

THE BLADE

Our vision is to see lives changed through joyful worship, supportive relationships, faith formation, and heartfelt service empowered by the mercy, grace, and love of Jesus Christ

.April 2020

“ For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.”

John 3:16 NRSV



AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM SESSION

In a called meeting yesterday, March 24th, Session decided to cancel worship services and all church activities until May 1st, or until the Governor advises we no longer need to shelter in place.

Those who wish to gather are encouraged to gather virtually (maybe using Zoom, a VERY simple, free, online video conferencing tool <https://zoom.us/>).

This is a good time to remember that our church is not a building, or even a gathering of human bodies. Our church is a gathering of hearts, minds, and souls who follow Jesus Christ. When you can, share the message of hope with others that Jesus shares with us, and love and support each other through this challenging time.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Flint
Clerk to the Session



Palm Sunday

Beginning Sunday **April 5** at 10:30 am, an informal time together virtually will happen via Zoom meeting format. We would love to have you join us. Please let Rev. Norlita know via email pastorfpcbrookings@outlook.com or call/text at 248-342-6190 so she can send you the Zoom invitation. The **Zoom** application/program is **FREE** and very easy to use. We will continue meeting this way on Sundays until further notice. Please join us.



THE BLADE

First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue
Brookings, SD 57006
(605) 692-2416
www.brookingspresbyterian.org
presby@brookings.net

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9 am – 2:30 pm

Session Members

Donna Flint (clerk), Dolores Canaday,
Martin Maca, Mike McCann, David Peterson,
Susan Smith, Terry Spitzenberger

Rev. Norlita Kaul

(248) 342-6190
pastorfpcbroomings@outlook.com

In office 9 am-12:30 pm
Monday through Thursday

Admin. Assistant

Rozanne McGrath
presby@brookings.net

Newsletter Assembly

Volunteers led by Marlys Kelsey

For regular updates
and photos, like us on
Facebook



www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Rev. Norlita will be hosting via Zoom an informal gathering on **Maundy Thursday** April 9th @ 6:30 pm and on **Good Friday** April 10th @ 12:00 pm for those who wish to observe the meanings of Holy Week. Please send her an email or call/text her at 248-342-6190 so that she can send you an invitation to join the meeting.



Remember Your Offerings

We are dealing with difficult times that most of us have not experienced previously. As this is coming from me, you can expect I am talking about finances. Even though the Sunday morning service is canceled for now, Norlita is working on some way to use technology to deliver a message to us. However, we also need to have an offering to continue to pay for the operations of our church. The ideas coming from the Mission/Finance Committee at this time have the following suggestions:

1. Mail your check to the church
2. I will be at the church at 10:00 Sunday morning to receive your check.
3. Arrange with your bank to establish an online deposit to the church.

Other ideas may be brought forth, if this lasts very long, but we love our church and the people in it and want to continue to celebrate our beliefs, which also include stewardship.

David Peterson, Treasurer



REVELINGS

Matthew 28 THE RESUSRRECTION OF JESUS

¹After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.

[\(http://bible.oremus.org/\)](http://bible.oremus.org/)

The angel's words remind us today as they did to the women who went to the tomb, "Do not be afraid." As we will celebrate Holy Week and Easter Sunday in a new/different way, not in a church building, as we're so accustomed to doing, let us cling to these words also. The power of God's love is that nothing in/on/of the earth ever has the last word! The last word doesn't come from some microbe that creates a virus in animals that mutates and gets into a human being at the cellular level, becoming something to wreak havoc with our daily lives.

The power of God that raised our Lord Jesus from the dead, to become The Christ, to become our Savior, this power gives us all hope. This powerful word gives us eternal life. This is our cause for rejoicing on this Easter Day 2020, not the lament and sorrow that we'll not be able to celebrate God's powerful gift in our usual and customary ways, with beautiful music, flowers, candles, Lord's Supper and smiling faces. Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

Let us not lament that we might not be able to have friends or family present with us as we had hoped. Our hope and help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth, and yes even microbes that manage to become a virus which creates a pandemic. Do not be afraid! God's love as powerful word always wins, always! This is the hope that sustains us!

Blessings to you for a Joyous, albeit quieter type of Easter Celebration. Remember that whenever we will be able to gather together again, it will be all the more sweeter. Take care of yourself, stay safe, stay well, stay vigilant, stay strong. Keep the faith, but most of all keep your hope! You are loved! Christ is Risen! The Lord is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Faithfully,

Rev. Norlita



Prayer of Adoration: Easter God of Power, God of Love

Lord God, we adore you; you are a God of power: the whole universe is alive with your energy; of its potential, immensity and complexity we know only a little, but it points us to you as its creator and sustainer.

Lord God, we adore you; you are also a God of love: your power has a purpose, and we see evidence of that in the beauty of creation, and in the human potential for understanding and creativity.

Above all, your love and your power are focused in the life and death and rising again of Jesus of Nazareth.

With joy we celebrate his resurrection, by which you have shown yourself to be a God of power, stronger than all the powers of darkness and sin, keeping us safe in your care; but you have shown yourself also to be a God of love, love that was not quenched by the hatred and bitterness of the Cross; and because of this we believe that you will go on loving us until the end of time.

Lord God, we adore you –the God of power and the God of love; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen. (www.churchofscotland.org.uk)

The Worship bulletin, music, and video sermon are available on our church's website www.brookingspresbyterian.org for use at home during this time of COVID-19.

An e-mail copy of the message is available by request from the church office.



WE ARE CHECKING ON YOU!

Yes, your church is checking on you. You have received calls from your deacon...or you will soon...just to check up on you, make sure you are okay, visit a little, and let you know you are loved. We all miss seeing each other, but this too shall pass and we'll all praise God. Be sure to call your deacon if you need anything.

A special thank you to Dave & Lee Peterson, Judy McCann, Ann Douglas, Dan & Michele Kemp, Ella Lane, Elizabeth Fox, Jeanne Longieliere, and Nancy Thompson for delivering the 60+ Meals March 30-April 10.



Our team of prayer volunteers are eager and ready to pray for you, a loved one, or any special request. Contact Jan Jones at 692-5325 and/or Lee Peterson at 692-7757. (Concerns are confidentially held within our prayer team unless it is to be shared by the requester.)

Prayer Families

We encourage everyone in our community of faith and life together to pray for those listed below during daily prayer time.

April 5: Don & Kay Norton, Rollo Nussbaum, Martha Ohnstad & Nora

April 12: Brock Peterson, David & Lee Peterson, Helen Peterson, John Peterson

April 19: Anna Pickford, Harold & Marjorie Poppen, RozellaPotthast

April 26: Lynn & Diane Riedesel, Cliff Rindels, Amir Rottluff, Doha Rottluff, Yossry Rottluff & Anna McAllister



The Scouts Troop 14 will not be meeting during the month of April.

HY VEE

Remember to save your Brookings Hy-Vee receipts.

Goal \$150,000.00

Received to Date: \$69,434.66

Needed to Date: \$80,565.34

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD

Andrew L'Amour

April 2020



Scripture Reading: John 13: 14-17 "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."

Men's Brotherhood Notes: March... Our March 19 meeting was canceled this month. Care to prevent any exposure to the COVID-19 was the reason. April...Canceled. Stay tuned.

Prayer Concerns: Pray for our nation as we continue to go through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Action: Abide by all cautions for prevention, and control of the virus as it rampages though our country and other places in the world. Check on neighbors or friends if they need anything.

At the Last Supper, Christ washed the feet of the disciples. According to our Presbyterian Church beliefs, the act of foot washing is done today as a ritual practice that can be utilized as part of a worship service to help make the story about the night before Jesus' death. So do we have to wash the feet of others?





No! Many Christians like to show their humility and love in other ways that do not require the literal washing of feet. It can be and often is done symbolically. Some of a few ways (there are others) you can symbolically wash the feet of those you want to be of service to include:

- Engage in a random act of kindness
- Call someone just to check in on how they are doing
- Share words of love and appreciation
- Stand up for those who are unable to do so for themselves
- Support someone, despite if you disagree with their choices
- Lend a listening ear to someone going through tough times
- Bring a new person to your church
- Use your God-given gifts in new ways

The main purpose of the foot-washing ritual is showing we care for others, cleansing us in a sin-cursed world, and to emulate Jesus in everything we do. As long as there are genuine emotions behind the acts of serving, that service to others will bring feelings of humility and empathy. It can be a beneficial act for both parties.



APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Birthday: Gayle Foster	3 Birthday: Don Boe	4 Birthday: Roger Jenner
5 Palm Sunday  <u>Zoom Meeting</u> 10:30 AM	6 Birthday: Andrew L'Amour	7 Birthday: Nona Marshall	8 Birthday: Jennifer Hinricher	9  <u>Zoom Meeting</u> 6:30 pm Birthday: Ramsie Hinricher	10 Good Friday  <u>Zoom Meeting</u> 12:00 noon	11 Birthday: Lee Peterson
12 Easter <u>Zoom Meeting</u> 10:30 AM 	13 Birthday: Ann Spitzenberger	14 Birthday: Dee Watson	15 Blade Articles Due Anniversary: Lynn & Diane Riedesel	16	17 Birthday: Pat Fishback	18
19 <u>Zoom Meeting</u> 10:30 AM Anniversary: John & Robin Eich	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 <u>Zoom Meeting</u> 10:30 AM Birthday: Richard Smith	27 Anniversary: Larry & Diane Anderson Birthday: Calvin Vaudrey	28	29	30 Birthday: Jeanne Longeliere		

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First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue

Brookings, SD 57006-2018

Christ
is
Risen!

Return Service Requested

Regular Sunday Schedule

September - May

9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship Service
11:30 am Fellowship Hour

Lord's Supper—
First Sunday of each month

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday-Thursday

9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Appointments also available
at times as needed/desired

Pastor's Sabbath

Friday and Saturday

(in emergencies,
please call/text pastor's cell #)

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00 am – 11:30 am

12:00 pm – 2:30 pm

If you are interested in receiving the newsletter by email instead of by post mail,
contact the church office at presby@brookings.net or 692-2416.