

PASTOR:

Emily McCreery
308.530.7175

ADMIN ASSIST:

Mia Cauffman

MUSIC**DIRECTOR:**

Jennifer
Smallcomb

BELL DIRECTOR:

Jill Dolan

Treasurer:

Vern Ehlers

CLERK OF**SESSION:**

Amy Cauffman

DEACON**MODERATORS:**

Sheri Hoschouer
Scott Baker

PW**MODERATOR:**

Dixie Francis

Elders:

Jon Beggs
Amy Cauffman
Shad Connick
Marcia Henline
Chuck Francis
Cheryl
MacDonald
Deb Weitzel
Jim Whitney
Kay Wright

Deacons:

Melinda Baker
Scott Baker
Gracelyn
Cauffman
Sheri Hoschouer
Cyndee Orr
Scott Orr
Bev Sallee
Cecil Sallee
David Schiel
Joy Schiel
Rich Shaw
June Shaw

OFFICE HOURS

MON-THURS
11-3

Church & Home

April 2026

1901 West Leota Street, North Platte, NE 69101
(308) 532-1083 www.fpcnp.org



On Maundy Thursday, we celebrate the Last Supper Jesus shared with his disciples. We receive this story in the Synoptic Gospels – Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The disciples meet with Jesus in the upper room that has been prepared for them to share in the Passover meal. After the disciples are seated, Jesus took the bread, blessed it, and broke it. He gave it to his disciples and said, as recorded in the NRSVUE Matthew 26, "Take, eat; this is my body." In Luke 22, it reads that Jesus said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In Mark 14, it was recorded that Jesus said, "Take; this is my body."

Then in Matthew 26, Jesus took the cup and said, "Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." In Luke, it was recorded that he said, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood." In Mark 14, we hear "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many." These are, or an adaptation of them, the words of institution that are spoken during the Eucharistic meal. Each time we share the bread and the cup, we are explicitly called by Jesus Christ to "*Do this in remembrance of me.*" In sharing the bread and the cup, we are uniting with Christ and all Christians, past, present, and future.

As you know, we recognize two sacraments in the Reformed tradition – Holy Communion and Baptism. In the Presbyterian Book of Order, we are reminded of the gift that is the Eucharist. "The Lord's Supper is the sign and seal of our communion with the crucified and risen Lord. Jesus spoke of himself as the bread of life, and the true vine, in whom we are branches. ... He told the disciples to remember him by keeping this feast. On the day of his resurrection, Jesus made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of the bread. The disciples continued to devote themselves to the apostles' teaching, fellowship, prayers, and the common meal. As Paul wrote, when we share the bread and cup in Jesus' name, 'we who are many are one body'" (1 Cor. 10:17).

It is then, in this season of Easter and celebrating the Resurrection, that we add one Sunday each month to our sharing of Holy Communion. For several years, we have typically celebrated the Eucharist on the first Sunday of the month and high Christology days like Palm Sunday, Easter, Pentecost, and the Nativity of Our Lord. We will continue this routine while adding another Sunday a month.

John Calvin, the theologian who started the Reformed Presbyterian church, said communion should be celebrated at each worship service. Our Presbyterian Book of Common Worship calls for Holy Communion to be celebrated each worship service. The PCUSA Book of Order states that Holy Communion must be observed at least four times a calendar year in each church, and the Session ultimately approves the dates it is celebrated. Our Session approved the addition of the Lord's Supper on an additional Sunday a month at the regularly scheduled March meeting.

As we begin this new schedule in the coming weeks, I am sharing with you in this space some information about the Eucharist with particular attention to the Presbyterian tradition. I will preach on the history and theology of the Eucharist on April 19.

The dates for Holy Communion will continue to be posted on the calendar in the Church & Home newsletter and will be included in the announcement section of the weekly worship bulletins.

Looking forward to sharing the bread and cup with you, Pastor Emily

We are praying FOR YOU ...

Contact church office to be
placed on the prayer list
Printed list in worship bulletin
Names read during services

Prayer Request

Justin Durboraw, Sheri Hoschouer, Cheryl Kurth,
Keaton Kloss, Dennis Lombardi, & Louise Steele.

Prayer Emphasis for the month:
Peace across the earth.

COMMITTEE NIGHT

Standing
committees
will meet ...

Third Monday
every month
at 6:30 pm



April Birthdays!

01 – June Shaw
03 - Anthony McCreery
08 – Izaak Ochsner
09 – Shayla McEntee
09 – Louise Steele
29 – Sheri Hoschouer
30 – George Clough

Honoring our graduates

- May 17 at 10 a.m.
- Reception to follow
- Email photo/honors/plans to office by April 20 for C&H



April Anniversaries

Rich & June Shaw
04-05-1978

PW Spring Tea

April 18
2 pm



Card shower

Let's show Mia our
appreciation

Administrative
Professional's Day
is April 22


Basket for cards in
Narthex April 12-26



- May 24 at 10 am
- Bring your coffee, lawn chairs if you have them
- Relaxed worship style

Outdoor
worship





Easter offering
 Designated to the Craig Memorial Hospital in Kenya




HOLY WEEK WITH JESUS

Text "Jesus" to 833-510-5006

Or scan code

Real-time messages during Holy Week

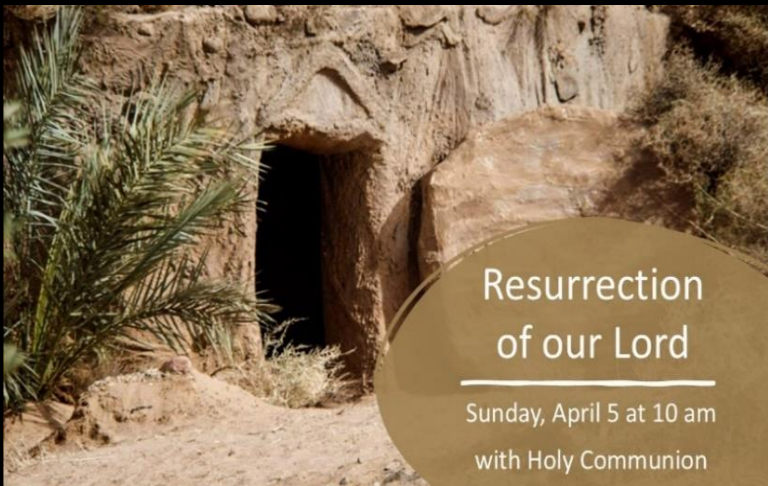


Communal worship services

Ash Wednesday
 @ ECOS with Pr. Patrick

Maundy Thursday
 @ FELC with Pr. Emily

Good Friday
 @ FPC with Fr. Steve



Resurrection of our Lord

Sunday, April 5 at 10 am
 with Holy Communion



Good Friday

April 3, 2026 • 7 pm

First Presbyterian Church • 1901 West Leota St.



Maundy Thursday
 with Holy Communion

April 2 • 7 pm

First Lutheran Church • 305 West Fifth St.

Holy Week



Madilynn McEntee
preached her first
sermon on March 22.



Session Meeting Highlights



It was approved to move the monthly Committee Night meeting time to 6:30 pm. Meetings will remain on the third Monday. The next meeting will be on April 20, 2026, at 6:30 pm. New committee members are needed for all committees. See an Elder or Pastor Emily if you would like to participate.



Scholarship Recipients include:

Abby Kamisnki
Eva McCreery
Coy Baker
Jesse Reyes
Noah Kammerer

It was approved to observe Eucharist on two Sundays a month instead of just one Sunday a month. We will continue to celebrate Holy Communion on high Christology days such as Easter and Christmas Eve. Dates will be announced on the calendar in the Church & Home and the weekly announcements. More information regarding the theology behind Holy Communion can be found in Pastor Emily's article in this newsletter, and she will preach about the Eucharist later in April.



Grace Ministries Food Pantry

April 2026

DONATIONS

Dixie and Chuck Francis

Molly Jackson

Bev and Cecil Sallee

Anonymous

Molly O'Holleran

Co-Directors :

Tammy Miller 530-8406

Francine Mckenzie 530-0436

Leigh Henline 530-2601

Ash Wednesday Service Offering at the Episcopal Church, the combined service with Messiah Lutheran, Evangelical Lutheran, and FPC

First Presbyterian Church: \$443 from the Souper Bowl luncheon

First Presbyterian Church: Non-perishables from the box by the west entrance

Totals for February

110 households (31 of those households have children under 18)

293 individuals

7,489 pounds of food given out

19 new families

7 emergency



Thank you once again to our wonderful group of Deacons at FPC! Their Soup-er Bowl lunch was well attended and everyone really enjoyed the event! Grace Ministries received 82 lbs of canned soup and \$443 from the offering. Thank you all at FPC for your kindness and generosity!

We also send a big Thank you to Molly Jackson, Bev Sallee's dear Mom! Molly continues to stay quite busy knitting hats, and once again, Grace Ministries' customers have been the happy recipients of them! Her hats are *beautiful*, and each stitch is a stitch of love! Molly turned 100 in February, and she continues to amaze and inspire! Warm hats can only be made by someone with a warm heart!

As of the writing of this report, March 18, we have not had any food arrive this month from the Food Bank in Omaha. We have continued to work with Fresh Foods in Westfield, purchasing milk, eggs, cheese, meat, and non-perishables. They also give us sturdy brown grocery bags. They deliver to the Pantry, which is a huge help for us! If you stop in at Fresh Foods, be sure and thank them for their assistance to Grace Ministries.

We would like to thank all of our AWESOME volunteers at Grace Ministries! They do a fantastic job, taking care of our inventory, helping our customers, and being flexible when necessary. We have the BEST volunteers ANYWHERE!

Grace Ministries Food Pantry operates at 114 East C St.

PHONE NUMBER : 308-520-7458 (Answering during operating hours only)

We are open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1-3pm, except holidays.



April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9am Men's Coffee @ FPC 12:15pm Online Devotion	2 7pm Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion at First Lutheran Church	3 7pm Good Friday at FPC	4
5 10am In-Church Worship Live Streaming at www.fpcnp.org Easter Day - Communion	6 9am Ladies Sewing 6pm Scouts	7	8 9am Men's Coffee @ FPC 12:15pm Online Devotion	9 10am Morning fellowship 6:30pm Evening Spirits	10	11
Emily Gone 6th-12th						
12 10am In-Church Worship Live Streaming at www.fpcnp.org	13 9am Ladies Sewing 6pm Scouts	14	15 9am Men's Coffee @ FPC 12:15pm Online Devotion	16	17	18
19 10am In-Church Worship Live Streaming at www.fpcnp.org	20 9am Ladies Sewing 6pm Scouts Committee Night 6:30pm	21	22 9am Men's Coffee @ FPC 12:15pm Online Devotion	23	24	25
26 10am In-Church Worship with Communion Live Streaming at www.fpcnp.org	27 9am Ladies Sewing 6pm Scouts	28	29	30		

In Church Worship Service on Sundays at 10am