

PASTOR:

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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

MAY 2026

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



We will be spending some time in the book of John for the next several Sundays. Our first Sunday in John was last Sunday (April 26), on what some call "Good Shepherd Sunday." My focus in this space is on John and a few select verses.

The Good Shepherd story is always one that reminds me of who is leading. And who is following. Each year when we revisit it through the Gospels, I try to take some time for special reflection. It kind of resettles me and brings priorities back into focus. It also reminds me who the leader is and who the follower is.

Recently, I spent time in prayer asking God for guidance and for whatever insight God felt I needed. There were definite requests I had for God and a lot of reasons for thanksgiving, but I wanted to make sure God knew I was turning it all over. I wanted God to know I wanted to release. I wanted to release my anxiety, stress, and worry, but I also wanted to release my urge to control what is in God's control. I probably had more anxiety and fear because of the end of the semester. I have some anxiety and fear because of the chaos and unrest in the world. I always have a little anxiety and fear about whether I am answering God's call the way God would like me to answer.

As I was reflecting, I was led to John 21. In this text, Jesus tells his disciples and us to "follow me." This command came after his Resurrection and after he had appeared to several of his followers on the road to Emmaus. And after he broke bread again with them before he departed.

He knew he would be ascending to God the Father soon, and the disciples would not see him much longer. It was a blessing for the disciples to see the Resurrected Jesus ... blessing met with excitement and reservation once they finally realized it was Jesus, the Messiah, when their eyes were opened. But now, later in the book of John, the disciples learn that Christ will be going away again and not returning until he calls all of us to Heaven. He prepares them to meet the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, who will take his place with us. Quite the emotional journey for them. But in his absence, he commands us to still follow him.

As we open the book of John, and as we prepare for graduation season, it is a good time to reflect on where the Good Shepherd is leading us. Is the Shepherd leading to military service or the workforce? Is the Shepherd leading to college or trade school? How is or where is the Shepherd leading us as adults who long ago graduated? Is God calling us to a change or adjustment? Is God calling us to something new? Is God calling us to something we put away, and now it is time to try again?

Perhaps the calling is to deepen our faith. Maybe the Good Shepherd is calling on us to grow our faith and challenge our old ways of thinking. How do you follow Jesus in your daily living? Do you have a prayer or spiritual routine? Do you share this time with your family or others? How do you stay consistent in following Jesus even when the road is rugged and the path is cloudy?

I do not know where this reflection time will lead for me as we close out the Easter season and prepare for Pentecost. Maybe it will lead me past a closed door to an open gate. Maybe it will lead me to multiple closed doors, and I will need to find the gate. But I know God is shepherding me the entire way.

Following and being shepherded in Christ,
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:

For students and staff as they finish the school year.

Office CLOSED
Monday, May
25th for
Memorial Day!



May Birthdays

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 12 – Chuck Francis | 21 – Avery Stinman |
| Jill Dolan | 22 – Kristi Leibhart |
| 14 – Chase Leibhart | 23 – Cyndee Orr |
| 15 – Sean Pierce | 24 – Irene Ridgway |
| 16 – Ron Ochsner | 28 – Finley Cauffman |
| 19 – JoAnne Greene | 29 – James Orcutt |



Honoring our graduates

- May 17 at 10 a.m.
- Reception to follow



May Anniversaries



Duane & Sheri Hoschouer – **05/17/1980**

Matt & Sarah Kaminski – **05/27/2000**

Cash & Amy Cauffman – **05/10/2002**

Scott & Melinda Baker – **05/24/2003**

Wear red for Pentecost
May 24

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

*Outdoor
worship*

Thanks to all who made our Spring Tea so successful! To those who set-up, cleaned-up, prepared the delicious food and to those who kept the teapots filled – a big thank you! Zach Ochsner sang show tunes to the delight of the ladies and Penny Billingsley brought and spoke about some plants from her Garden Glove Nursery.

2026 GRADUATES



Kason Baker

Kason, a senior at St. Patrick's High school will be graduating on May 10th. While he was at SPHS, he was a member of NHS (National Honor Society). On the honor roll all four years, member of the SPH's golf team and plays the saxophone for SPHS Elite Band.

After graduation, he plans on attending Advance ATC in Valdosta, GA where he will study to become an air traffic controller.

Sam Wiezorek

Sam is serving in the US Air Force. He will graduate on May 21st from the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in Monterey, California where he has spent the past 12 months studying the Russian language. After graduation he will relocate to Good Fellows Air Force base in San Angelo, Texas as part of his Air Education & Training Command. Goodfellows main mission is cryptologic & intelligence training for the Air Force, Space Force, Army, Navy, & Marine Corps. He is scheduled to be there for about 4 months. Sam is Deb Weitzel's grandson.



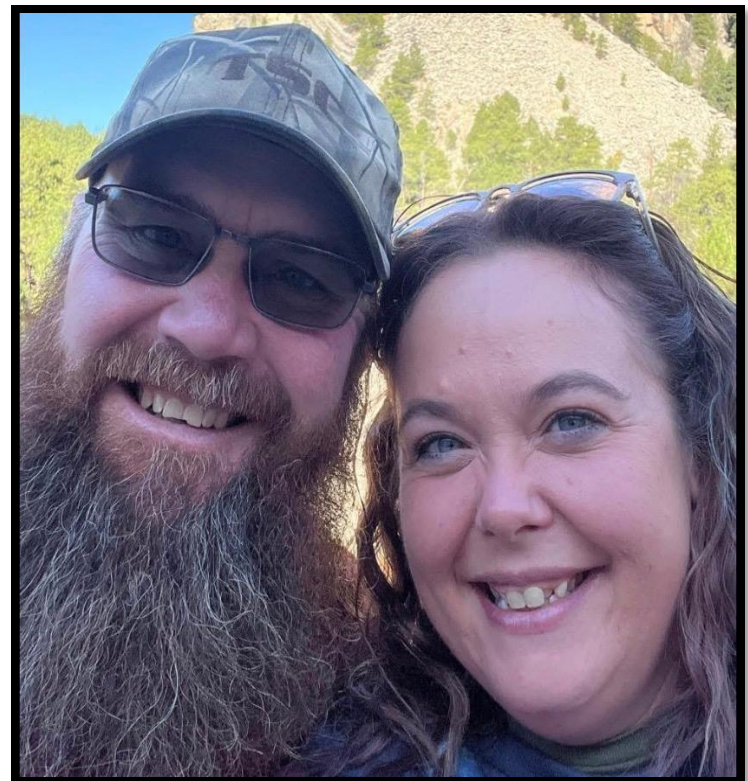


Hannah Sims

Hannah is currently studying at Rostock University in Germany. She will be finishing up her UNK degree in Theater with a German minor this summer.

Jason McEntee graduates from Peru State on May 9th with his Bachelor's degree in the science of Psychology with a minor in Sociology.

Shayla successfully completed her defense the other day and is officially Doctor Shayla McEntee! She graduates on May 2nd from the University of Jamestown in North Dakota. Her doctorate is in Clinical Research and her study was **Parental Phubbing: Addressing the Parents Role in Device use and Adolescent Mental Health.**



Thank You

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so much for awarding me the scholarship for the 2026-27 school year. Your continued support throughout my time in college truly means a lot to me. It has helped ease the financial burden and has reminded me that I have a strong community behind me. Thank you again.
Sincerely, Coy Baker

First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so much for the generous scholarship! As a soon-to-be graduate student, this scholarship will help me to focus on my future goals and alleviate financial stressors. Thank you so much for this gift!

Best,
Eva McCreery

Grace Ministries Food Pantry

May 2026

DONATIONS

My Time Ladies Fitness (formerly Curves for Women)

Nebraska Lions Foundation Inc. in Omaha

Iline Wallenstrom, new to North Platte and wanted to help!



Totals for March

93 Households served in March, which included 256 individuals.

6,599 pounds of food given out.

15 new families

5 emergency assistance.

Co-Directors :

Tammy Miller 530-8406

Francine Mckenzie 530-0436

Leigh Henline 530-2601

Delivery from Food Bank for the Heartland in April: We were able to get 2,806 lbs of food in April. Canned items included were tomatoes, tomato sauce, peaches, applesauce, mixed fruit, mandarin oranges, green beans, corn, potatoes, mixed vegetables, tuna and chicken. Also, pancake mix, ground beef, chicken thighs and breasts, sausage, jerky, and boxed cereal! Thanks, volunteers, for helping us unload and put all away!

My Time Ladies Fitness (formerly Curves for Women) had a very successful food drive for local charities. We were the happy recipients of 414 lbs of food.

Mobile Food Pantry news: Since the pandemic, North Platte High School has been home to a delivery of food boxes every 2nd Tuesday from Food Bank for the Heartland in Omaha. Anyone who needs food can come. Starting in June, that delivery will be taking place at Hope Esperanza on Cottonwood St.. As soon as we have more details we will let you know!

Volunteers....always can use more. Life can change in an instant, as we all know, and our circumstances can change. We would feel much more secure if we had more Unloaders on our roster. Even though we barely get one delivery a month from the Food Bank, we do not have enough on our call list at times. Same for Customer Aides. Cell phones really are a must!

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.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 10am In-Church Worship Live Streaming at www.fpcnp.org	4 9am Ladies Sewing 6pm Scouts	5 EMILY GONE	6 9am Men's Coffee @ FPC 12:15pm Online Devotion	7	8	9
10 10am In-Church Worship Live Streaming at www.fpcnp.org Communion	11 9am Ladies Sewing 6pm Scouts	12	13 9am Men's Coffee @ FPC 12:15pm Online Devotion	14 10am Morning fellowship 6:30pm Evening Spirits	15	16
17 10am In-Church Worship Live Streaming at www.fpcnp.org Honoring Graduates 10:00am	18 9am Ladies Sewing 6pm Scouts Committee Night 6:30pm	19	20 9am Men's Coffee @ FPC 12:15pm Online Devotion	21	22	23
24 10am Outdoor Worship Communion Session Meeting after worship	25 9am Ladies Sewing 6pm Scouts	26	27 9am Men's Coffee @ FPC 12:15pm Online Devotion	28	29	30
31 10am In-Church Worship with Communion Live Streaming at www.fpcnp.org						

In Church Worship Service on Sundays at 10am