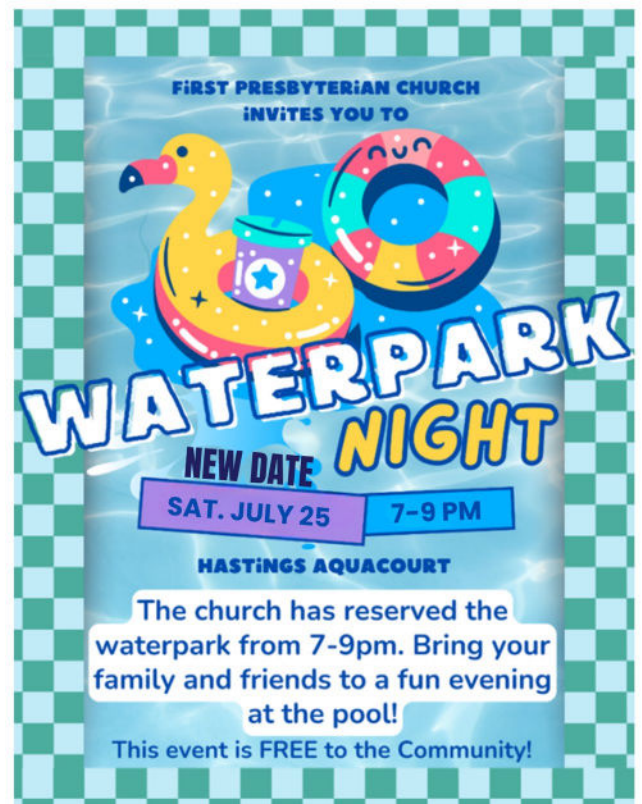
Todd Lay- 8/29

Chris Junker- 8/30

Jane Bauer- 8/30

Margaret Marsh- 8/30

Matt Malouf- 8/31



July Communion Offering



Habitat for Humanity is a movement of people in your local area and around the world, working together to build more prosperous and vibrant communities by making sure everyone has a safe, affordable place to call home.

Since our founding in 1976 as a Christian organization, **together we have helped more than 65 million people in countries around the world build their futures on their own terms** through access to decent housing. We've done that by working alongside people of all walks of life to:

- Build, repair, and finance their homes.
- Innovate new ways of building and financing.
- Advocate for policies that make constructing and accessing housing easier for everyone.

Together, we build homes, communities, and hope.

August Communion Offering

Raíces de mi Pueblo Mexican Dance Troupe

Raíces de mi Pueblo (Stories of our town) is a folkloric dance group that meets for practices twice a week in our Peace Center. It is also our monthly communion offering for the month of June. Maria started this dance class five years ago in response to her concerns about her own children and other children in her neighborhood becoming disconnected from their roots and not participating in safe, fun, physical activities after school hours. She decided she could do something about this by offering free dance classes that would be open to anyone. Currently her class has grown to approximately 20 dancers ranging in age from three to seventeen. In addition to practices these dancers have performed at many events, festivals and venues in

Hastings and throughout the state. Due to Maria's goals, they have grown in cultural knowledge, communication skills, confidence, pride and dance skills. There is a connection to the larger community that has evolved from these performances. Maria makes a point of teaching dances from different regions of Mexico and Central America. The costumes are a part of the culture and story of the dances.

Since Maria does not charge students for the dance classes, she depends on donations to buy costumes, or to buy the material to make the elaborate and beautiful costumes for a constantly growing and changing group of dancers.

Community Book Sale

Gently used books and
jigsaw puzzles for
all ages.



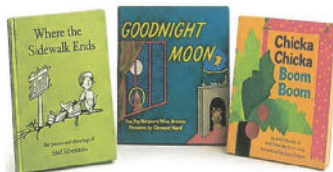
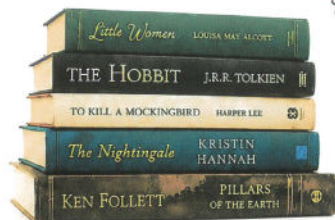
When:

Saturday, August 8th
from 8:00 to 4:00



Where:

Hastings Peace Center,
7th and North Lincoln Avenue.
Park in the attached lot just
south of the building,
then enter the door on the
west side of the building.



*All proceeds will support
educational grants and loans for women.*

Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher	Mary Lewis
Tarah Davis & family	Zsuzsanna Fazakas
Matt Campbell	Pam Canady
Janey Nottage-Tacey	Jason Hafer
Bob Wolf	Judd Carrier
KyMani Riek	Carl Utley
Carole Pedersen	Barry Thomson
Tony Glenn	Greg Howard
Summer Postlewait and family	Sammy Nahorny
Lexi Longshore	Francisco Diaz (Beto)
Nytha & Dave Glass	Carter Johnson
Kathy Struss	Alyssa Donley
Ken Fisk	Henry Black
Pat Kelley	Bev Stein
Go & Serve Participants	Don & Marie Rasmussen
The Stoddard Family	

Hands Around the
World Store
has received new
items. Cafe Justo
coffee has arrived.

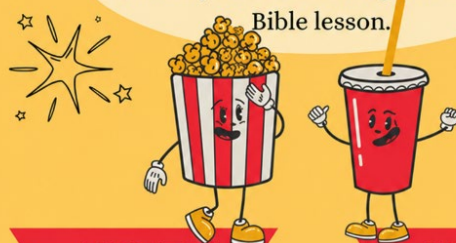
Stop by the store
and check out
our new
merchandise!

serrv

FPC PRESENTS ELEMENTARY MOVIE CLUB

5-7PM

Incoming Kindergarteners - 5th
grades are invited to join us for a
monthly movie showing and related
Bible lesson.



**FREE
EVENT**

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

July Means Open Table at FPC

Open Table 2026 in Fellowship Hall

One sack lunch, per person, per day, no questions asked.

Please join our congregation in fellowship and service as we celebrate our 23rd year of support for the Open Table Sack Lunch Program.

For those of you who are new to our church or community, the Open Table Sack Lunch Program is a community-wide program providing free daily sack lunches that are distributed from the Catholic Social Services Office Monday through Friday from noon to 5:00 pm at their new location on 124 South Colorado Avenue. This year, we will make 2,000 sack lunches on Sunday, July 19th, and 2,000 on Sunday, July 26th, immediately after the church service. We will also provide fresh chef salads or an alternative meal to serve twice during those last two weeks of July. In addition to the stable items in the sacks, we will provide sandwiches, fresh fruit, vegetables, string cheese, yogurt, and other healthy, less stable food items that can be added to the sacks on the day they are distributed.

For our regulars from previous years, there will be some changes to the Sunday morning routine, due to less freezer space at CSS and more freezer space at our church. We will not be delivering the sacks and sandwiches on Sunday, but rather storing them at the church, and CSS will pick them up in their truck on Mondays.

Volunteer opportunities for 2026 include

Sundays (Always fun). Assembling sacks and making sandwiches

Early-Bird Assembly: 9:45 to 10:30 after early service

Set-Up Crew: 9:00 to 9:45 Help to prepare tables for assembly

Group Assembly: 11:30 to 12:30 after second service

Weekdays or Saturdays:

Friday: Pick up order of loaves of bread from Russ's IGA and transport to Fellowship Hall (Volunteers call or text Meg, 402-902-9330)

Other weekdays (to be determined): Help prepare special meals and pick up food items to drop into lunches (Contact Jeni, 402-469-1500)

Donations: Donations of fresh vegetables or fruits, healthy snacks, and financial support are always welcome.

Prayers!

This tradition in our church has been a blessing for the people receiving the lunches and for the people preparing them. We have continuously supported this community-wide program every July since its start, and every year, there have been different challenges, blessings, and expectations; however, most of all we are grateful for the constant support of our church family.

Gratefully,

The Mission Committee

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

Executive Administrator & Head of Staff:
Dr. Dan Deffenbaugh

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

Director of the Langenberg Legacy

Program: Dr. Robin Koozer

Ministers: Members of the Church

Associate Pastor: Rev. Damen Jensen-Heitmann

Director of Christian Education: Rose Koepp

Bookkeeper: Deb Hamburger

Church Office Administrator: Melissa Davis

Children's Choir Director: Teresa Canady

Children's Bells Choir Director: Dr. Susan Oliver

Accompanist and Music Coordinator: Mary Plock