

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 62
 Contribution \$ 1881
 Evening Assembly 22
 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, May 31 Next Sunday, June 7

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

Family Focus

Number 22

May 31, 2015

Upcoming Events

- Fifth Sunday Singing, Stolley Park Church of Christ, Grand Island—May 31
- Potluck/Men's Business Meeting—June 14

- **Russ's Sermon** today is "How Would You Start the Church from Scratch?" Tonight's evening service will be a devotional.
- **Welcome Maryanna McClure.** Maryanna from Tennessee is doing a summer internship at the UNL Great Plains Veterinary Education Center and the US Roman L. Hruska Meat Animal Research Center near Clay Center. Her address is: UNL GPVEC, 820 Road 313, Clay Center, NE, 68933-0066. We are delighted to have Maryanna worship and be with us here at the Hastings Church of Christ.
- **The Fifth Sunday Singing** will be held at the Stolley Park Church in Grand Island this afternoon; singing at 3:30, light supper at 5:00, evening devotional at 6:00 PM.
- **We Have Received** an excellent mission report from Zanarison Zephyrinon in Madagascar. We are supporting him in the mission of providing Bibles to the rural poor of his country. Russ will say a few words about this in the sermon; the report is available from Russ or from Paula Witt.
- **Pray** for Linda Bailey's sister, Rachel, who suffered a mild heart attack recently. She is home now and doing well.
- **Wade & Tanner Wenske** will be attending Soul Quest June 7-13 at York College. **Tanner** will be a volunteer at the NYC Camp for Beginner and Junior Camp June 15 through July 4th (all four sessions). **Tanner** will be a camper at NYC July 5-18 (both sessions).
- **To: Hastings church of Christ**
 [Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord." I Timothy 1:3]
- Thank you to all who worked to assist me in my packing and loading! Special thanks to Robert Grissom for safely driving my belongings to Missouri. Special thanks to Roger Nealeigh for personally packing every single thing I own into the U-Haul. Thanks to Dick and Detta Wright for loading many boxes. Thanks to Don and Sharon Hachtel, you were great help. Thanks to Vickie and Joe Morgan for the nice going away gift. Thanks to the body of Christ for the plaque and to each of you that wrote kind words. Thanks for the meals out. Thanks to each one that helped. Another special Thank you to Lee and Allison Peshek, you were so very kind and caring to get me out and let me see and do things I could not have done without you. Thank you! I will always cherish the 7 years spent amongst all of you. Thank you All . . .
 ["Now may the Lord of Peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all." I Timothy 3:16].
 In Love for the Father, the Son, and you....

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."

Johnny Meyers Email: christs_friend@usa.com
 202 Sweetgum Home phone: 417-239-0699
 Kirbyville, MO 65679 Cell phone: 417-559-8342

Our Church Sign—

- If You Were On Trial For Being A Christian, Would there Be Enough Evidence To Convict You?
- There Is No Business Like Soul Business.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Our Country; Our Veterans; Eldership Selection, Elementary, High School, & College Graduates; Foreign Exchange Students; Erica Adams' Grandmother, Linda—heart problems; Andy Adams's Brother; Andy Adams's Co-worker's husband, Randy, health; Bohne Family—personal issues; Dudley Lee Brennfoerder's Father, Gary—cancer treatment & pain, recent hospitalization; Ned Cooper—recovering from surgery; Evelyn Brown—personal issues & health—broken ribs; 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; Chase Hofferber—health; Cassidy Jurrens—health; Ken Lockling—health; Muriel Luke—autoimmune disease; Judy Melvin—health and her brother, Donald, and his wife—health; Johnny Meyers—health; Joe Morgan's brother, Delano—health; Seth Ostrander—brain tumor; Lee & Allyson Peshek & Family—Passing of Lee's brother, Ralph; Dwight Roth—health; Kay Strong—Stroke recovery; Shirley Steen's grandson—Adam; Sudanese Brethren—persecution; Maggie Sales's brother, Spirha—travelling back to India soon; Gavin Wallace—recovering from surgery; Gary & Norma Werner—Norma's health; Matt & Hope Witt—Teaching in China; Tina Witt; Lisa Worley—hip replacement surgery recovery & her brother-in-law, Dan Barber—head injury.

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

PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY: Jeffery Hergenreder.

Happy May Birthday To:

Makayla Dinkler - 1	Susan Grissom - 1	Sandy Baker - 11
Bryan Jurrens - 13	Matt Baker - 22	Jo Wright - 26
Peggy Dill - 31	Wade Wenske - 27	

Happy May Anniversary To: David & Donna Uden - 12 Richard & Angie Riley - 25

Happy June Birthday To:

Keaton Corman - 5	Mike Glassmyer - 13	Ellen Prior - 15
Donna Uden - 18	Louise Nealeigh - 23	Rebecca Peshek - 24
Lee Peshek - 29	Monica Fielder - 27	

Happy June Anniversary To: Everett & Ann Hinton - 26

- VBS materials are in! We are planning to host it July 20, 21, and 22 from 6:30-8:30 pm for ages 4 thru 5th grade. The theme is "Outback Rock: Where Kids Venture into Solid Faith!" Please see Janelle or Danelle soon to sign up in whatever capacity you can help! Find all of your Australian outback decor and get hoppin' to the wildest time Down Under!
- Potluck/Men's Business Meeting June 14th. Committee members are the Munsells, Glassmyers, and Adams.
- Wednesday Evening Ladies Class topic is "Living with Brokenness" taught by Lisa Prior.

Those who love the Church, the Gospel, and the Lord try to build them up.

- via The Encourager, the weekly bulletin for the Dongola Church of Christ, Dongola, IL.

IT'S GOT TO BE THE REAL DINGO

Ernest Gordon's *To End All Wars* is the true story how he and many of his fellow prisoners in a Japanese labor camp during WWII came to Christ, and how Christ transformed their camp. The life-or-death issues of good and evil that faced the POWs every day as they built the Death Railway in Burma forced them to choose whether to abandon hope or find hope in God.

Those who lost hope died. The Japanese treated them ferociously—beatings, starvation, forced labor, torture and cruelty, summary executions. Hideous conditions reduced the prisoners to animalistic behavior; they fought viciously over bits of food, they stole from one another, they plundered the sick and the dead: every man for himself.

Faced with the real evil they saw not only in the Japanese, but also in themselves, a group of prisoners decided to explore the possibility of Christian belief. They sent an Australian sergeant to ask Gordon to lead their discussions. Gordon was no more a Christian than they were—he had abandoned the nominal faith he was raised with—but he was a fighting officer and was educated and respected. All they asked was that it couldn't be "Sunday School stuff"; it had to be "the real dingo."

Where would you start? They began as nonbelievers starting from nonbelief. Gordon barely knew anything more than anyone else, but a fellow soldier lightening his pack had given him a Bible. He started reading the New Testament, and read enough to stay one day ahead of the discussions. He realized that Christianity stands or falls with Jesus, so he determined to center the discussions on Jesus. So he taught them about Jesus in the Gospels.

What he saw in Jesus won his heart, and won other prisoners' hearts. They readily identified with Jesus. "*Greater love has no man than this,*" said Jesus, "*that he lays down his life for his friends.*" They saw that Jesus had done just that, and they saw Christian fellow-prisoners doing the same thing. They could identify with the God who revealed himself in Jesus, because in Jesus God had identified himself with their sufferings. This began the transformation both of Gordon and of the entire atmosphere among the prisoners:

True, Jesus had been suspended on a cross and tormented with the hell of pain; but he had not been broken. The weight of law and prejudice had borne down on him, but failed to crush him. He had remained free and alive, as the Resurrection affirmed. What he was, what he did, what he said, all made sense to us. We understood that the love expressed supremely in Jesus was God's love . . . We approached God through Jesus the carpenter of Nazareth, the incarnate Word. Such an approach seemed logical to us, for that was the way he had come to us. He had taken flesh, walked in the midst of men and declared himself by his actions to be full of grace and truth. . . . In the fellowship of freedom and love we found truth, and with truth a wonderful sense of unity, of harmony, of peace.

To End All Wars isn't just a good story that someone made up. It really happened. More than 80,000 men really died building the Death Railway—about 350 men per mile of railway. Real men faced real evil, and it devoured them. I read the book in the safety and comfort of my home, but the warmth and security I enjoy were purchased by men's blood. It's easy to read a book, even when it's a true story, and remain emotionally detached from it. But this really happened; this is the real dingo.

We can read the story of Christ and stay emotionally distant from it—all the more so when we've had the great privilege of growing up in church and hearing the story from childhood onward. Sunday School nurtured my childish faith. But at some point I had to make the transition from the faith I inherited to an adult faith that I chose intentionally. I had to choose the real thing, once and for all, for myself. The story of Christ is the real dingo; it really happened. My well-being, all the warmth and security in my life, were purchased by his blood.

— ©Russ Dudrey, 5/31/15