

THE BLADE

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

April 2021

“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

Remember Me



MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

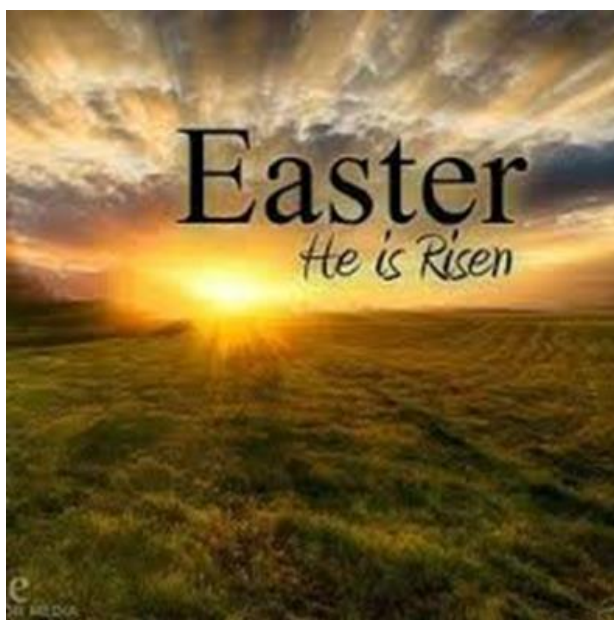
April 1 at 7:00 PM
in Sanctuary and via Zoom

It is Finished



GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

April 2 at 7:00 PM
via Zoom only



EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE

April 4 at 10:30 AM
in Sanctuary and via Zoom



THE BLADE

First Presbyterian Church

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

Rev. Norlita Kaul

(248) 342-6190

brookingsfpcpastor@gmail.com

In office at FPC 9:30 am-12:30 pm
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
In office at BUUC 9:30 am-12:30 pm
Tuesday

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am – 2:30 pm

Admin. Assistant

Rozanne McGrath
presby@brookings.net

For regular updates and
photos, like us on
Facebook



www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings

Please check the website
www.brookingspresbyterian.org for the
“Prison Lighthouse Ministry Newsletter”
and “Susan’s Saga.”



Many thanks to our members and friends for your continued financial support. Offerings can still be made by sending a check to the church or to David Peterson.

* Just for your information, the per capita per person for 2021 is \$34.78. If you have not done so, we would appreciate your donation.

David P - Treasurer



If you would like our team of prayer volunteers to pray for you or a loved one, please contact **Jan J** at 692-5325, **Lee P** at 692-7757, or the church office at 692-2416 who will contact the prayer volunteers. *(Your concern will not go beyond the prayer team unless you request it be shared with others)*

Prayer Families

Prayer is an important part of our life as a community of faith. We encourage you to pray for the people listed each week during your time of daily prayer.

April 4: John & Robin E, Mary E, Evelyn F

April 11: Bob & Pat F, Robby & Donna F

April 18: Joel & Bonnie F & family Lynn, Paige & Gayle;
Neal & Julie F

April 25: Elizabeth F, Betty G, Troy & Rosa G and family
Carol Ann, Jolena, Malia & Tia

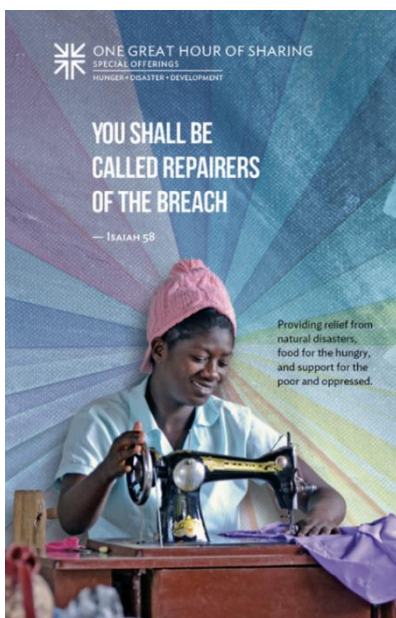
Session Meeting Update

March 11, 2021

- The Annual Congregational Meeting (normally held the last week in January) has been set for April 11, 2021, following worship. At that time, there will be an opportunity to ask questions about the annual reports, election of nominating committee at large members, and election of one Deacon to fill an open seat. If you are attending services via Zoom and wish to place names in nomination (yourself or others) from the floor for nominating committee or Deacon, please forward this information to Pastor Norlita or Terry Spitzenberger prior to the meeting.
- Session received a letter from the Brookings United Church of Christ indicating that they do not plan to renew the yoking agreement which will expire on May 15, 2021. Session concurred with the decision and will forward this information to Presbytery. The Pastor will return to full-time service to this congregation after May 15, with salary returning to the original contract amount.
- Session received a report from Deacons- they are working to support the members of the congregation- look for a monthly call, card, or email from your Deacon and connect with them!
- The Building and Grounds committee reports that there has been some damage to the parking area from construction equipment being used next door. Terry S. has contacted the city and they will repair the damage after construction is completed
- The Worship Committee has been working on a Liturgist list- if you would like to serve as a liturgist- contact Rozanne or Dolores and they will make sure you get on the list.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Flint
Clerk of Session

*Thank you for Food Pantry donations, however the need is never ending. Food Pantry donations of non-perishable items can be dropped off at our church or the Food Pantry at 217 4th St. between 9:30 and 5 MWF.



One Great Hour of Sharing
from
February 17 to April 4

News You Can Use

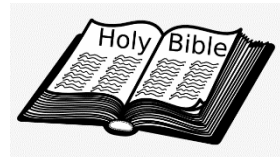


Blessing of the Seeds and the Sowers: In Worship Sunday April 11, please bring your seeds and/or seedlings for a special blessing that day.



TUESDAY MORNING COFFEE GROUP meets at 9:30ish every Tuesday. Questions? Call Nancy (697-3073) or Dolores (695-3723).

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY is meeting via Zoom on Thursdays at 9:30am. We are studying the book of Genesis. Questions? Call Lee (692-7757).



2021 Synod School July 25-30

Registration opens April 1

Looking for an enriching experience for the summer? Consider attending Synod School on the campus of Buena Vista University in beautiful Storm Lake, IA. Spend a week with other Presbyterians and choose from a wide variety of classes and worship experiences. The Embry Fund is available to assist with the cost—contact Donna Flint if you are interest.

Holy Communion in Sunday Worship Services is suspended until late summer per Session decision at their Feb. 11th meeting due to the ongoing pandemic.



SPECIAL MUSIC We continue to enjoy special music during our worship service. Please contact Donna (flintd99@gmail) or Ginny (conger.ginny@gmail.com) if you are willing to provide other special music.

Revelings for April 2021

Community is..... Friends

Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and kinsfolk are born to share adversity. (NRSV) (Oremus.org)

“GOD SENDS”

by Rosalie Carter

I think that God will never send,
A gift so precious as a friend,
A friend who always understands,
And fills each need as it demands,
Whose loyalty will stand the test,
When skies are bright or overcast,
Who sees the faults that merit blame,
But keeps on loving just the same,
Who does far more than creeds could do,
To make us good, to make us true,
Earth's gifts a sweet contentment lend,
But only God can give a friend.



<https://inspirationfeed.com/friendship-poems/>

This month we wind up our series "Community Is" that was begun in July 2020. Much has happened during the months since then. Through all of life's journey, one thing that helps to sustain us is to have a friend, or two, or three, or an entire community. This is a true gift to us from God, which is why the poem by Rosalie Carter is so powerful. Also just as powerful is the wisdom we read in Proverbs 17:17.

I'm thankful for the community of faith that God provides for us at First Presbyterian and at Brookings United Church of Christ. Each community is unique in its mission, focus, and calling by our gracious, loving, and benevolent God. Because of the love and selfless gift of Jesus Christ, whose resurrection we celebrate on Easter Morning, we have an eternal advocate, mediator, but most of all, a friend. We do indeed have much to be grateful for, in our community of faith.

We hear once again from Bret Lamsma's devotional: "Friendships aren't always easy. Friends go through seasons of trial, arguments, differences of opinion, and busy schedules. Along the way, new friends are made, and old friendships sometimes fade. Friends can influence us for good and for bad. Friendships can be a lot of work. But when they are at their best, friendships are also very rewarding. Real friends support us and also challenge us. They see us for who God intended us to be, and they help us grow in the grace and love of Christ. The Bible contains stories of deep friendships. David and Jonathan's friendship is a great example of one that lasted through deep difficulties. (I Sam. 19-20). Who are your friends? How are you supporting them and encouraging them? How are they supporting and encouraging you? Are your friendships filled with love at all times?"

I would also ask us, do we pray for our friends in times of good and adversity? Do we pray for those we would call, enemies? Community is an intentional effort that we must engage in. Thanks

be to God that God intentionally chooses to be in community and friendship with us, each and every day, 24/7. Let us do our best to be a friend to someone each day. Happy Spring. Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

Prayer: Loving God, help us in our friendships to love each other as you have called us to live and love. In Christ's name and for his sake, we pray, Amen.

Blessings, Rev. Norlita

*Starting Easter Sunday,
the Easter Series Sermons titled
"Belong, Behave, Believe."*



For our Easter worship, a flower arrangement will beautify our sanctuary. Any donations for this day may be given to our Flower Fund. Names in honor/in memory of friends/loved ones will be included in the PowerPoint.

On January 5, Nick, Suh, and Finn welcomed a new member of the family, Charlotte (Lotta).

On March 12, Robbi and Donna welcome a grandson, Chase Matthew.



CARD SHOWER for DELORES

Daughter Pam requested a card shower for her mother Delores Koepsell's 90th birthday which was on March 30th. Delores' address is: The Neighborhoods, 2421 Yorkshire Dr, Brookings, SD 57006.

Pam suggested including a special memory to your cards and well wishes. Thank you!

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD

April 2021

Andrew L'Amour



Men's Brotherhood Notes: All Men's Brotherhood activities suspended until further notice.

Prayer Concerns: Pray for our nation as we continue to go through the COVID-19 pandemic. Hopefully nearing the end as more vaccines are administered.

Action: Love? John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave his only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." What do you think is the most important thing in God the Father's life? What is the most important thing in your life? Wealth? Health? Spouse? Children? Grandchildren? Great grandchildren? Friends? Your house? Your car? What would you give up? What would you risk losing?

To believe in Christ is to trust in Him, to trust in what He says, what He says He is and what He says will come to pass. John 14:9 "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father." Christ said that on the third day He would rise up. The disciples were not sure what to make of all this but after it occurred, Christ spent 50 days with them teaching them even more about the message of how to achieve eternal life.

So God loved us all, the entire world, so much that Jesus died for us and was raised on the third day to eternal life. We need to trust in what Jesus said will happen if we love one another. That is part of the great commandment that we love one another. To love means to be willing as Christ was willing to lay down his life for us, that we live a life of willingness to do good to others through acts of love. Not to earn salvation but to respond back to God that we trust what God says and a way to show our love and thanks to God for the tremendous gift of eternal life.

So come Easter morning as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ to eternal life, I will be thinking of the tremendous love, trust and sacrifice of Christ for us and what I should be doing in my life to show my love back to God, and my thanks to Him.



The Scouts Troop 14
will not be meeting until safety
guidelines are decided upon.

HY VEE

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!





Goal \$150,000.00

Received to Date: \$40,305.54

Needed to Date: \$109,694.46

Remember to bring in
your Brookings Hy-Vee receipts.

April 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Holy Communion in Sunday Worship Services is suspended until late summer per Session decision at their Feb. 11 meeting.</p> 				<p>1 9:30 Bible Study-Zoom MAUNDY THURSDAY with COMMUNION 7:00 PM in Sanctuary & via Zoom Birthday: Gayle F</p>	<p>2  GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 7:00 PM via Zoom only</p>	<p>3 Birthday: Don B</p>
<p>4 EASTER 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service in sanctuary and via Zoom Birthday: Roger J</p> 	<p>5 OFFICE CLOSED FOR EASTER MONDAY</p>	<p>6 9:30 Coffee Group 6:30 M/F Meeting via Zoom Birthday: Andrew L</p>	<p>7 Birthday: Nona M</p>	<p>8 9:30 Bible Study-Zoom 7:00 Session Meeting via Zoom Birthday: Jennifer H</p>	<p>9 Birthday: Ramsie H</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 <i>Blessing of the Seeds</i> 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service in sanctuary and via Zoom Annual Congregational Meeting after worship Birthday: Lee P</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 9:30 Coffee Group Birthday: Ann S</p>	<p>14 Birthday: Dee W</p>	<p>15 BLADE Articles Due 9:30 Bible Study-Zoom Anniversary: Lynn & Diane R</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Anniversary: Robert & Rozanne M Birthday: Pat F</p>
<p>18 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service in sanctuary and via Zoom</p>	<p>19 Anniversary: John & Robin E</p>	<p>20 9:30 Coffee Group</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 9:30 Bible Study-Zoom</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service in sanctuary and via Zoom</p>	<p>26 Birthday: Richard S</p>	<p>27 9:30 Coffee Group</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 9:30 Bible Study-Zoom</p>	<p>30 Birthday: Jeanne L</p>	

The Blade

First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue

Brookings, SD 57006-2018



Return Service Requested

Regular Sunday Schedule

September - May

9:15 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

Lord's Supper—

First Sunday of each month

Pastor's Office Hours

At FPC

Mon, Wed, Thurs

9:30 am – 12:30 pm

At BUCC

Tues 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Appointments also available
as need/desired

Pastor's Sabbath

Friday and Saturday

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

Church Office Hours

Monday -Thursday

9:00 am – 2:30 am

Our newsletter is available electronically by email.

Please contact the church office at presby@brookings.net or 605-692-2416, to notify us.