

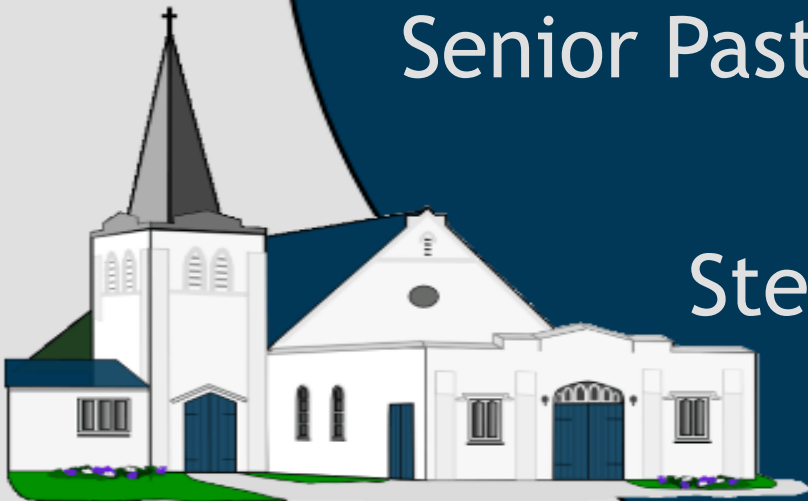


Centering Your Capital Campaign on Mission

A conversation led by Rev. Greg Allen-Pickett
Senior Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

Stewardship Kaleidoscope Workshop

Sept. 23, 2024





Introductions

- How long have you been serving in leadership if your current church?
- Name one unique thing about your ministry context (positive or negative)





“Congregational Vitality”

Term used by:

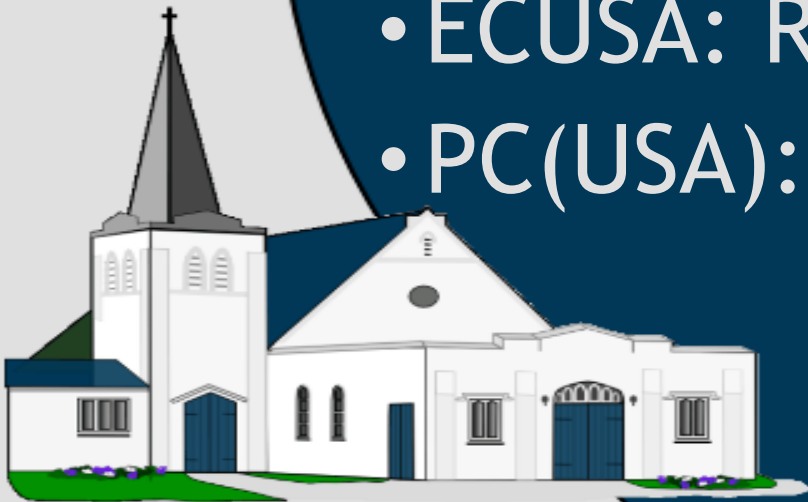
- United Church of Christ (UCC)
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)
- United Methodist Church (UMC)
- Episcopal Church (ECUSA)
- Presbyterian Church (USA)





“Missional Mark” of “Congregational Vitality”

- ELCA: Positive Impact on the Wider Community
- UMC: Engaged disciples in mission and outreach
- UCC: Connection to the world: Social outreach and evangelism
- ECUSA: Risk-taking mission and service
- PC(USA): Outward incarnational focus





PC(USA): Outward Incarnational Focus

- Outward Incarnational Focus vs. inward institutional survival
- Beyond relationship with those of similar existence, the incarnate Christ dwells among the lowly and least, the stranger and the suffering, the marginalized and majority.
- Missional focus on where Christ is already living and present, and calling us to dwell.



https://www.presbyterianmission.org/wp-content/uploads/TFE_Complete-Manual-Vital-Congregations.pdf



The context: Hastings, Nebraska

- City of 25,000
- Home of Hastings College
- Population has remained stable for more than 4 decades
- Geographically isolated
 - 25 miles to Grand Island (population 50,000)
 - 90 miles to Lincoln (population 280,000)
- Mostly agricultural with a few manufacturers and a regional hospital





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First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

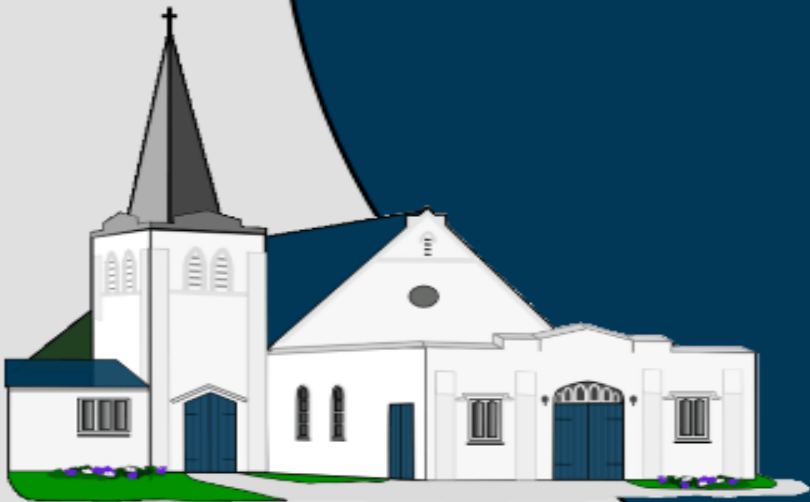
- Founded 1873
- Church Founded Hastings College in 1882
- Strong historic focus on mission
 - Armenian Genocide letter delivered to President Wilson by Rev. James Bean in 1915





First Presbyterian Church of Hastings

- Go and Serve short-term high school mission trip running since 1966!





- Established first Habitat for Humanity chapter in Central Nebraska in 1992

- Open Table Sack Lunch program with Catholic Social Services for 15+ years





Purchased “Old Middle School Annex” in 2009

- Wanted the parking lot and some had plans to turn it into a community center.

UNITING A
COMMUNITY
with Love





Key Mission Program

- United Harvest Mobile Food Pantry
 - Serve 400-500 families every month
 - Joint ministry with Hastings First United Methodist
 - Requires 50-80 volunteers
 - People come and volunteer a few times and join the church
- Recipient Neighbors have also joined the church







I arrived in 2017 and inherited this rich legacy of mission

Spent a year listening, assessing, learning, and cheerleading!

Started looking towards 2023 and the possibility of a capital campaign.





2018-2022: Planting seeds

- Last capital campaign had been 25+ years ago
- Started making a list of projects
- Planted the seeds that 50% of what we raised would go towards renovating the PEACE center and mission projects





Late 2022: Interviewed consultants

- Decided to work with Horizons Stewardship, they provided us a consultant who lived in Nebraska and knew our context and shared our missional vision
- Had an architect began to draw up basic plans based on the list of projects





Early 2023: Started campaign process

- Rolled out plans and started talking with key stakeholders
- Worked with a local advertising agency to create materials
- Took the list of projects and grouped them into compelling themes





Built the campaign around the themes of:

- Hospitality
- Accessibility
- Family & Community Friendly
- Preservation and Sustainability





Hospitality

- We want to be welcoming to members and visitors alike, hospitality is a the core of our faith

Accessibility

- Connected to hospitality, we want everyone to be able to access our buildings and feel welcome





Family & Community Friendly

- We are blessed with many families and children and we want to support them.

Preservation & Sustainability

- We want to preserve and maintain our historic buildings for long-term sustainability





- Every project in both the church and the PEACE Center was built around these themes, with half of all money raised going to the PEACE Center
- We talked about all the ways the PEACE Center provided a way for us to serve and bless our community, church fully bought into the vision





Created materials for the whole campaign of \$2million AND separate materials just for the \$1million PEACE Center remodel to use for grant writing

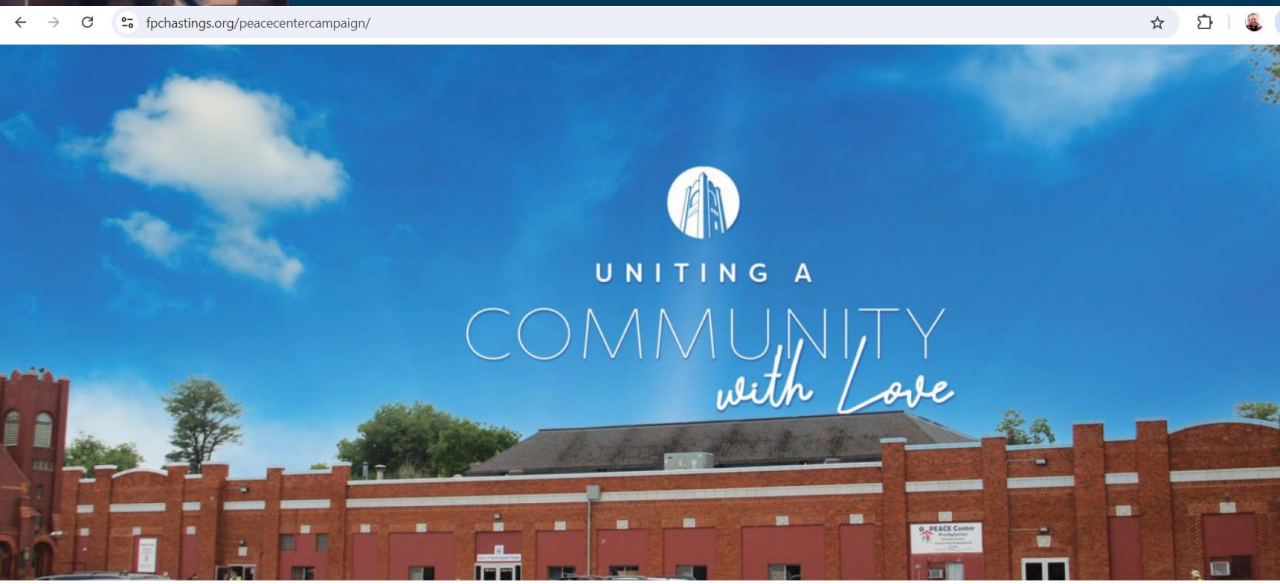
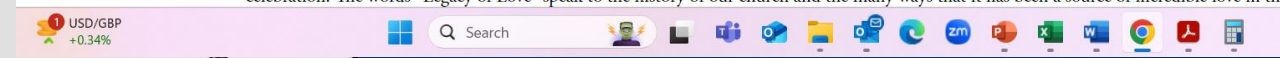




Dear First Presbyterian Church Family,

What a joy and delight it is to be your pastor as we celebrate the 150th Anniversary of our beloved church! Many of you have been part of this years and all of you have contributed to this church in one way or another through your gifts and service.

“Living a Legacy of Love” is the theme we have chosen for both the 150th Anniversary celebration, and for our capital campaign that is part of celebration. The words “Legacy of Love” speak to the history of our church and the many ways that it has been a source of incredible love in th



‘Uniting Our Community’ Depends on You

What unites people into a community? How about celebrating our culture together. Or sharing the pastimes that make us smile. What about attending to each other’s health?

Surely, breaking bread together transforms friends into family and even strangers into neighbors. All of that takes place at a 100-year old former middle school annex that found new life in 2008 as the PEACE Center, a true community gathering place. By “Uniting Our Community with Love,” we will be able to:



- \$1.6-\$1.8million was the range based on feasibility study
- Goal: \$2million
- Secured \$240,000 of grant funding
- Church pledged \$2million
 - Oversubscribed by more than 10%





Success factors:

- Focus on mission
- Early large gifts from church members (\$250k) and foundations (\$125k) inspired generosity
- Combining with 150th Anniversary Celebration, connecting to the history of the church.





Let's dream together...
Questions, ideas, comments

