

**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                      65  
Contribution                              \$2,224  
Evening Assembly                      20  
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, December 13      Next Sunday, December 20

	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	J Fielder	J Fielder	D Witt	D Witt
Song Leader	B Sales	E Hinton	G Prior	M Glssmyer
Opening Prayer	D Corman	C Fielder	J Fielder	R Munsell
Closing Prayer	S Dinkler	B Bailey	B Sales	L Duester
Usher	R Munsell		D Hachtel	
Greeters	Wrights		Fielders	
Preside Lord's Supper	D Brennfoerder		E Hinton	
Serve	J Morgan		B Jurrens	
Serve	R Riley		M Fielder	
Serve	D Hachtel		B Bailey	
Coordinator	G Prior		D Brennfoerder	
Prepare Lord's Supper	S Hachtel		S Hachtel	
Children's Church	No Children's Church Today		Andy & Erica Adams	
Wee Worship	No Wee Worship Today		Maggie Sales	
Wed Children's Class	Monica Fielder		Monica Fielder	
Change Message Sign	Jim Fielder Family		Jim Fielder Family	
Lawn Care	---		---	

# Family Focus

**Number 50**

**December 13, 2015**

**Upcoming Events**

- Potluck/Men's Business Meeting—December 13
- Christmas Caroling—December 16
- NYC Contribution—December 27

- **Special Service Today**—Rather than having a sermon this morning, we will have a special service of prayer and praise as we commission our new elders. Robert Grissom will lead tonight's devotional. His subject will be, "Thy Kingdom Come."
- **Potluck/Men's Business Meeting** immediately following our worship service today in the fellowship hall. Committee members are the Nauer's and Witt's. Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Mountain State's Children's Home.
- **Our Sympathy** goes out to Shirley Steen and Family. Shirley's son, Mark, passed away last Sunday. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, January 9, 2016, 11:00 AM at the Third City Christian Church in Grand Island. Please keep Shirley and the Steen Family in your prayers.
- **We Thank Paula Witt and all the Women** who helped with the Eternal Threads sale yesterday.., and we thank the First Presbyterian Church for hosting it as part of their Free Trade Holiday Sale.
- **Children's Church and Wee Worship**—We will not have Children's Church or Wee Worship today.
- **Christmas Caroling**—Please plan to bring fruit and snack items for the food baskets, along with your voice and your smile for Christmas caroling Wednesday December 16th.
- **East Hill Church of Christ** is planning to host an area-wide singing on January 24th. Singing will be held on the 4th Sunday rather than the 5th in order to coincide with a York College Choir concert on the 24th. Congregational singing will be from 3:30-5:00 PM. Dinner will be served from 5:00-5:30 PM, and the concert will be at 6:00 PM. Details will be forthcoming whether the concert will be in the church auditorium or at the new York College Performing Arts Center.
- **Congratulations to Wade Wenske** who was recognized in September by the TeamMates Central Office as the York College Scholarship recipient. He was one of several recipients who were recognized on the field before the Nebraska vs South Alabama football game in Lincoln this past fall. Wade's picture, along with Tom Osborne, was in the November 23rd issue of the Hastings Tribune and is posted on our bulletin board.

**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

**Our Church Sign—**

- If You Are Looking For A Sign To Start Going To Church. This Is It.
- God Has A Big Eraser.

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Our Country; Our Veterans; Eldership Selection, Elementary, High School, & College Students; Bohne Family—personal issues; Evelyn Brown—stent surgery; Gary Brennfoerder Family—Gary's passing; Debbie Brennfoerder's Mother, Joan Kimminau—compound fractured vertebra; Daniel Enfield; Donnis Genung—cancer treatment; Glassmyer Family, Katrina—hip surgery recovery, Jackson—school; Rob—job safety & travel; Robert & Susan Grissom's Son, Joel Grissom—health & family issues; Ken Lockling—health; Judy Melvin—health, her brother's wife's—health, brother Jim—stroke; Shirley Steen's grandson—Adam and passing of her son Mark; Sudanese Brethren—persecution; Maggie Sales's brother, Gavin Wallace—health; David Uden—triple by-pass surgery recovery; Gary & Norma Werner—Norma's health; Dick Wright—knee replacement surgery recovery; Jo Wright's niece, Debra, frozen shoulder; Jo Wright's friend, Jackie Davis diagnosed with cancer; Jo Wright—rotator cuff surgery recovery; Jo Wright's son, Joe, stroke; those travelling.

**PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES:** Russel Bell: mission work in India & Romania.  
Jeff Zanarison: Bible project in Madagascar

**Happy December Birthday:**

Jeremy Voorhees - 1	Eloise Lockling - 2		
Elizabeth Montemayor - 4	Brooke Bailey - 5	Benjamin Bohne - 8	David Moore - 17
Brittany Bailey - 17	Jamie Russo - 20	Lorinda Bailey - 28	Marina Fielder - 31

**Happy December Anniversary:**

William & Alice Wells - 1	Dick & Paula Witt - 16
Andy & Erica Adams - 22	Rob & Katrina Glassmyer - 28
Ken & Eloise Lockling - 29	

- **Microphone Boxes**—When we installed the new microphones we placed the boxes with the model numbers and barcodes in the closet of the former preacher's office. They have been moved, and we need to order a new one. If anyone knows the location of them please let Mike or Jim know.

Reference  
By Charlie Gamble

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. Gal 5:22-23 (NKJV)

Have you noticed that this description is singular? Paul is not telling us to reflect one or two of these characteristics while ignoring the others. Indeed, the follower of Christ will be all of these things.

There are times when I have been asked to be a reference. When I do this, I take these verses into consideration. It is not enough to be faithful in attendance if I don't see the other aspects of the fruit of the Spirit living in you. More importantly, does God see you living this description?

How will you be referenced by Jesus at the judgment: "Come, you blessed of My Father", or "Depart from Me?" (Matt. 25:34,41)

- Charlie Gamble preaches for the Brunswick Church of Christ in Southport, NC. He may be contacted at cgamble64@gmail.com

## "SLOW CHURCH" AND SPIRITUAL NUTRITION

I read a book last week called *Slow Church: Cultivating Community in the Patient Way of Jesus*. The book is all about the spiritual nutrition of the church.

The idea springboards off the Slow Food movement, which began in reaction to the opening of a McDonald's restaurant in Rome, Italy, in 1986. "We want slow food, not fast food," was the statement. I guess it's fitting that the symbol of the movement is a snail. That's slow food for you.

Slow Food is concerned not only with taste, but with nutrition and family tradition. The fast food industry has helped cause not only the rise of obesity and obesity-related diseases, but also, arguably, the widespread loss of the tradition of the family meal. Fewer and fewer families eat daily meals together. The year I taught at Pepperdine University, I caught rides into Malibu three days a week with a professor whose family was only able to eat one meal a week together, Sunday dinner. Otherwise all of them—husband, wife, and two sons—all ate prepackaged foods, restaurant foods, and fast foods every other meal. Pop-Tarts®, Pizza, Big Macs. Their lifestyle made them eat on the run, not at the family table.

So I agree with the Slow Food movement: We've got to resist the McDonaldization of American society. We've got to do this, not only for the physical nutrition of our bodies, but also for the moral and spiritual nutrition of our families. Families need to slow down and come to the table together, to talk and laugh and eat together; to take time for one another together; to feed their souls with family heritage and tradition together.

We've also got to resist the McDonaldization of the American church. We don't want the church to take on the characteristics of a fast-food restaurant. We don't want to try to feed souls in haste. We don't want to try to nurture souls with prepackaged spiritual sound bytes. We don't want to homogenize our message or our worship to conform to our culture's norms and values. We want to invite people to come sit together at the family table of the Lord, to eat well from the Bread of Life and drink deeply from the Living Water. Together. We want our worship and our ministry of the Word of God always to be true bread and true drink, true spiritual food. We want them to provide life-giving nutrition for the soul of the church.

We are installing elders today. We hope this will begin a new stage in the life and nurture of our church family. In John 21 Jesus asks Peter three times, "Do you love me?" Peter says "Yes, Lord, you know I love you." Jesus replies, "Feed my lambs," "Shepherd my sheep," "Feed my sheep." The "shepherd" model means that an eldership's biggest job is to provide for the nurture and feeding of the church.

In Acts 6 when the church in Jerusalem needs to develop a ministry to care for the Hellenistic widows, the Apostles have the church find men full of the Spirit and of wisdom to see to their care, because "It is not fitting for us to neglect the ministry of the Word of God to serve tables." The Apostles delegate it to the Seven Deacons, saying "But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the Word."

We do not believe that elders are apostles, but we do believe that like the Apostles, elders should devote themselves to the Word of God and to prayer. In Ephesians 4 Paul says that God has provided the church with apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers in order to build up the body of Christ into full spiritual maturity, "into the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." We believe that the primary role of elders is to see to the spiritual nutrition of the church so that God can grow it up into the full image of Christ.

— ©RussDudrey, 12/13/15