



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HASTINGS

SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST SINCE 1873

## ***We Will Serve the Lord: Studies in Stewardship*** **First Presbyterian Church** **October 4, 2026**

PRELUDE "Now Thank We All Our God" J.S. Bach/arr. Virgil Fox  
(from Cantata No. 79)  
Organist, Linda Vollweiler

WELCOME Damen Jensen-Heitmann

INTROIT "Love Each Other" Timothy G. Bushong  
Children & Youth Choirs, Directors Linda Johnson & Teresa Canady  
Mary Plock, accompanist  
Love each other, sister, brother, be the hands of Jesus.  
Every stranger is our neighbor, be the hands of love.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Rose Koeppe  
We gather in this place, thankful for all that God has done.  
***We rejoice in the beauty of creation.***  
We marvel at the mysteries of the universe.  
***We learn from the words of prophets and psalmists.***  
We dance in God's grace, given freely to us.  
***We wonder at a God who leads us through life.***  
Thanks be to God for the gifts we have been given.  
***Alleluia! Amen!***

\*OPENING HYMN "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" 509  
Linda & Richard Johnson, song leaders

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***God of grace and blessing, forgive us, for we mistake what we receive for what we believe we are owed. You fill our lungs with the breath of life. You surround us with moments of beauty. You offer us peace amid chaos, purpose in the midst of nothingness, and sure footing along a slippery path. We have not earned these things, and***

***still, you give them because you are merciful, kind, and loving.  
Forgive, O God, our ungrateful hearts. Open our lives so that we may  
be reflections of your kindness in the world.***

## SILENT CONFESSION & CONTEMPLATION

*What good thing has God given to you?*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Through grace, we are restored and reconnected to the heart of God.

***In mercy, we are forgiven, healed, and loved.***

Praise be to God

***Who loves and forgives***



## \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

“Glory Be to the Father”

581

\*PEACE OF CHRIST (Greet one another by sharing the Peace of Christ with those around you.)

The Peace of Christ be with you!

***And also with you!***

## SHARING THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***May our eyes be opened in the reading of your  
holy word. May our hearts be reformed in the  
presence of your grace. May your calling be  
made known in proclamation this day. Amen.***



## 1<sup>st</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – Psalm 107:1-9

## ANTHEM

“Siyahamba”

arr. Horace J. Scruggs, III

Sue Medsker, djembe

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'  
(We are marching in the light of God)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> SCRIPTURE READING – Joshua 4:1-7, 19-24

## SERMON

“Serving Begins by Giving Thanks”

## \*HYMN

“Now Thank We All Our God”

643

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

***I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and  
in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy  
Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was***

***crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence, he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.***

OFFERING

*All loose coins in the offering plate will be donated to the PC(USA) Hunger Fund.*

OFFERTORY

“Here, O My Lord”

*James Pethel*

\*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

606

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***In gratitude for all that we have received, we bring these gifts before you, O God. May they be used to bring aid to the suffering, hope to the lost, and peace to all.***

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

COMMUNION ANTHEM

“Come to the Table of Grace”

*Barbara Hamm*

Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace. This is God’s table; it’s not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.

Come to the table of joy. Come to the table of joy. This is God’s table; it’s not yours or mine. Come to the table of joy.

Come to the table of love. Come to the table of love. This is God’s table; it’s not yours or mine. Come to the table of love.

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts.

***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

THE LORD’S PRAYER

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.***

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*HYMN “In Christ There is No East or West” 317

During the singing of the final hymn, we will take a second offering to benefit the PC(USA) World Communion Offering. The congregation is invited to come down to the communion table and place their offering in the basket.

\*BENEDICTION

\*RESPONSE “We are the Church” Avery & Marsh

***The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple,  
The church is not a resting place; the church is a people.  
I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together!  
All who follow Jesus, all around the world, yes, we’re the church together!***

\*POSTLUDE “Give Thanks” Henry Smith/Mark Hayes

*(\*Indicates the congregation shall stand as they are able.)*

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP &  
INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS

**Sunday, October 11**  
**8:30am Contemplative Service in the Chapel**  
**9:15am Sunday School for all ages**  
**10:30am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary**  
**Stay-at-Home Broadcast live on YouTube:**  
**[www.youtube.com/@FPCHastings](http://www.youtube.com/@FPCHastings)**

The Worship Service can also be heard live on the radio simulcast  
on KICS 1550 AM and on 92.7FM

**THE FLOWERS** are given in memory of Dr. Robert Smith by family.

**THE RADIO BROADCAST** is given by First Presbyterian Church of Hastings.

**NURSERY** Kim Bogan

**USHERS (Team #2)** Captain – Duane Huber, Steve Illingworth, Daveta & Dick Brader, Lois Hafer

**GREETERS**

| October | Memorial Room          | Narthex                  |
|---------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4       | Amy & Joe Black        | Melissa Davis            |
| 11      | Kili & Justin Wenburg  | Kathy Utter              |
| 18      | Kathy & Curtis Reimer  | Marnie & Doug Soderquist |
| 25      | Damen & LaRaesha Kugal | Melissa Davis            |





## WALKERS AND COFFEE GROUP



*Lace up your sneakers  
and join us for a little  
exercise, coffee, and  
fellowship.*

*Monday through Thursday  
8:30 a.m.  
PEACE Center Gym*

*All are Welcome!*

## BLESSING OF THE PETS!

### WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Each year at First Presbyterian Church, we hold a service in which we talk about how animals are a wonderful part of God's creation. During this service, we offer a blessing for any pets present.

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH

We will be holding this special service in place of our typical Wednesday Night Live programming.

5:00–5:30 pm Dinner/Fellowship for everyone

5:30–6:00 pm Service/Pet Blessing

6:00–7:00/15 pm Regular WNL Music & Bible Time

### WHAT TO BRING

If you'd like to bring your pet, please do! But please keep it on a leash or in a carrier. You can also bring a picture of your pet.



|                   |               |                                    |                                                                         |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sun. 10/4</b>  | 8:30am        | Contemplative Worship Service      | Chapel                                                                  |
|                   | 9:15am        | Faith Enrichment Hour for all ages | Various                                                                 |
|                   | 10am          | HAW Store Open                     | Library                                                                 |
|                   | 10:30am       | Traditional Worship Service        | Sanctuary, Radio, YouTube                                               |
|                   | 11:30am       | HAW Store Open                     | Library                                                                 |
|                   | 2pm-3:30pm    | Choral Collective Rehearsal        | Choir Room                                                              |
| <b>Mon. 10/5</b>  | 8:30am        | Coffee/Walkers Group               | PEACE Center                                                            |
|                   | 9am-11am      | Hastings Pickleball Club           | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                   | 1:30pm        | Quilters                           | PEACE Quilting Room                                                     |
|                   | 6pm           | Hastings Pickleball Club           | PEACE Center                                                            |
|                   | 6pm           | Mexican Folkloric Dance            | PEACE NE Classroom                                                      |
|                   | 6pm           | WAM Meeting                        | Anderson Room                                                           |
|                   | 7pm           | Chorus of the Plains               | Choir Room                                                              |
| <b>Tues. 10/6</b> | 8:30am        | Coffee/Walkers Group               | PEACE Center                                                            |
|                   | 9-11am        | Hastings Pickleball Club           | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                   | 10:30am       | Staff Meeting                      | In-person                                                               |
|                   | 12pm          | Bible Study                        | Anderson Room                                                           |
|                   | 5:30pm        | United Harvest Board Meeting       | PEACE West Classrooms                                                   |
|                   | 6pm           | Hastings Literacy Classes          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Middle School<br>Youth and Choir Rooms            |
|                   | 6pm           | Hastings Pickleball Club           | PEACE Gym                                                               |
| <b>Wed. 10/7</b>  | 8:30am        | Walkers/Coffee Group               | PEACE Center                                                            |
|                   | 9-11am        | Hastings Pickleball Club           | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                   | 11am          | PW Coord. Team                     | Parlor                                                                  |
|                   | 11:45am       | PW Program and Luncheon            | Fellowship Hall                                                         |
|                   | 12pm          | Noonday Book Club                  | <a href="mailto:Sbbrooks52@gmail.com">Sbbrooks52@gmail.com</a> for link |
|                   | 5-5:30pm      | Dinner/Fellowship                  | Parking Lot                                                             |
|                   | 5:30pm-6pm    | Blessing of the Pets Service       | Parking Lot                                                             |
|                   | 6pm-7:15pm    | Regular WNL Music and Bible Time   | Various                                                                 |
|                   | 6:30pm        | Woodcarvers                        | Basement                                                                |
|                   | 6:45pm        | Chancel Choir Practice             | Choir Room                                                              |
|                   | 7:30pm        | Chancel Bell Practice              | Bell Room                                                               |
| <b>Thur. 10/8</b> | 8:30am        | Walkers/Coffee Group               | PEACE Center                                                            |
|                   | 9am           | Hastings Pickleball Club           | PEACE Center                                                            |
|                   | 6pm           | Hastings Literacy Classes          | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor M.S. and Choir Room                               |
|                   | 6pm           | Hastings Pickleball Club           | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                   | 6pm           | Mexican Folkloric Dance            | PEACE NE Gym                                                            |
|                   | 7pm           | Cub Scouts                         | Scout Room                                                              |
| <b>Fri. 10/9</b>  | 9am           | Hastings Pickleball Club           | PEACE Gym                                                               |
|                   | 10am          | Mahjong Ladies                     | Basement Youth Room                                                     |
| <b>Sun. 10/11</b> | 8:30am        | Contemplative Worship Service      | Chapel                                                                  |
|                   | 9:15am        | Faith Enrichment Hour for all ages | Various                                                                 |
|                   | 10am          | HAW Store Open                     | Library                                                                 |
|                   | 10:30am       | Traditional Worship Service        | Sanctuary, Radio, YouTube                                               |
|                   | 11:30am       | HAW Store Open                     | Library                                                                 |
|                   | 2pm           | Choral Collective Rehearsal        | Choir Room                                                              |
|                   | 4:30pm-6:30pm | Family Dinner                      | The Jensen-Heitmann home<br>(1101 N. Hastings Ave)                      |

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## P.W. Salad Luncheon

Ever wonder why the remains of Ephesus are better preserved than the ones in Corinth? Or what the difference is between a stoa and an agora? And what did the pilgrims from First Presbyterian Church experience as they followed in the footsteps of Paul last February 26 through March 9?

For the answer to these and other questions you might have, come to hear about their trip to Greece and Turkey at our October PW salad luncheon. As well as the program, a variety of delicious salads prepared by First Presbyterian Women will be served. Please know that any ladies of First Presbyterian Women Church are welcome at our annual **Salad Luncheon** on Wednesday, **October 7, 2026** at **11:45 A.M.**

**Please RSVP by Noon on Monday, October 5.**

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## Fall 2026 Adult Ed Forum – 9:15 a.m. Sundays – Lydia Room

### **Covenant: A Love Story (September 13 through October 11)**

Presbyterians refer to themselves as a "covenant community." We will explore the beginnings of this idea in the books of Genesis and Exodus and consider why it is so important to our faith.

### ***Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical World* (October 25 through November 22)**

Continuing our focus on covenant, we will reflect on a recently published book that considers "what it means to be truly evangelical in a time of theological and cultural distortion." Copies of the book will be made available to those who would like to read along.

See <https://www.wjkbooks.com/bookproduct/0664269273-being-presbyterian-in-a-dysvangelical-america/> .





## CABARET THEATRE

### Vocal Jazz Quartet

Sunday, October 25, 2026

3:00 p.m. | Free Concert

First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary

Omaha's Cabaret Theatre has been delighting audiences since 1991. With stunning vocal jazz harmonies and sublime solo voices, members of the group have garnered an array of individual and ensemble awards for their artistry at area theaters and local events.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF HASTINGS

621 N. Lincoln Avenue  
Hastings, NE 68901

For additional information call:  
(402)462-5147

## STEWARDSHIP SERMON SERIES

# We Will Serve *the Lord*

OCT. 4, 11, 18, & 25



**LANGENBERG LESSON SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM** was established to encourage the youth of our church in their musical pursuits through the generosity of the late Luella Langenberg.

- Parents of students in grades 1-12 may apply for up to \$250 per semester to offset the cost of private music instruction. Grants are limited to one per child.
- Areas of study include piano, voice, guitar, or any band/orchestral instrument.
- Parents must be members of First Presbyterian Church, and students must be active participants in the church choir/music program.

Application forms are available in the church office and on the church website.

• *DEADLINE FOR THE Fall 2026 GRANT PROGRAM IS November 1, 2026.*

• GRANTS ARE RENEWABLE; PARENTS MUST RE-APPLY EACH SEMESTER.

Applications are available on the shelf outside the Church Offices or on the Church website at:

<https://fpchastings.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Langenberg-form-Fall-2026.pdf>





**CHICKENS, BEANS AND BIG** *Dreams*

# CROP Hunger Walk

**Sunday, October 11, 2026 @ 2:00 pm**  
**Lake Hastings**



Register on the south side of the lake. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the donations goes to the local *United Food Harvest* program. Sponsored by Church Women United. Checks may be written to CWS/CROP.

**[crophungerwalk.org/](https://crophungerwalk.org/)**

Use the link to the left or scan the QR code on the right to find your local team and donate and/or sign up to walk today!



**Donate or sign up  
for your walk today!**



# Please pray for

Elaine Schumacher  
Tarah Davis & family  
Matt Campbell  
Janey Nottage-Tacey  
Bob Wolf  
KyMani Riek  
Carole Pedersen  
Tony Glenn  
Summer Postlewait and family  
Kathy Struss  
Ken Fisk  
Pat Kelley  
family of Jim Duval  
Sally Smith  
Andy Barrows



family of Evelyn Viglicky  
Zsuzsanna Fazakas  
Judd Carrier  
Carl Utley  
Barry Thomson  
Greg Howard  
Sammy Nahorny  
Francisco Diaz (Beto)  
Carter Johnson  
Alyssa Donley  
Dana Odom  
family of Lexi Longshore  
family of John Meeske  
family of Duane Ochsner  
Pam Canady

# In memory of

Lexi Longshore, who passed  
away on 8/15/26  
Evelyn Viglicky, who passed  
away on 8/18/26  
John Meeske, who passed  
away on 8/20/26  
Duane Ochsner, who passed  
away on 8/24/26



***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