

HASTINGS CHURCH OF CHRIST
"A PLACE TO CALL HOME"
1131 N LAIRD AVE, HASTINGS NE 68901-3566 **PHONE: 402-462-8469**
WEB SITE: WWW.HASTINGSCHURCH.ORG

Our Record		Elders:	Russ Dudrey, Everett Hinton, Robert Grissom, Gaylin Prior
Sunday Bible Study		Ministry Leaders:	Everett Hinton—Worship Ministry Brad Bailey—Missions Brett Sales —Youth Bryan Jurrens—Buildings/Grounds Gaylin Prior—Music/Treasurer Dick Witt—Education/Benevolence
Morning Assembly	77	Minister:	Russ Dudrey e-mail: russdudrey@gmail.com phone: 402-834-0096 (home)
Contribution	\$ —	Bulletin:	Sharon Hachtel—463-4997 e-mail: sh95736@windstream.net
Evening Assembly	24		
Wednesday Class	—		
<i>In Search of the Lord's Way</i> is shown on Charter Cable Channel 181 at 10:00 AM, Wednesday, and at 6:00 PM Sunday, and on Direct TV Channel 307 at 6:00 AM Sundays.			
Deadline for bulletin announcements is 9:00 PM Friday evening			

THOSE TO SERVE

This Sunday, April 17 Next Sunday, April 24

	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	D Witt	D Witt	G Prior	G Prior
Song Leader	B Sales	D Brennfrdr	A Adams	D Witt
Opening Prayer	J Morgan	R Munsell	B Shearer	D Hachtel
Closing Prayer	G Prior	D Wright	C Fielder	R Munsell
Usher	D Hachtel		D Wright	
Greeters	Fielders		Brennfoerders	
Preside Lord's Supper	E Hinton		J Fielder	
Serve	B Jurrens		R Riley	
Serve	L Duester		M Fielder	
Serve	B Bailey		D Brennfoerder	
Coordinator	J Fielder		B Bailey	
Prepare Lord's Supper	F Dudrey		F Dudrey	
Children's Church	Janelle Corman		Maggie Sales	
Wee Worship	Monica Fielder		Monica Fielder	
Wed Children's Class	Danelle Hayes		Danelle Hayes	
Change Message Sign	Jim Fielder Family		Jim Fielder Family	
Lawn Care	Dudrey		Dudrey	

Family Focus

Number 16

April 17, 2016

Upcoming Events

- Mud Run—NYC—April 23
- Ladies Day –Lincoln Church of Christ—April 23
- NYC Contribution-April 24
- Potluck/Men's Business Meeting—May 1
- Russel Bell—May 1
- Men's Retreat—NYC—May 13-14
- Doors of Opportunity: Gaining & Reclaiming Souls—York College—May 21
- York College Bible Teachers Workshop—July 23

Enrichment Opportunities

Sunday Bible Study	9:30
College Class	9:30
Sunday Assembly	10:30
Sunday Evening	6:00
Wednesday Class	7:00
Ladies Class Thursday	9:30

- **Russ's Sermon** today is "When the Church Went Into Exile." Tonight he plans a devotional on the lives of Daniel and Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego from Daniel 1-3.
- **One Word, One Church** - Below are the dates and chapters to read this week:

April 18 - Matthew 9	April 21 — Matthew 12
April 19 - Matthew 10	April 22 — Matthew 13
April 20 - Matthew 11	
- **VBS**—We have set our 2016 VBS dates for July 25, 26, and 27, from 6:30-8:30 pm for ages 4 years to 5th grade. The curriculum is in, so let's have a meeting April 24th right after the morning worship service. It will last 20 minutes. Please come ready to tell me how you would like to help with VBS. You can leave with your manual/materials. It is a simple theme titled "Pets Unleashed". I'd like to bring in some of our own pets if possible, at least on one of the nights. I can't wait to hear your ideas for this year!
—Janelle Corman
- **Wednesday Classes**—Ladies class will be studying the topic of "Listening" led by Lorinda Bailey. Men's class topic of study is "Life Lessons for Men."
- **Ladies Day**, Saturday April 23rd, Lincoln Church of Christ, 56th & Vine, Fellowship Room, beginning with registration at 9:00 AM and the program starting at 9:30 AM. Topic is "Proverbs 31 Women." Guest speaker is Arlene Pierce. Childcare will be provided. RSVP to Winona Maxon by April 20th. Winona's phone number and email address are: 402-440-3517 and wam@neb.rr.com.
- **Russel Bell** will be speaking the evening of May 1. We will have an evening meal and fellowship following his presentation.
- **May Potluck/Men's Business Meeting** will be held the first Sunday in May (May 1) instead of the second Sunday due to Mother's Day and graduation on May 8th. Please prepare extra food for potluck to cover our evening meal with Russel Bell.
- **High School & College Graduates**—If you would like your graduation announcement, picture, and future plans in the bulletin, please provide Sharon your information.
- **What Are Our Youngsters Learning** in their Bible classes? The K - 2nd grade bulletin board is covered in armor. It is not the armor that was too big for a shepherd boy; rather it is the armor of God. Have you ever wondered exactly what is meant by "fiery darts" or "flaming arrows"? The kids have some ideas about that. Thank you, Danelle.
- **The Hastings Church** was well represented at the Leadership Training for Christ competition in Grand Island on Saturday. Ten of our kids competed and did very well in the events. A number of our adults also went as support or as judges for the various events. Next Sunday we will take a few minutes to pass out their awards and to talk about the value of Leadership Training for Christ.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Our Country, Veterans, and Elders; Elementary, High School, & College Students; Bohne Family—personal issues; **LaVonne Boles** (Lisa Jurrens’s friend)—Stage 3 colon cancer; **Danelle & Janelle’s Cousin’s Daughter**—health; **Evelyn Brown**—stent surgery & mother, **Marie Riley**—broken hip; **Ashley’s Duester’s father**—blood clot; **Daniel Enfield; Donnis Genung**—cancer treatment; **Glassmyer Family, Katrina**—hip surgery recovery & passing of **Trinia’s Uncle, Jackson**—school; **Rob**—job safety & travel; **Katrina’s sister**—bone cancer; **Joan Glassmyer’s Friend, Jean Gilbert’s Family**—Jean’s passing; **Robert & Susan Grissom’s Son, Joel Grissom**—health & family issues; **Danelle Hayes**—health; **Jeffrey, Kelsey, & Leo Hergenreder**—personal issues; **Everett Hinton**—health issues; **Sheila Holliday**—health; **Ken Kucera**—heart attack; **Ken Lockling**—health & concern for friend; **Judy Melvin**—health, her brother’s wife’s—health; **Louise Nealeigh**—health; **Georgette Ockinga’s Friend, Larry**—health issues; **Kelly Prior**—health concerns; **Angie Riley’s brother, Julian**—stroke & **Angie’s Mother; Shirley Steen’s grandson—Adam;** friends—**Wayne Moorhead & his wife** (Wayne suffered a stroke); **Jamie Russo**—recovering from surgery; **Sudanese Brethren**—persecution; **Maggie Sales’s brother, Gavin Wallace**—health; **Elois Tate**—leukemia treatment; **Gary & Norma Werner**—Norma’s health; **Matt & Hope Witt**—teaching in China; **Jo Wright’s son, Joe,** stroke recovery; **Jo’s Sister, Mary,** cataracts; **those travelling.**

Happy April Birthday:	Don McMurtry - 3	Morgan Dinkler - 5	Lisa Prior - 7
	Aden Riley - 12	Lisa Jurrens - 12	Darra Wright - 16
	Ileen Lenhart - 22	Austin Nauert - 23	Donna Montemayor - 28
	Abigail Fielder - 29		
Happy April Anniversary:	Roger & Louise Nealeigh - 4	Brian & Karla Nauert - 26	
	Kevin & Amy Wenske - 29		

- **Mud Run** April 23rd at the Nebraska Youth Camp. More information on-line at www.NebraskaYouthCamp.com
- **Men’s Retreat** May 13-14 at the Nebraska Youth Camp, 24 hours (7 PM to 7 PM). More information on-line at www.dadsnlads/org/men.
- **Nebraska Youth Camp** registration forms for the 2016 camping sessions are now available on-line at www.nebraskayouthcamp.com. **If you register by May 15th you will get a \$10 per week discount; \$5 for Beginner Camp.** Hard copies are available on the youth bulletin board in the south hallway.

LIVING AS EXILES

“The Man in the High Castle” is a TV series imagining what America might be like if the Axis Powers had won WWII. The Nazis would occupy the eastern half of the country, Imperial Japan would occupy the western half, and we—those who survived—would be exiles in our own land. Just imagine.

The survivors would not have many choices. Some brave souls would resist. Perhaps they would form an underground resistance movement to fight the new order by guerilla warfare and would live in constant danger.

They'd try to fly under the radar of their oppressors. They'd assimilate themselves to the new order. They'd learn its language, its values and culture, its rules and its laws; they'd make what adjustments they must.

Some would actively collaborate. They'd find ways to profit from the new order as teachers, trainers, propagandists, spies and informers, police. Oppressors find many uses for collaborators.

By God's mercy, the Axis did not win. But the idea of living in exile is not far-fetched. All across history whole nations have been swallowed alive by evil powers. Hitler did that to Eastern Europe; Stalin to Russia and its satellites, Mao Tse-Tung to China—and that story continues to this day in many places, in literal reality.

In moral and spiritual reality, all across history the people of God have lived as outsiders, exiles, pilgrims and aliens in a world under the power of Satan. That's the world-view of the Bible. It's God's world, but for now Satan has usurped dominion over it—Jesus calls him “the prince of this world.” Our Father created his world clean and fine and beautiful, but Satan stole in treacherously and took control of it, and he continues to devour and destroy both God's creation and God's people.

Revelation 12 pictures Satan as a huge and terrible dragon that can sweep stars out of the sky with his tail. He makes war in heaven with Michael and his angels; he is defeated and cast down to the earth. Heaven rejoices, but woe to the earth! *“Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. . . . Therefore rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!”* There's the biblical view of the kind of world we live in: territory occupied by an Enemy who is desperate and enraged, knowing that his defeat comes inevitably and swiftly upon him.

In the face of the Usurper who works everywhere to control and dominate, devour and destroy, what are our choices? Resist Satan? Fly under his radar and assimilate to his dominion? Collaborate with him to the harm of others? Our best choice is certainly neither assimilation nor collaboration; but neither is it armed resistance—that's the solution of the Messianic revolutionaries in Jesus' day and of ISIS in our day.

Rather, it is to live as exiles. We are citizens of another kingdom; we are servants of the True King. I think offhand of two examples of the people of God living in exile, offered the choice to collaborate or to assimilate, who rise above those choices. There are Daniel and Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who serve in the court of Nebuchadnezzar, yes: but they neither eat the king's dainties nor bow down to his golden image. They serve the only true King.

And there is Jesus. Satan offers him all the kingdoms of earth, if he will worship him: *“All these I will give you, if you will bow down and worship me.”* Jesus will not assimilate or collaborate with Satan's rule: he will worship the one and only King.

We live as exiles in a culture hostile to our King. What are our choices? *“I beg you, therefore, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God . . . Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind . . .”*