

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 67
Contribution \$ 2,454
Evening Assembly 29
Wednesday Class —

Elders: Russ Dudrey (402) 834-0096; Everett Hinton (402) 462-4745,
Robert Grissom (402) 462-0352; Gaylin Prior (402) 462-8249

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: russdudrey@gmail.com
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

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.

THOSE TO SERVE

This Sunday, November 27 Next Sunday, December 4

	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	G Prior	G Prior	J Fielder	J Fielder
Song Leader	R Grissom	D Witt	D Witt	M Glassmyer
Opening Prayer	J Fielder	B Bailey	G Smith	D Brennfrdr
Closing Prayer	G Smith	R Munsell	L Duester	D Wright
Usher	D Wright		B Jurrens	
Greeters	Brennfoerders		Munsells	
Preside Lord's Supper	D Brennfoerder		J Morgan	
Serve	R Riley		D Corman	
Serve	D Hachtel		Z Corman	
Serve	A Adams		S Dinkler	
Coordinator	E Hinton		D Corman	
Prepare Lord's Supper	A Hinton		A Hinton	
Children's Church	Danelle Hayes		Danelle Hayes	
Wee Worship	Monica Fielder		Maggie Sales	
Wed Children's Class	Volunteer Needed		Volunteer Needed	
Change Message Sign	Brad Bailey Family		Jim Fielder Family	
Lawn Care	—		—	

Family Focus

Number 48

November 27, 2016

Upcoming Events

- Nebraska Youth Camp Contribution — November 27
- International Goods Sale— December 10
- Potluck/Men's Business Meeting—December 11
- Christmas Caroling— December 21

- **Russ's Sermon** today is "Thanksgiving, the Lord's Supper, and Eucharist." Tonight Russ plans a discussion of "Traditions Good and Bad in the New Testament."
- **Our Sympathy** goes out to Jim & Monica Fielder and family in the passing of Jim's maternal grandmother, Lois Gannon. Lois passed away on Monday. Her funeral was yesterday at Butler Volland Funeral Home. Please pray for the Fielder family at this difficult time.
- **Please Keep** Ron, Jim, Rick, Paul Kucera in your prayers following the loss of their brother, Ken Kucera of Omaha; as well as prayers for their mother Patty as they all deal with two losses in just a few weeks. They all are friends of several of our church family.
- **Keep Joe Wright** in your prayers as he undergoes surgery at the Nebraska Heart Institute in Lincoln tomorrow.
- **One Word, One Church** — Below are the dates and chapters to read this week:

November 28 - II Peter 3
November 29 - Jude 1
November 30 - Revelation 1
December 1 - Revelation 2
December 2 - Revelation 3

- **International Goods Sale** at Presbyterian Church on December 10th. New selection of goods from 10-12 different countries. See Paula Witt, Lisa Prior, or Lorinda Bailey for questions or to volunteer.

- **Nebraska Youth Camp Contribution** will be taken today.

- **"KIDS:** Please join us for our first ever "Party Without Parents" on Friday, December 9th from 6:00-10:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall! Infants-6th Grade welcome, we will have all sorts of activities! Pizza for dinner at 6:00 p.m., followed by a movie, games, crafts, and lots of fun! Parents, this is a great time to go on a date, get some Christmas shopping done, or take a nap! Please RSVP to Erica Adams or Maggie Sales by December 8th so that we can have enough big people for the littles. PARENTS: The only rule is that you can't stay--you must take time for yourselves that evening! :) Let us know if you have any questions."

- **Renovations** continue to proceed. A bit more progress will be visible in the restrooms--notably, doors are ready to be installed, the rough-in of the plumbing is finished, and the rooms are ready for floors to be tiled and the electrical work to be done.

Our Church Sign—

- Some people are so poor, all they have is money.
- A backbone is better than a wishbone.

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

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Our Country, Veterans, Students in school; Elders; Lorinda Bailey's sister, Rachel, health issues; Danelle & Janelle's Cousin's Daughter—health; Evelyn Brown—mother, Marie Riley—broken hip; Lance & Ashlee Duester—new baby; Ashley's Duester's father—blood clot; Lance Duester's father; Walter Davis—health; Daniel Enfield—health; Jim & Monica Fielder & Family—passing of Monica's mother Sharon and Jim's Grandmother, Lois; Jackson Glassmyer—baptism decision; Katrina Glassmyer—sister, memory loss; family decision; Robert & Susan Grissom's Son, Joel Grissom—health & family issues; Susan Grissom's forthcoming procedure; Kucera Family—Passing of Clem & Ken Kucera; Ellie Lockling—pancreatic cancer; Ken Lockling—health; Judy Melvin—health; Louise Nealeigh—health; Allyson Peshek's Father—heart attack; Doris Reichert—health; Angie Riley's brother, Julian—stroke & Angie's Mother; Ann Prior—cancer return; Gaylin Prior's brother's wife, Marcia—hip infection; Sudanese Brethren—persecution; Maggie Sales's brother, Gavin Wallace—health; Bill Wells—health; Gary & Norma Werner—Norma's health; Matt & Hope Witt—teaching in China; Family of Bill Witt—Bill's passing; Jo Wright's son, Joe, congestive heart failure & surgery; Dick & Detta Wright's Grandson, Shawn—foot injury; those travelling.

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

Happy December Birthday:

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

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

- **If You Are Looking for a Gift** for someone who doesn't need more "stuff", or if you want to make one more charitable contribution this year, please consider making a donation to one or both of these worthy orphan organizations run by members of the churches of Christ, as they work to provide some daily needs or special items for orphans in their care at Christmas. Steve Cate with KOI, and Larry Bertram with Orphan's Lifeline have both been to our church to share with us about their ministry with orphans. You can find out more about these worthy organizations or donate online by visiting their websites, or talk to Russ or Felice for more information.

Kids of Indonesia
<http://www.koi-kidsofindonesia.org/>
Donations can also be mailed to:
PO Box 1881
Fremont, NE 68026

Orphan's Lifeline International: Orphan Christmas
<http://www.orphanlifeline.org/>
Donations can also be mailed to:
PO Box 1100
Kalispell, MT 59901

- **A Less Public Way to Speak with the Elders:** Sometimes people need to seek prayers or counsel from the elders privately and confidentially. The suggestion was made that in addition to the public invitation offered at the end of the Sunday morning sermon, we also encourage people to share their needs privately with the elders, call or text them, etc. The elders will welcome opportunity to be of help and will keep any personal problems confidential. Their contact information is on the back of the bulletin.

Russ Dudley	- 402-834-0096	Everett Hinton	- 402-462-4745
Robert Grissom	- 402-462-0352	Gaylin Prior	- 402-462-8249

“WE GIVE YOU THANKS, LORD”

We call it the Lord's Supper or the Communion, as in I Corinthians 10-11; high-church groups call it the Eucharist. The New Testament never calls it the Eucharist, which is why I'd rather not call it that, either.

Where do they get the name? *Eucharist* is just a Greek word spelled straight over into English. *Eucharisteo* is Greek for “I give thanks.” In a book called the *Didache*, the first word of the ritual prayer the second-century church recited when they took the Lord's Supper was *eucharistoumen*, which means “We give thanks.” They started calling the Supper “the Eucharist,” just like they started calling the Lord's Prayer “the Our Father” when reciting these words became a fixed part of the church's liturgy. The church named them from the first words of the recitation. So the names developed just as shorthand.

The New Testament accounts of the Last Supper say that “the Lord gave thanks” when he blessed the bread and blessed the cup. The word there is a form of *eucharisteo*. The Jews gave thanks before their meals. We see Jesus doing that when he feeds the five thousand and when he sits at table with the two disciples in Emmaus. It's the same word *eucharisteo* there, too, because that's the usual word for saying the blessing before a meal. The related word *eucharistia* means “thanksgiving,” and occurs all over the New Testament, but it never describes the Lord's Supper. Rather, it always describes prayers of thanksgiving to God.

My point is that there are differences between the practice of the Lord's Supper in the New Testament and the later church's practice of the Eucharist.

One difference is that the former is simpler, it's relatively unadorned and unscripted; the latter pretty quickly gets complicated—it becomes ritualized and ceremonial and liturgical. It gets churchified. Over the centuries it is taken out of the hands of the common people and is taken over by a professionalized clergy, by priests in robes and vestments. Sometimes they won't even let the common people hold the bread or the cup: the people hold their mouths open, the priest dips the bread in the wine and puts it in. The clergy controls the dispensation of the sacrament, the laity passively receives it.

This is because of another difference: over the centuries, high-church groups developed a theology of the divine mystery of the Eucharist, saying that when the priest pronounces the words of the sacrament, the bread actually becomes the real body of Christ and the wine actually becomes the real blood of Christ. The priest holds the elements because he can't risk the common people spilling the mystical blood of Christ.

They call this the sacramental understanding of the words where Jesus says “You must eat my flesh and drink my blood” at the feeding of the five thousand in John 6. I'd call it a magical or semi-magical misunderstanding: at the feeding of the five thousand, nobody was taking the Lord's Supper; it hadn't been instituted yet. John 6 happened a year before the Last Supper did. It's a case where the later church used a text not to mean what Jesus meant by his original words, but to justify the later church's practice.

One slogan of the early Restoration Movement was “Call Bible things by Bible names.” I agree. We don't call it Eucharist, but just the Lord's Supper or the Communion, because we don't want to take it out of the hands of the common people and hand it over to the religious professionals. We want to keep it simple, as it is in the New Testament itself. We want to correct the confusions and corruptions that have crept into church practices over the centuries in light of Jesus as revealed in the New Testament.

— ©Russ Dudley, 11/27/16