



Mission Statement of 1st Presbyterian Church, Hastings
 Following Christ, we strive to love and serve the world so
 that all my grow in faith and experience true joy.



More Good News

Sept. 2016
 Volume 17, #9

September at a Glance

Sept. 4

10:30 AM Worship
 w/ Communion

Sept. 5

Labor Day

Sept. 6

Session 6:30 PM
 Newsletter Deadline

Sept. 11

10:30 AM Worship

Sept. 13, 20 and 27

Bell Choir 6 PM

Sept. 14

Prayer Shawl Ministry
 7 PM

Sept. 15

Newsletter Deadline

Sept. 18

9:30 AM Bell Practice
 10:30 AM Worship

Sept. 25

Informal Worship
 10:30 AM

Sept 27

Pastor April on KDWA
 11:00 am - 12:00 PM

From the Pastor's Desk

“Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.” (Proverbs 22.9 NRSV)

Proverbs 22.9 *“Generous hands are blessed hands because they give bread to the poor.” (Eugene Peterson, The Message)*

As the summer draws to a close and fall slowly joins us, I keep thinking about all the amazing things this congregation does! I think about the many lives that are touched in big and small ways, some planned, some unexpected, but all beautiful. It is because you are a generous congregation, generous with your time and money. You see a need and you give. You make a commitment and you honor that promise. William C. Green writes, “Generosity is holistic: holy and whole. The “bottom line” is that God is the Power, the Life-Force, of the universe in whose vitality we “love and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28). Heart, soul, mind, and strength, we are givers, created as expressions, images, of the generosity that is God.

You are invited to consider a new way of being a Christian. Consider participating in a new mission opportunity. Join with us as we seek to care for each other

and the community. We need everyone to contribute so this community of faith can thrive, but also so that you can spiritually thrive. What do you need to nourish and nurture your soul? Let's work together to build a strong church, a strong community of faith, a strong city, and strong individuals. As Sister Luke says, "Money. You have it and we need it." So please give. Give of your time, talent, and financial resources.

Grace to you, and peace,

April



1st Presbyterian Church of Hastings

Core Values



- * **Moving and engaging worship**
- * **Openness in decision-making**
- * **Deep, life-giving relationships**
- * **Building and 150 year history as part of our identity**
- * **Serving the community through mission**
- * **Courage to take risks and the ability to persevere**



We need individuals to share in teaching Sunday school. The curriculum is already purchased and it involves a limited commitment, since Sunday school doesn't usually meet on the 1st or the 4th Sundays due to communion and informal worship. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall, if you can help out.



**OUR WEBSITE IS UP,
BUT**



**WE NEED
YOUR HELP!**

As I'm sure you all know, we have a new website. At this point in time it can take up to six months or more for websites to show up in search engines. There are several reasons for this, but the main reason is because there are so many websites online now, the indexing robots take that long to index all of them. There are ways that we can help this along. The first step is to please visit the new site at least once a week. Daily would be even better. The more a website is visited, the more likely it is to show up in search engines. Our website's address is: fpchastingsmn.org .

Please watch next month's newsletter for the next step in making our website a more visible resource. Thank you for your help.



Thank you for all the school supplies donated to Hastings Family Services. Your generous contributions help to make a difference in the ability of many children to start the school year out right.



BELL CHOIR NOTES

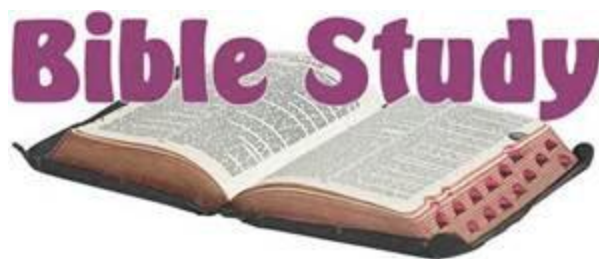


It is time for the Bell Choir to begin practicing after our summer break. It is not too late to step up and be a part of the choir. No prior experience is necessary.

Regular practices will begin on Tuesday September 23rd @ 6:00 pm and will continue on Tuesdays, except session week, when they will be @ 9:30 am prior to church. A full written schedule will be provided.

Marcia Rash is in the process of getting the music lined up for the year. She is looking forward to having fun, while we share our music with all.

Please let Marcia know if you have any questions, either by phone- 651-480-2168, or e-mail hsar@comcast.net.



Our Bible Study of Favorite Bible stories will not meet in September. We will continue on Wednesdays in October with a light supper starting at 6 PM. We are currently reading stories from the new testament. Each session is an independent study so you do not have to have come previously. Please come join us when we return in August, for a time of fellowship and fun, as we explore some of the many stories in the Bible.

Peace & Global Witness Offering In October



Setting the table of peace

Every day, we are witnesses to conflict. We read news stories of violence and supposedly irreparable divides. Angry rhetoric fills our airwaves, inboxes, and social media feeds. We see conflict tear apart communities, families, even people we know. Surrounded by this strife, it's easy to see the world through a dark lens of discord. We may even come to share the doubt expressed in Psalm 78:19: "Can God spread a table in the wilderness?"

Yet our faith tells us despite our doubts, sins, distrust, or even anger, God not only sets a table, but invites us to join it and partake in an abundance of peace.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering challenges us to look at the world not as a place where conflict is inevitable, but where Christ's peace is possible. The programs supported by the Peace & Global Witness Offering to help bring people tables of peace, justice, and reconciliation even in the wilderness of war, violence, and division. In places of abiding conflict, the Peace & Global Witness Offering supports the work of Presbyterian mission co-workers to bring together former enemies and begin healing the spiritual wounds of war. In congregations closer to home, support from the Offering enables efforts to turn back the tide of gun violence that claims too many American lives. In other communities, it's facilitating a transformative dialogue about the difficult subject of race to find new common ground. And everywhere, this Offering supports witness, because by sharing the abiding love and mercy of Christ, more people can find their way to a seat at God's table.

Your support of the Peace & Global Witness Offering acknowledges that a wilderness of conflict may surround us, but we are not abandoned there. If we open our eyes to the possibilities of peace, we see God has set a table for anyone willing to take a seat.

Please give generously to the Peace & Global Witness Offering:

- Through your congregation
- Text PEACE to 20222 to give \$10
- presbyterianmission.org/give/peace-global



YOUTH NEWS

Welcome back!

Youth group will start September 14th at St. Luke's. We will have dinner at 6:00 pm and then youth group will start at 6:30 pm. We will see if we have enough volunteers to help with the dinner weekly and update you on any changes. We will be studying the 7 habits this year along with volunteering monthly at Park Ridge.

September 14th - Youth Group

September 21st - Youth Group

September 28th - Youth Group



Let me know if you have any questions and if you are in 6th-12th grade please join us.

Sonia Christian



The Song of Life

Helen Lowrie Marshall

The music of life is played by ear,
Each heart improvising its own,
Setting the tempo and choosing the key
In major or minor tone.

No printed score is provided,
And no two tunes the same;
And if our son is discordant,
We've only ourselves to blame.

For the keyboard of life holds beauty—
There's harmony waiting there
For the heart that attunes its song of life
To peace, goodwill and prayer.



God's Symphony

Helen Lowrie Marshall

God plays His symphony
Upon the heartstrings—yours and mine;
With gentle, knowing touch
He weaves His harmony divine;
And if, sometimes, harsh discord
Makes that hramony unfair,
If war and strife and bitterness
Confuse the peaceful air,
'Tis not God's lack of artistry
Nor symphony grown dim,
But, rather, that our hearts have fallen
Out of tune with Him.



Bible Readings This Month

September 4

Jer. 18: 1-11
 Ps. 139: 1-6, 13-18
 Philem. 1-21
 Luke 14: 25-33

September 11

Jer. 4: 11-12, 22-28
 Ps. 14
 1 Tim. 1: 12-17
 Luke 15: 1-10



September 18

Jer. 8: 18-9: 1
 Ps. 79: 1-9
 1 Tim. 2: 1-7
 Luke 16: 1-13

September 25

Jer. 32: 1-3a, 6-15
 Ps. 91: 1-6, 14-16
 1 Tim. 6: 6-19
 Luke 16: 19-31

September 2016 Servers			
	Greeters	Ushers	Lay Leaders
Sept. 4	Humes	Altpeter	Becky Tiefenbruck
Sept. 11	Mullins	Blumeyers	Dennis Brown
Sept. 18	Christians	Rash	Aimee Fagnant
Sept. 25	Informal Worship	Tiefenbrucks	Dave Hume

Session Minutes for June 28, 2016

A stated meeting of the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Hastings, MN was held at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall of the church on June 28, 2016.

The meeting began at 6:30 PM when Dr. April Davis Campbell called us to order with the lighting of the Christ candle to remind us that we are called to serve each other and the church. Grant led a devotion based upon the Lord's Prayer, specifically "Give us this day our daily bread." He then opened the meeting with prayer.

Elders Present:

Class of 2016: Carlotta Mullins, Marcia Rash, Brenda Reiter

Class of 2017: Grant Tiefenbruck, Dave Hume

Class of 2018: Mary Crawmer

Absent: Dennis Brown

Clerk's Report: The May Minutes were approved without any changes. There were no other items to be shared.

Treasurer's Report: Expenses are \$5,000 under budget through the middle of June. The income from the offering plate was less than \$2000 below plan.

Foundation Report: No report.

Pastor's Report: General Assembly was a mix of drudgery and goosebumps for Pastor April. Confirmation instruction is continuing in scattered sessions throughout July and August because of vacations. April will be traveling for baseball and family events during the rest of the summer. Maxine Aaron is struggling with health issues, but is still in her apartment at Park Ridge.

Presbytery Meeting: The next meeting of Presbytery will be on July 12th at Oak Grove in Bloomington. Mary and Dave were elected as our commissioners.

Deacons: No report.

M/S/C to receive all of the reports above on the consent agenda.

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds – Dennis – Kyocera seems to be intent on winning our copier business.

Fellowship – Brenda – We shall plan on celebrating April's 5 years as the pastor here at 1st Presbyterian Church of Hastings on July 10th.

Christian Education – Bible study will resume on Wednesdays in August.

Mission – Mary – We shall put labels on the seed packets to be given away during the Rivertown Days Parade at 6:30 PM on July 13th. Afterwards, we'll celebrate with ice cream. Sign up for t-shirts if you don't have one!

Stewardship/Finance – Marcia Rash – The Wells Fargo branch near the church is closing. We'll need to deposit the offering at the branch on the South Frontage road to MN 55. 1st half pledge statements will be ready soon.

Worship – The Rotary Pavilion at Levee Park will be the site for the Outdoor Worship on August 28th. The pavilion has been reserved. There will be lots of special music during July. Grant will help with communion on July 3.

Personnel/Nominating Committee – No activity.

M/S/C to receive the committee reports.

Old Business – None

New Business – Visioning our church – How can we reach out? Outside speakers, programs about issues, artistic approaches, sabbath time, special music, holy yoga, book clubs, ... How can we let our light shine in Hastings?

There will be no Session meeting in July.

The Session will meet in August on the 2nd at 6:30 PM. Dennis has devotions.

The September meeting of Session will be on September 6th at 6:30 PM.

Grant closed the meeting with prayer at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Grant Tiefenbruck
Clerk of Session



September



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 10:30 Worship w/Communion	5 HAPPY LABOR DAY	6 Session 6:30 PM	7	8	9	10 Karen Altpeter Sonia Christian
11 10:30 Worship Remembering September 11	12 Jon Christian	13 6 pm	14 7 PM Diane Albright	15 Virginia Krier	16	17
18 9:30 am 10:30 Worship	19	20 6 pm	21 International Day of Peace	22 First Day of Autumn Dennis Brown	23	24
25 10:30 Informal Worship	26	27 Pastor April on KDWA 11am-12pm 6 pm	28	29	30	