

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

Sunday Bible Study
Morning Assembly 69
Contribution \$ 1791
Evening Assembly —
Wednesday Class
In Search of the Lord's Way 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.

Ministry Leaders: Everett Hinton—Worship Ministry
Brad Bailey—Missions
Brett Sales —Youth
Bryan Jurrens—Buildings/Grounds
Gaylin Prior—Music/Treasurer
Dick Witt—Education/Benevolence

Minister: Russ Dudrey e-mail: r u s s d u d r e y @ g m a i l . c o m
phone: 402-834-0096 (home)

Bulletin: Sharon Hachtel—463-4997
e-mail: sh95736@windstream.net

Deadline for bulletin announcements is 9:00 PM Friday evening

THOSE TO SERVE

This Sunday, August 23 Next Sunday, August 30

	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	G Prior	G Prior	E Hinton	E Hinton
Song Leader	D Witt	D Brennfrdr	R Grissom	R Dudrey
Opening Prayer	B Shearer	M Fielder	K Lockling	D Brennfrdr
Closing Prayer	R Riley	R Munsell	B Bailey	M Fielder
Usher	D Wright		G Prior	
Greeters	Brennfoerders		Baileys	
Preside Lord's Supper	J Morgan		D Corman	
Serve	B Sales		M Glassmyer	
Serve	B Bailey		C Fielder	
Serve	S Dinkler		D Hachtel	
Coordinator	R Munsell		D Witt	
Prepare Lord's Supper	D Brennfoerder		A Hinton	
Children's Church	Resume in September		Resume in September	
Nursery	Maggie Sales		Erica Adams	
Wed Children's Class	Danelle Hayes		Volunteer Needed	
Change Message Sign	Jim Fielder Family		Jim Fielder Family	
Lawn Care	Jurrens		Jurrens	

Family Focus

Number 34

August 23, 2015

Upcoming Events

- NYC Contribution—August 23
- Fifth Sunday Singing—Kearney—August 30
- Nebraska Youth Camp Youth Rally—Sept 5-7
- Dads-n-Lads Retreat at NYC—September 11-13
- Beth Moore—Living Proof—Live Simulcast—Third City Christian Church—Grand Island—Sept 12
- Tranquill—A Ladies Retreat—Lincoln—November 13-14

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

"Visitors and Parents of Small Children: We have a staffed nursery available in the northeast corner of the church building for your convenience. If you would like more information, please see the greeters at the front of the building."

- **Russ's Sermon** today is "'Your Redemption Draws Near': When the Church Lives in Terrible times." Tonight Russ plans a devotional discussing the message of the prophet Jeremiah.
- **David Uden**, Donna's husband, will be having triple by-pass heart surgery Monday and a valve replaced at Bryan East Hospital in Lincoln. Their daughter, Sarah, is staying at night in Lincoln with David and Winona Maxon, and Donna will be going back and forth.
- **Brooke Bailey** has been undergoing tests for an undiagnosed medical worry. Please pray for Brooke and her family in this time of stress and anxiety.
- **Dwight Roth** is now at home recovering from his bypass surgery and is doing well.
- **Georgette Ockinga** will be having total knee replacement surgery on August 31, **Judy Melvin** will be having outpatient surgery on her leg August 25th. Keep Georgette and Judy in your prayers.
- **Sunday School & Children's Church Teachers:** There will be a brief meeting immediately following services on Sunday, August 31st, in the fellowship hall. Please plan to attend this meeting as we will be discussing fall/winter 2015 schedules and some other important items. If you would like to sign up to help out with this ministry in any way, or cannot make it to the meeting, please contact Andy or Erica Adams.
- **Lela Epley, Carol (Rathe) Arnold's mother**, passed away Friday. Visitation is Sunday, August 30, 5-7 pm, O'Brien-Straatmann Redinger Funeral Home, 4115 Av N, Kearney NE. The funeral is Monday, August 31, at 10 am at the Evangelical Free Church, 4010 7th Ave, Kearney NE. A flower service is one hour before the funeral service, and a dinner follows the service. Burial is after the dinner at Haven's Chapel cemetery north of Kearney.
- **Building Renovations:** The congregation has reached consensus to go forward with building renovations that will include moving the front face of the building out to the front of the concrete stoop (about 5 feet), redoing the concrete in front to make the front handicap-accessible, enlarging the foyer area, replacing doors and windows, and renovating the classrooms on the north side, the cry room, and the restrooms. Our next step will be to get an approximate cost for the project. We plan to meet with the city building inspector tomorrow to make sure what we will be allowed to do.

Our Church Sign—

- Eternity Is Timeless.
- Never Test The Water With Both Feet.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Our Country; Our Veterans; Eldership Selection, Elementary, High School, & College Students; Erica Adams' Grandmother, Linda—heart problems; Andy Adams's Brother; Andy Adams's Co-worker's husband, Randy, health; Brooke Bailey—health; Lorinda Bailey's Father—surgery; Bohne Family—personal issues; DudLee Brennforder's Father, Gary—cancer treatment & pain, recent hospitalization; Debbie Downey—blood clots; Daniel Enfield; Peggy Dill's great nephew, Joseph Hibler—health, Judy Schiltz; Ned & Neva Cooper—health; Donnis Genung—cancer treatment; Sue Ginn—health; Robert & Susan Grissom's Son, Joel Grissom—health & family issues; Robert & Susan Grissom—Brazil Mission; Susan Grissom—pneumonia; Chase Hofferber—health; Cassidy Jurrens—health; Lela Epley Family—Lela's passing; Muriel Luke—autoimmune disease; Judy Melvin—health and her brother, Donald, and his wife—health; Johnny Meyers—health; Joe Morgan's brother, Delano—health; Georgette Ockinga—forth coming knee replacement surgery; Seth Ostrander—brain tumor; Ellen Prior's Sister, Ethel—health, and Ethel's son—accident; Dwight Roth—by-pass surgery; Shirley Steen's grandson—Adam; Sudanese Brethren—persecution; Maggie Sales's brother, David Uden—triple by-pass surgery; Gavin Wallace—recovering from surgery; Mark Steen—health; Gary & Norma Werner—Norma's health; Matt & Hope Witt—Teaching in China; Tina Witt; Dick Witt's Father—health; Lisa Worley—hip replacement surgery recovery & her brother-in-law, Dan Barber—head injury; those travelling; Jo Wright's sister, Mary—cataract surgery..

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: Russel Bell: mission work in India & Romania.

Happy August Birthday :	William Wells	-	2	Erica Adams	-	5	Jim Fielder	-	7
	Danelle Hayes	-	11	Janelle Corman	-	11	Kamryn Wright	-	21
	Kaitlyn Jurrens	-	30				Sharon Hachtel	-	23

Happy August Anniversary To: Dick & Detta Wright - 3 Scott & Laci Dinkler - 19

- **Thank You** so much for accepting me and making me a part of the Church. I loved coming to a place which is filled with so much faith and kindness. I learned so much by being there, not only about Christianity, but also about Humanity. It helped me grow in aspects I could not have learned anywhere else. Thanks to the Wednesday and Sunday youth group classes for letting me express myself and broaden my horizons. I have learned a lot including the joy of community service, the acts of loving and giving, the ways to befriend a stranger, and much more. I would come back any day I get a chance to. Thank you so much for the love and knowledge. —Spriha Garg
- **Nebraska Youth Camp Contribution** will be taken today.
- **Fifth-Sunday Singing:** The church in Kearney will host the fifth-Sunday singing next Sunday, August 30. Singing begins at 3:30 PM; food and fellowship at 5:00 PM, short devotional at 6:00 PM.
- **The Dads-n-Lads Retreat** will be held at NYC September 11-13. For registration and details, go to www.dadsnlads.org.
- **Living Proof**—Live simulcast by Beth Moore, Saturday, September 12th, 9:00 AM—4:30 PM, Third City Christian Church, 4100 W. 13th Street, Grand Island, NE. Tickets: \$25. See flyer on bulletin board in south hallway for more information.
- **Kearney Church of Christ Youth Rally** will be the first weekend in October, the 2nd through the 4th. More details to come soon!
- **Robert and Susan Grissom** have had to remain in Brazil several more weeks while Susan regains her strength from a case of pneumonia. They have rescheduled their return to September 2. Please keep them, especially Susan, in your prayers. Elder nominations are still pending as we await the Grissoms' return so they can participate in the process.

“WEEP NOT FOR ME, BUT FOR YOURSELVES AND FOR YOUR CHILDREN”

A recent *Weekly Standard* article showed a horrifying photograph from an internet video posted by the Islamic State. A 12-year-old boy named Rayan is pointing a pistol close range at the face of a Palestinian Mossad agent. Standing beside the boy, his stepfather encourages him to become a “Young lion of the caliphate” by executing their enemy. The article says the boy carried it out: he shot and the man dropped dead, his head a gory wreckage.

I couldn't watch the video. Just the one picture itself is a nightmare image. Eyes dark, mouth close-set, cold resolve on his face, this boy was playing with his schoolmates in Toulouse, France, only months before; now he is a young lion of the Islamic jihad. The sword of holy war has been thrust into his hand, and he has wielded it; he will be groomed into a jihadist warrior. His purpose in life is to wield the sword until he dies a martyr. He has been radicalized. From here on he must live by the sword.

As Jesus carries his cross to Golgotha, he speaks a quick word to the women bewailing his impending death: *“Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren women and the wombs that have not given birth and the breasts that have not given suck.’ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall upon us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us up.’ For if they do this when the tree is green, what will they do when it is dry?”* (Lk 23:27-31).

Jesus is seeing with the eyes of his soul: He looks back to Israel's destruction under the Babylonians; he hears the warnings of the prophets, their pleadings and lamentations; he smells the dust and smoke, blood and death of the siege and fall of Jerusalem to Nebuchadnezzar—and he sees forward to the same things happening again under the Romans: starvation and cannibalism under siege, armed brigands roving through the city, rape, murder, enslavement. This must inevitably happen to “this generation,” Jesus says, because Israel has rejected the things that make for peace. The book of Lamentations is Jeremiah's funeral dirge for Jerusalem and Judah: and Jesus says that Jeremiah's words will certainly be repeated.

“If they do this when the tree is green, what will they do when it is dry?” N.T. Wright says this means, “If they (the Romans) do this when the wood is green, when the condemned one is innocent of violent revolt, what will happen when the wood is dry, when the children at present playing in the streets grow up into a revolutionary force that will pit itself directly against Rome?” The Jewish revolutionaries then, just like the Islamic jihadists now, see it as a holy war; both believe that their God will intervene to destroy his enemies. They take up the sword in the name of their God. They put the sword into the hands of their children.

Jesus says that those who live by the sword die by the sword (Mt 26:52). Their delusions of holy war will bring down upon them—and upon their women and their children—untold suffering: *“Weep not for me, but for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren women . . .’”* The women of Jerusalem should save their tears: the time is coming when they will need them far more. The boys playing in the streets of Jerusalem today will be radicalized into the revolutionaries of tomorrow, and the entire generation of them will perish horribly: in rejecting the way of Jesus they have rejected the way of peace.