

## Concert in Remembrance of Victims of Violence

# Arts for the *Soul*

**Sunday, November 11, 2018  
7:00 p.m.**

***featuring the First Presbyterian Choir  
and the Union College UC Singers,  
with special guest narrator Pippa White***



Pippa White

We live in a time in which far too often we are confronted with reports of mass violence in our society.

This concert uses timeless music and the spoken word to remember those who have been lost, not only through acts of violence, but also those we have lost to more natural causes; offering comfort, hope and healing for us all.

In such times when words alone fall short, music offers a way to bring us all together as we look for a way forward.

This very special evening will include music from the Requiems of John Rutter, Gabriel Faure, and Andrew Lloyd Webber, as well as a musical setting of Psalm 23; readings from the words of Robert F. Kennedy and Leonard Bernstein; and poems by Dylan Thomas and Owen Sheers. Also included is a tribute to veterans and a special commemoration of WWI.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the church office (402-477-6037) or visiting the AFS page on the FPC website ([fpclincoln.org](http://fpclincoln.org)).

### With What Shall We Come Before the Lord?

That is the theme of our stewardship season this year – but you might have noticed I'm not talking much about money in my sermons!

That's because money is a tool for doing the work Christ calls us to do, and a means by which we express our gratitude for all God has gifted us with. It is not an end in itself.

We can have all the money in the world, and if we aren't living in ways that reflect that we belong to God, or that reflect the teachings we profess, then our money avails us not at all, and we are not a church.



We can also be living “paycheck to paycheck” and be living faithful lives of sacrifice and generosity after the way of Christ, and be a thriving, growing community of faith.

Stewardship is how we live our lives in response to God's graciousness and abundance, and how we use ALL of what God has given us in response – resources and intent.

Our sermons this season are focusing more on the intent side of things – are we living with commitment, with integrity, with compassion, with selflessness, with justice, in response to God's abundant gifts to us and to the world?

In response to God choosing us to be Christ's hands and feet in the world? And if so, what does that mean in terms of how we use the rest of ourselves – our resources, skills, talents, and yes, our money?



## Sue's Musings

I invite you to consider those questions in your own lives. One of the things I love about stewardship season is that for me, it is the time I take a focused look at my own life and how I am living.

If I take that seriously, I usually find myself growing and stretching myself to a greater level of faithfulness and generosity – not because the church needs it, but because I need to grow in more meaningful ways to live in response to God's grace.

We as a church do the same thing this time of year. As our committees consider their budget requests for next year, it's never in terms of "how much will it cost to keep doing what we've always done," but always, "what is God calling us to be and do next year, and what are the resources we'll need to do that?"

We grow too as a church, and that is reflected in our dreams for next year and in how we use the resources you have given.

In a short time you will be receiving a letter with information about our budget for next year, and a pledge card.

I pray that in addition to considering how you live your life in response to God's gracious abundance, that those tools will be helpful for you in considering how God is calling you to grow in faithfulness and generosity, and how you can be a part of our church growing in those as well.

*Pastor Sue*

*~ Rooted in God ~ Open to Grace ~ Filled with Joy ~*

## FPChristian Education

This fall our children have been learning about families and family like relationships in the Bible; everything from Jesus's own family to the created family of the disciples and the families of the Old Testament.

As I watch and observe our fantastic Sunday School teachers, I have often thought about the wonderful church family our children and youth are growing up in. We have some truly gifted, dedicated and loving Sunday School teachers and advisors for our young people and children, many of whom have been doing this for a long time.

What a blessing it is for our children and youth to experience these wonderful people who give of their time to show in their own way what it means to be part of a church family. So in this month of thanksgiving, I certainly give thanks to all our Sunday School teachers, coordinators, youth advisors, and CE Committee in the part they do in making FPC a family. Thank you, all!

*Pray and Play,  
Kris "Bubba" Brammer*

***PS - Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Children's Choir performance during the 11:00 am service on Sunday, November 11!***

At the November FORUM (Nov. 4th), attorney Todd Lancaster will join us for a discussion on issues related to the death penalty and death row, particularly as it is carried out here in Nebraska.

Todd Lancaster is a local attorney who specializes in Death Row cases and will surely have some important, timely, and thought provoking things to share with us.



**First Presbyterian Forum  
w/ Todd Lancaster, attorney**

Nov. 4th @ 9:45am in Great Hall

Join us for a discussion on issues related to Death Row and the Death Penalty

## Here's what's happening in November!

### Children's Ministry and Faith Formation:

Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> – Children's Mission Hour in Sunday School. There is no Activity Time

Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> – Activity Time, Sunday School, & Teacher Appreciation Breakfast, children singing

Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> – Activity Time, Music, Sunday School and Christmas program practice

Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> – Activity Time, Music and Sunday School and Christmas program practice

### Youth Ministry and Faith Formation:

Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> (Saturday) @ 9:00 am - Youth in mission at Jacob's Well

Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 p.m. – Youth Fellowship and Questions of Faith

Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 p.m. – Youth Fellowship Progressive Dinner

Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> – No Youth Group (Thanksgiving Weekend)

### Adult Ministry and Faith Formation: (Sunday Morning Classes unless otherwise noted)

FORUM – On November 4<sup>th</sup>, Todd Lancaster, a local attorney, will join us for issues related to Death Row and the Death Penalty.

Bible Discovery Class meets in Room 105 at 9:45 am. The Bible Discovery Class uses the Present Word curriculum which is a bible study exploring various themes. The 2018 fall theme is "God Creates"

Faith and Theology Class meets in Room 107 at 9:45 am. This class uses a DVD presentation followed up by group discussion.

Third Sunday in Hebrews meets in Hebrews 211 (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) on the third Sundays of each month at 10:00 am for a discussion on various Christian Doctrines and how they have changed throughout history. This month's topic is "The Holy Spirit: How Our Understanding Has Changed Over the Centuries."

# Mission & Outreach

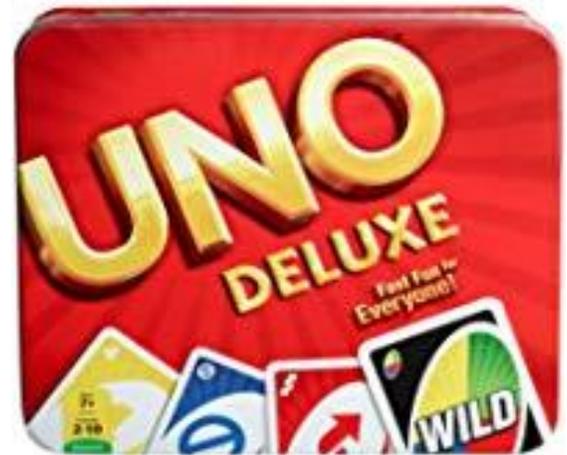
## Games for McPhee

Monopoly. Candy Land. Connect 4. UNO. Twister.

What's your favorite game? Would you like to share the fun?

Games offer a great way to have fun while learning:

1. How to take turns.
2. How to play by the rules.
3. How to win (or lose) gracefully.
4. How to turn off the TV, put down the phone, and enjoy family time together.



This holiday season FPC will again be collecting games to be distributed to McPhee families. Watch for the holiday sales and bring in one (or 10) to the church office from November to mid December.

If shopping isn't your thing, cash donations would also be appreciated in time for some happy Mission Committee elves to get some good buys.

To donate, please contact a Mission Committee member or write a check to the church and indicate "McPhee Games" in the memo line.

*Mission and Outreach Committee -*

*Lisa Jasa, Christy Abraham, Nancy Field, Sue and Karl Tillinghast, Kelly Smith, and Pam Carrier*

## New Members of FPC

***On Sunday, September 30th, our congregation welcomed four new members to the FPC Family. You can read more about them below:***

### **Rick Cypert**

Rick is an English Professor and Preservice Education teacher at Nebraska Wesleyan University. He comes to Nebraska from Texas. He grew up in the Methodist Church and came to First Presbyterian at the invitation of friends. Welcome Rick!

### **Jerome Loehr Jr**

Jerome has been attending First Presbyterian for the past 6-7 years. His wife Janna is a member and his daughter is active in Sunday school. His wife's family represents 4 generations in our pews on Sundays! Jerome has been a part of FPC for a long time and we are happy to make it official!



### **Kailey Kumm**

Kailey has been worshipping with us for several years during her college and now graduate studies here in Lincoln. Kailey comes to us from O'Neill NE. Her family owns greenhouses there and provides the majority of poinsettias we see at Christmas time around our state. Kailey is now a 3<sup>rd</sup> year law student and is engaged to be married next August. Welcome Kailey and her fiancé to the First Presbyterian family!

### **George Wheeler**

George comes to us from Central Pennsylvania. He grew up in the Presbyterian Church. His parents met in the church choir so it comes naturally that George is a valued member of the choir here at First Pres. He graduated from Carleton College, and is doing graduate work at UNL. He is studying Ecology in the area of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. He is also an excellent cook!

## Presbyterian Women

### Strong Roles for Presbyterian Women

The history of the Presbyterian Women organization is deep within the roots of the Presbyterian Church.

Presbyterian Women have been responsible for doing great mission work throughout the world, establishing special giving opportunities to fund denomination and mission projects worldwide.

In fact, it was Presbyterian Women who demonstrated to the denomination as a whole through their united efforts that the most effective way to do mission was a united mission agency, now called World Mission.

Here at First Presbyterian, Presbyterian Women has joined in the efforts within our community to assist projects that are important to community members, to the church as it branches out to support community agencies in efforts to make a difference to those in need, and to support church sponsored events, that aids in church fellowship and community relations.

It will continue to join Presbyterian Women everywhere that lead the way in funding mission work on behalf of the denomination in its Work Mission projects.

Presbyterian Women here at First Presbyterian and Presbyterian Women worldwide demonstrate leadership, passion and persistence in its efforts to make a difference for our church, our families, our communities, and the next generation of Presbyterian Women.



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

## Presbyterian Women

What talents can you bring to Presbyterian Women? All of the early Presbyterian Women have stories to tell that led them to serve in some capacity in their church and communities.

What stories are you making? What legacies are you leaving to the younger Presbyterian Women that will follow you?

Presbyterian Women is a voice for all women within the denomination. Let yours be heard. There are so many opportunities to get involved with the Presbyterian Women here at First Presbyterian, Bible study, circle groups, funeral committee, luncheons, & Arts for the Soul events. Reach out, together we pray, together we serve, together we lead.

### PW Announcements

Presbyterian Women will be serving lunch following second service on December 2nd. This is the Sunday of Hanging of the Greens. We will also have a bake sale between services and at our luncheon. This is a fund raiser to support our Mission Giving pledge and your support will be greatly appreciated.

Our Fall Gathering was October 6th and there will be a report about it in next month's First Report.

### **Church Women United I Friday, November 2 at 9:30 am Fourth Presbyterian Church**

The program is **World Community Day Celebration; *Reaching for Wholeness In Harmony With God's People.***

All are welcome! Direct any inquiries to Arta Smith (402-613-6931).

**Bridget Kibbey - Harp  
with Siwoo Kim, Violin  
and João Luiz Rezende, Guitar  
Sunday, October 7, 2018**



On Sunday, October 7, we had a wonderful kick-off to our Arts For Soul season featuring Bridget Kibbey on the harp!

Not only did Ms. Kibbey perform during the featured concert, but she was also kind enough to perform during our late service on Sunday 10/7.

On Saturday, October 6, Ms. Kibbey gave a masterclass for local harp students and enthusiasts.

Hosted in collaboration with the Great Plains Chapter of the American Harp Society, this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Nebraska area harpists to work with a world renowned artist.





## **Flyleaf Book Club I Friday, November 16 at 9:00 I FPC Library**

We'll be discussing the book *Before We Were Born* written by Lisa Wingate.

New member are always welcome to join!

## **Sand Dollars Potluck I Friday, November 16 at 6:30 pm Great Hall**

We have a very special program which will feature Russ Lloyd and the Oasis Bluegrass Band which Russ dubbed the "quasi" bluegrass band.

This band was created in 2003 at St. Marks UMC when a group of guys scrounged up some old instruments for a "Talent/No Talent" fundraiser and entered the band in the "No Talent" segment of the program.

It seems they and others discovered they had hidden talents and "the rest is history" as they say! You won't want to miss this special treat so mark your calendar!

Contact Arta Smith with any questions ([smith.arta@gmail.com](mailto:smith.arta@gmail.com))

## **Articles for the December First Report due: Friday, November 16**

Please send us any articles or announcements by or before 11/16. Articles received after 11/16 may not be included in the newsletter.



**Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service  
Sunday, November 18 at 3:00 pm  
Congregation Tifereth Israel**

Clergy from many different faiths will participate, with this year's featured speaker being Dr. Marilyn Johnson-Farr, Professor of Education at Doane University, and lay leader at Quinn Chapel, AME Church in Lincoln.

An interfaith choir will also participate in the service. Anyone wishing to sing should contact Brian Pfofner. The choir will meet at 2:00 pm to rehearse a few easy pieces for the service.

This year the host congregation will supply all food for the reception after the service, but attendees are invited to bring non-perishable food items to donate to the Lincoln Foodbank.

All faiths are welcome and encouraged to attend!

**Send us your updated contact information!**

If you have moved, or changed email addresses or phone numbers please let us know! We want to make sure we have everybody's updated contact information. Call or email the church office with any updates or changes — (402) 477-6037 or [info@fpclincoln.org](mailto:info@fpclincoln.org)

## Session Highlights

### **Mission and Social Justice**

The first food distribution at McPhee Elementary went well. FPC volunteers will help with Food Markets the first Friday of the month through May. The Peace and Global Witness Offering was received through World Mission Sunday, Oct. 7. The committee voted to again give the local 25% of the offering to the annual Interfaith Peacemaking Coalition's Peacemaking Workshop. Lincoln Literacy has received funding to continue the classes being held at FPC.

### **Christian Education**

Classroom updates continue, including updating white boards in classrooms.

### **Member Fellowship and Evangelism**

4 New members have joined since our last members class on 9/30. 3 additional members will also be joining.

### **Stewardship & Finance**

The committee met with all the other session committees and will now start drafting next year's budget. Introducing the Stewardship campaign theme "With what shall I come before the Lord?", has been mailed. Second and third letters are being planned.

### **Property**

Estimates for berm plantings have been approved. Waiting for a new bid for resurfacing the north parking lot.

### **Parking / Garden Task Force**

Moving of the gardens occurred on the weekend of October 27-28 with help from the Phi Kappa Fraternity.

### **Spaces and Places**

We have begun cleaning out various storage areas and moving items to designated areas.

### **Personnel**

Finalized potential 2019 budget for Personnel.

# Library Update

## Family Literacy Month

November is National Family Literacy Month. Encourage the children and youth in your life to become readers, by reading to or with them.

Why is literacy important? Success in reading is a gateway to success in other academic areas.

The FPC library has many great books for everyone to enjoy together.

Ways to encourage reading:

1. Set aside time each day to read
2. Make regular visits to the library
3. Read the book version of a favorite kids movie, then watch the movie.
4. Involve distant family/friends by reading aloud using Skype or Facetime.
5. Ask kids about the books they are reading.

***A child who reads will be an adult who thinks.***

***-Sasha Salmina***

## Author Spotlight:

### Gary Paulsen

Gary Paulsen is an award-winning author of books for youth and young adults. His coming-of-age books are full of adventure, and often set in the wilderness. They are great reads for both youth and adults.

The FPC Library has several of his books, including:

*Harris and Me*

*Hatchet*

*The Hay Meadow*

*This Side of Wild*

☆☆☆ — ☆☆☆  
**November 6 is Election Day**  
**Here are a few books to prime your mind for voting:**

*Faith & Politics*, by Sen John Danforth

*To America*, by Stephen Ambrose  
*Fraternity, a Journey in Search of Five Presidents*, by Bob Greene

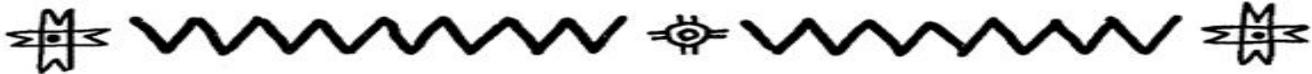
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### ***Hunger & Homelessness***

*November 10 – 18 is Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week.*

*A selection of books focused on these issues will be on display in the FPC Library, including:*

- What do you say to a Hungry World?***, by W. Stanley Mooneyham
- Glass, Paper, Beans***, by Leah Hager Cohen
- Nickel & Dimed***, by Barbara Ehrenreich
- Sacramental Cocoa***, by Lynn E. Perry
- Savage Inequalities***, by Jonathan Kozol



November is  
**Native American Heritage Month**,  
 a time to celebrate rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories and to  
 acknowledge the important contributions of Native people.

The FPC library has a selection of materials on display in honor of  
Native American Heritage month, including:

- We Shall Remain: America Through Native Eyes*** – DVD from PBS
- Native American History, A Chronology***, by Judith Nies
- Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee***, by Dee Brown
- Black Elk Speaks***, as told to John Neihardt
- American Indian Stories***, by Zitkala-Sa
- A Warrior of the People and I Am A Man***, by Joe Starita
- Crazy Horse***, by Kingsley M. Bray





First Presbyterian Church  
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Please notify the church office of any name,  
address, email, and/or telephone changes.

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## ***First Presbyterian Church***

*Where faith is nurtured, curiosity is encouraged, diversity is welcomed, and all are loved.*

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***For after hour calls to the church office, 402-477-6037, the staff voicemail extensions and e-mail addresses follow:***

**Pastor/Head of Staff: Rev. Dr. Sue Collier**  
x 103 scoller@fpclincoln.org

**Parish Associate for Sudanese Ministry:  
Rev. Jock Tut Paleak**  
x 114 jtutpaleak@gmail.com

**Music Director: Dr. Brian Pfofner**  
x 121 musicdir@fpclincoln.org

**Organist: Dr. Charles W. Ore**  
charles.w.ore@gmail.com

**Director of Christian Education: Kris Brammer**  
x 106 dce@fpclincoln.org

**Church Administrator: Carrie Cross**  
x 102 churchadmin@fpclincoln.org

**Office Assistant: David Kamran**  
x 101 officeassist@fpclincoln.org

**Custodian/Maintenance: Jeff Kephart**  
maintenance@fpclincoln.org

### Outside Classes and Programs @ FPC:

Men's AA - Mondays

Women's AA - Tuesdays

Big Book Bunch AA - Tuesdays and Thursdays

Lincoln Literacy - Monday through Thursday

SCC ESL - Monday through Thursday

Flyleaf Book Club - 3rd Friday of the month

At FPC, we warmly welcome any sort of group or organization that provides needed services for members of our community.