



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

Home Page Newsletter

Something Bigger than Me GO & SERVE 2026

This coming Sunday, August 23rd will be Go & Serve Sunday at First Presbyterian Church of Hastings. During that service our youth will share reflections on their experiences in Hazard Kentucky. There will also be lunch after the service for those who contributed to the Go & Serve stock sale fundraiser as well as for anyone who would like to hear a little more about our time in Kentucky. With that in mind, it seemed appropriate to share a bit about our trip here.

A group of eight students and four chaperones began making their way to Hazard, KY on Saturday, July 25th. After an overnight stay in Collinsville, IL (home the world's largest catsup bottle *and* The International Horseradish Festival), we arrived in Hazard Sunday evening and prepared ourselves for a week of work.

During the week we volunteered with the Housing Development Alliance. The HDA serves three counties in eastern Kentucky in an area that was devastated by flooding in 2022. These communities are still in the process of repairing or replacing homes that were damaged during that flooding; meaning that some victims of the flood have been without permanent housing for four years. We had the opportunity to work on new home construction and spent time framing walls, putting on roofs, and adding siding to four modest but nice homes. Those homes will be made available first to flood victims in an attempt to move people out of areas that in flood plains or other vulnerable locations.

When we weren't working at our sites, we spent our time preparing meals, playing games, working on a puzzle, and studying God's holy word. Each night included an evening devotional and each devotion tied into the theme "Something Bigger than Me." Throughout the week we considered the importance of being a part of something bigger than yourself. We discussed the name Christian and how claiming it makes us a part of a love that is bigger than our imagining. We contemplated the body of Christ and how each of us (and our particular talents) work together to carry out the mission of Jesus. Our chaperones offered a reflection on how God is bigger than any of our worries. Our students created a devotion encouraging us to name our weaknesses and trust that God is big enough to turn those things into strengths. We considered the big ideas and principles that we use to guide our living. And we ended the week thinking about the bigger and deeper waters into which God may be calling us. Each one of our conversations was rich and meaningful and I was grateful to be a part of a thoughtful and open-hearted group.

Continued

Being a part of the family of faith is something that is bigger than all of us and being a part of something that is bigger than us helps us to find meaning, purpose, and direction for our lives. Being held within the heart of God gives form to our formlessness and meaning to our nothingness. May we always be both lost and found within God who is bigger than all of or imagining.



Pastor Damen Jensen-Heitmann



Please pray for

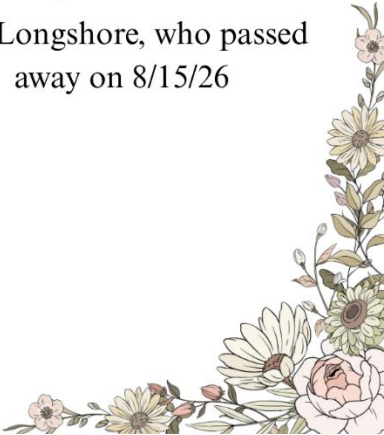
Elaine Schumacher	Mary Lewis
Tarah Davis & family	Zsuzsanna Fazakas
Matt Campbell	Pam Canady
Janey Nottage-Tacey	Jason Hafer
Bob Wolf	Judd Carrier
KyMani Riek	Carl Utley
Carole Pedersen	Barry Thomson
Tony Glenn	Greg Howard
Summer Postlewait and family	Sammy Nahorny
Lexi Longshore	Francisco Diaz (Beto)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



In memory of

Jim Duval, who passed
away on 7/24/26

Lexi Longshore, who passed
away on 8/15/26



August Ushers and Greeters

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

August Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
23	Daveta & Dick Brader	Melissa Davis
30	Sue Medsker	Mary Kay LaMaster

September Ushers and Greeters

September Ushers (Team #1) Captain – Chuck Hastings, Kim Creech

September Greeters	Memorial Room	Narthex
6	Jill Kramer	Jeni & George Howard
13	Carolyn & Richard McKenzie	Melissa Davis
20	Bonnie & Kenton Grams	Paula Crozier
27	Volunteers Needed	Melissa Davis



CHURCH WOMEN UNITED, INC.
 CWU CELEBRATIONS 2026
 HUMAN RIGHTS DAY



SHELTER ME
 See, Hear, Respect, Protect

Psalm 24:1 (NIV)
 "The Earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."



SEE & HEAR
 Theme: *Truth is Power*
 Human Rights Day

Human Rights Awarding to:
Jody Stutzman
 Regional Director

 SERVICES TO
HAPPY
FARMWORKERS  proteusinc70
www.proteusinc.net
(402) 705-3477

September 4 at 10 a.m.
First Congregational Church, UCC
2810 W. 7th St. Hastings, NE

Tues. 8/18	9am-12pm	HC/Mission Project Freshman Orientation	Kitchen & Fellowship Hall
	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
Wed. 8/19	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers	Basement
Thur. 8/20	5:30pm	Session Meets	Anderson Room
	6pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Fri. 8/21	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
Sun. 8/23		Go & Serve Sunday	
	9am	Worship in the Park	Alexander Park
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, YouTube, Radio
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library
	11:30am	Go & Serve Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
Mon. 8/24	1:30pm	Quilters	PEACE Quilting Room
	5-9pm	Hastings Literacy Classes Enrollment	Middle School Youth & Choir Rooms
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-9pm	Chorus of the Plains	Choir Room
Tues. 8/25	10:30am	Staff Meeting	In-person
	11:45am	Habitat for Humanity	Middle School Youth Room
	12pm	Bible Study	Anderson Room
Wed. 8/26	12pm	Noonday Book Club	Sbbrooks52@gmail.com for link
	5-9pm	Hastings Literacy Classes Enrollment	Middle School Youth & Choir Rooms
	6:30pm	Woodcarvers meet	Basement
	6:45pm	Chancel Choir Practice	Choir Room
	7:30pm	Chancel Bell Practice	Bell Room
Thur. 8/27	12:30pm	Dulcimer	HCMA Room 112
	6-8pm	Mexican Folkloric Dance	PEACE NE Classroom
	7-8pm	Cub Scouts	Scout Room
Fri. 8/28	10am	Mahjong Ladies	Basement Youth Room
Sun. 8/30	9:15am	Kids' Church Kick-off	Fellowship Hall
	10am	HAW Store Open	Library
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary, Radio, YouTube
	11:30am	HAW Store Open	Library

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.



The American Red Cross and First Presbyterian Church are hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, September 8, from 12pm-6pm. There is a critical need for donated blood. Please consider making an appointment to give blood during this drive. To make an appointment go to redcrossblood.org, select the drive at First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, and make your appointment.



Worship in the Park

August 23

9:00 a.m.

Alexander Park

Please bring your lawn chair

All are welcome!

AUGUST 30TH

KIDS' CHURCH KICKOFF

9:15- 10:15 AM
FPC FELLOWSHIP HALL

PREK-12TH GRADE STUDENTS AND PARENTS

We will: Review Procedures, Expectations, and Schedules; Meet Teachers; Have Acolyte Training; and Go over Bible Presentation

Go & Serve LUNCH

Sunday, August 23

Following the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
 All Are Welcome!



Open House



CUB SCOUTS

LION | TIGER | WOLF | BEAR | WEBELO | ARROW OF LIGHT



**Thursday
Aug. 20**

STARTS AT 7 PM

**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
 621 N. LINCOLN
 AVE, HASTINGS
 BOYS & GIRLS K-5TH
 GRADE WELCOME



QUESTIONS? CALL
 JASEN MARTIN 402-519-8518

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BUBBLES & BBQ!

**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 2ND**

**JOIN US FOR DINNER AND
A FOAM PARTY TO KICK OFF
WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!**

5:00-6:30PM
**CHURCH
PARKING LOT**

**WEAR CLOTHES
YOU CAN GET
WET IN.
BRING A TOWEL!**



Geraldine Carlson 9/1
Jessica Moore 9/1
Dalton Adam 9/2
Mary Crum 9/2
Mike Ziemba 9/2
Neil Riley 9/3
Daveta Brader 9/4
Tethloach Duang 9/4
Willis Horton 9/4
Peyton Mitchell 9/4
Hilarie Redline 9/4
Septer Duang 9/5
Kinnick Pumroy 9/5
Dave Glass 9/5
Pat Ochsner 9/5
Truman Welsch 9/6
Nyanhial Duang 9/6
Weston Mullen 9/7
Sung Shin 9/7
Mike Hogan 9/7
Joe Black 9/7
Bill Talbert 9/8
Constance Malloy 9/8
Cheryl Schukei 9/9
Mary Olsen 9/9
Matthew Brooks 9/9
Caroline Echternach 9/9
Gary Anderson 9/10
James Ellerbee 9/11

S E P T E M B E R

Jane Foote 9/12
Cade Hemje 9/13
Cora Hemje 9/13
Neal Hoff 9/14
Kim Kern 9/14
Dixie McDonald 9/14
Cheryl Wray 9/14
Ronald Maul 9/15
Roger Schukei 9/16
Teresa Canady 9/16
Nadine Hunnicutt 9/16
Byron Jensen 9/16
Lennon Launchbaugh 9/16
Calvin Miller 9/16
Tim Canady 9/17
Karen Doerr 9/17
Sharon Talbert 9/18
Jeff Howard 9/19
Lori Schroeder 9/21
Jane Marsh 9/22
Ted Schroeder 9/25
Porter Ourada 9/25
Shelby Rhodes 9/25
Tyler Lay 9/28
Addyson Hermes 9/30
Patrick Hickok 9/30
Phil Odom 9/30
Carole Pedersen 9/30



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