

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	80
Contribution	\$ 2,111
Evening Assembly	18
Wednesday Class	—
<p><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.</p>	

Elders: Russ Dudrey, Everett Hinton, Robert Grissom, Gaylin Prior

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

THOSE TO SERVE

This Sunday, November 6	Next Sunday, November 13
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	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	E Hinton	E Hinton	D Brennfrdr	D Brennfrdr
Song Leader	M Glassmyer	R Dudrey	G Prior	E Hinton
Opening Prayer	G Smith	D Brennfrdr	D Corman	R Grissom
Closing Prayer	C Fielder	J Fielder	R Riley	B Bailey
Usher	B Jurrens		R Munsell	
Greeters	Munsells		Wrights	
Preside Lord's Supper	J Morgan		J Fielder	
Serve	D Corman		B Sales	
Serve	Z Corman		C Fielder	
Serve	B Bailey		A Adams	
Coordinator	D Corman		D Witt	
Prepare Lord's Supper	S Hachtel		D Brennfoerder	
Children's Church	Maggie Sales		Erica Adams	
Wee Worship	Monica Fielder		Maggie Sales	
Wed Children's Class	Volunteer Needed		Volunteer Needed	
Change Message Sign	Brad Bailey Family		Brad Bailey Family	
Lawn Care	—		—	

Family Focus

Number 45 **November 6, 2016**

Upcoming Events

- Potluck/Men's Business Meeting/Fall Festival — November 13
- Eternal Threads Annual Sale—November 18-19
- Nebraska Youth Camp Contribution — November 27
- International Goods Sale—December 10

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 "Why Do We Go With the Bible Alone?" Tonight Russ plans a prayer service focusing on the state of our culture, the coming election, and the church's witness in our society.
- **Prayer Request**—Please keep Ron and Rick, Paul Kucera in your prayers following the loss of their father, Clem Kucera of Lawrence, as well as their mother Patty.
- **Potluck/Men's Business Meeting** next Sunday following morning worship in the fellowship hall. Committee members are the Hachtels, Amy Wright, and Cormans. Please bring a non-perishable food item for the Mountain States Children's Home.
- **One Word, One Church** — Below are the dates and chapters to read this week:

November 7 - John 17	November 10 - John 20
November 8 - John 18	November 11 - John 21
November 9 - John 19	
- **Eternal Threads Annual Sale** November 18-19 in Fellowship Hall. **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.
- **Renovations:** Work is proceeding on the new women's restroom and some progress will be visible in there. Not yet visible is the progress that has been made staining doors, door casings, and baseboards. Look for much more to be visible in the next week or so, volunteers to help applying stain or polyurethane, please speak to Russ. Much remains to be done, and would best be done while the weather allows it.
- **Fall Festival**—Everyone is invited to join us for our second annual fall festival. Directly following our November potluck, we will have games, fall crafts, and fun/fellowship for all ages. Please invite your friends and family. We are so blessed! What a better way to celebrate this season of Thanksgiving than fellowshiping with one another. Hope you will join us. Any questions can be directed to Maggie Sales.
- **Marco Fielder's New Address** is 1515 Timberline Drive, Fayetteville, AR, 72704. Marco would enjoy receiving correspondence from us.
- **Newsletters** are posted on the bulletin board in the foyer for your reading.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Our Country, Veterans, Students in school; Elders; Erica Adams's Mother's Dad—health; 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; Monica Fielder & Family—passing of Monica's mother Sharon; Jackson Glassmyer—baptism decision; Katrina's sister—memory loss; Robert & Susan Grissom's Son, Joel Grissom—health & family issues; Family of Clem Kucera—Passing of Clem; Ken Kucera—heart attack; 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; 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; 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 November Birthday:

Angie Riley	- 4	Piper Roth	- 10
Dustin Corman	- 15	Bob Shearer	- 15
Katrina Glassmyer	- 17	Carter Duester	- 17
Georgette Ockinga	- 26	Karla Nauert	- 20

Happy November Anniversary: Lance & Ashlee Duester - 16
Don & Sharon Hachtel - 29

“DO NOT BELIEVE EVERY SPIRIT”

Every week I get mail from prophets speaking for God. Most are doom-and-gloom warnings: the signs of the times plainly show that the end is near, the churches are dying, America is apostate and must repent, etc.

I quote from one that came last week: “Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ . . . God spoke to me and directed me to send this warning to every church in America. It is time for the churches to Wake Up . . . Do not be like King Jehoiakim . . . who disregarded God's warning . . . The words written in this letter are inspired by God so please read them, heed them, and pass them on to your congregation.” The letter ends as so many of them do, appealing for money to help sound the warning.

Sincere and good-hearted people, distressed like me with the desperate condition of our society, may buy into an appeal like this—especially since it is couched in terms of inspiration by the Spirit of God. Who could question such a claim? Who could know that God did not speak to him? Who could doubt that America is in such deep moral and spiritual trouble that we need a sweeping nationwide repentance?

Well, I'm skeptical. For several reasons I don't buy his claim to be inspired by God.

My offhand reason is the New Testament's many warnings against false prophets. John says “*Do not believe every spirit, but test out the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.*” Jesus warned against false prophets who would come in his name and lead many people astray, and the early church took his words to heart. Peter and Jude say that false prophets will come in and exploit the church to indulge their own sensual passions. Paul says that grievous wolves will arise from among the church and will ravage the flock of God. We are commanded to be skeptical of people who make such claims, even if they make them in the name of Jesus, as this man does.

Another reason is his appeal for money. I think prophets should be self-funding. I don't think they should accept Visa or MasterCard in exchange for their DVDs, as this man does. When Ezekiel or Isaiah were called by God to sound his warning to Israel, they were commissioned to suffer, not to profiteer off their ministry. So was Jesus. So was Paul. Paul says “*We are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.*” No true prophet of God in the Bible asks for money. False prophets do; true prophets let God provide as he will.

Another reason is his claims for himself. His letter gives a sense of self-importance. He makes many claims for the importance of his calling and his ministry, but mentions Jesus only in his greeting. Paul says “*For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.*” Not just prophets, but all ministers of Christ should be judged by this criterion: Is their message all about Jesus Christ, or is it all about themselves?

But the biggest reason is the finality of Jesus and the Scriptures. Many Christians and many churches do not believe as I do; many believe that God is giving them ongoing revelation through their apostles, their councils, their archbishops, their popes or patriarchs or their Spirit-inspired prophets. “God is still speaking,” says a banner on a church down the street from us, which claims that the Spirit of God is leading their church into new truth regarding homosexual relationships.

I'd rather be led into old truth. Rather than looking for ongoing revelation, I believe we should say “God has spoken.” God does not cancel or rethink his revelation in Jesus Christ—He affirms it once for all: “*Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son . . . Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it.*”

Scriptures: I Jn. 4:1; II Pet. 2:1-16; Jude 3-19; Acts 20:29f; Mt. 24:4-26; Mk. 13:5-23; II Cor. 2:17; II Cor. 4:5; Heb. 1:1f, 2:1.