

THE BLADE

April 2018

“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



Easter Party Egg-stravaganza

Children and the young at heart gathered at First Presbyterian Church on the afternoon of March 25 to celebrate the start of Easter Week.

The group played games, created

beautiful and creative art work, baked and appeared to have a grand time. Thank you to the organizers of this fun event. What a fabulous way to celebrate the season and (hopefully) the start of spring.

Regular Sunday Schedule

September - May

9:00 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship Service

11:30 am Coffee Fellowship

Lord's Supper - First Sunday of each month

Summer Sunday Schedule

June-August

9:30 am Worship Service

Nursery care is available on first floor during Sunday School and Worship

Pastor's Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Friday

9:00 am-12:00 pm

April @FPC



THE BLADE

Published Monthly (June/July &
December/January Combined)

First Presbyterian Church
405 7th Avenue
Brookings, SD 57006
(605) 692-2416

www.brookingspresbyterian.org
presby@brookings.net

Pastor Rev. Nina L. Westfall
reverendnina@brookings.net

Secretary
Rozanne McGrath
presby@brookings.net

Newsletter assembly
led by Marlys Kelsey

For regular updates
and photos, like us
on Facebook



www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings

*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.*

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. The families and individuals are selected at random.

April 1: Bob & Pat Fishback; Joel, Bonnie, Lynn, Paige
& Gayle Foster

April 8: Neal & Julie Foster; Elizabeth Fox;
Betty Gehring

April 15: Troy, Rosa, Carol Ann, Tia, Jolena,
& Malia Glaus; Eugene & JoAnn Goodale

April 22: Jon & Linda Greseth;
Carol Glantz & Don Kleinjan

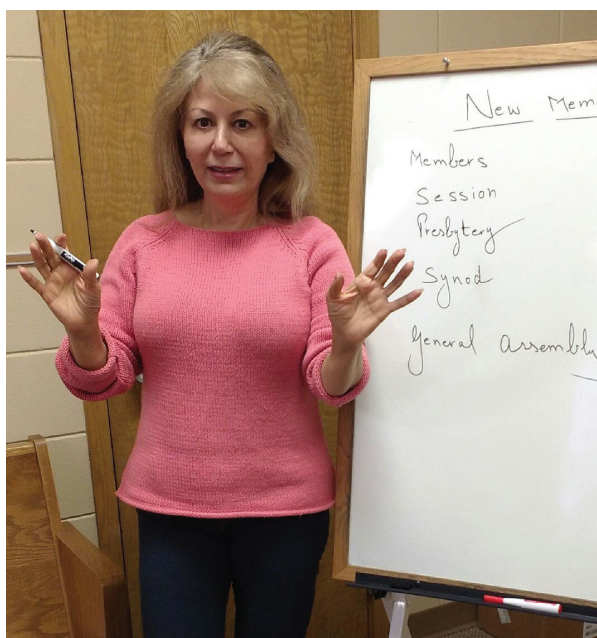
April 29: Bob & Jan Jones; Alice Hayes



If you would like our team of prayer volunteers to pray for you or a loved one, please contact any of the prayer chain volunteers: Bob & Jan Jones, Dolores Canaday, Lee Peterson, Harold & Marge Poppen, Linda Barnett, Susan Smith, Judy Smith, Robby & Donna Flint, Bonnie Foster, and Pastor Nina Westfall. If you would like to become a part of this prayer team contact Jan Jones.



Welcome New Members!



New Members Class Held at First Presbyterian

"I am excited for the new members who will be welcomed to the First Presbyterian Church on Easter Sunday".

Welcome to our church family.

*Love,
Pastor Nina*

Men's Brotherhood Update

By Andrew L'Amour

April 2018

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:5 Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test?

Quote: “No act of virtue can be great if it is not followed by advantage for others. So, no matter how much time you spend fasting, no matter how much you sleep on a hard floor and eat ashes and sigh continually, if you do no good to others, you do nothing great.”

– John Chrysostom

Men's Brotherhood Notes: March..... On March 15 we had our regular monthly meeting. Colleen from the Domestic Abuse Center gave us an update on their services and statistics. The MB voted to give them a donation. April.....The monthly meeting will be April 19. If you have an idea for a program let Mike or Andrew know. Encourage anyone to come; bring a friend! There is always a great meal and warm fellowship. MB is planning on a pancake or French toast brunch fund raiser in April.

Prayer Concerns: As we examine ourselves pray for The Holy Spirit to help us overcome any shortcoming in our lives.

Action: Look for ways to serve and do good to the church and the general community.

By the time you read this, Lent 2018 will be past. Hopefully you have examined yourself as admonished above, and shored up any weak areas. We are encouraged to do this at least once a year during the Lenten season.

Okay now here is how my feeble mind works; be kind please. So I am thinking about Lent, examining my spiritual life and wondering about the process. And I am also doing my laundry. I do about 2-3 loads each

week. Carefully sorting and looking for any special attention area: did I spill tomato sauce on my shirt, did I get mud splattered on my pant legs, unseen cat barf – this sort of thing. Some areas require more attention than others, some are to a lesser degree soiled and some need me to bring out the special forces.

Do I do this only once a year? Just go through the motions or do I really check which articles require more attention? Well the slob that I am I need to do this regularly, like every week! And I need to look closely because maybe I sat in something and did not realize it at the time. Any perfunctory effort will not be rewarded!

This may seem like a weak analogy and maybe it is, but for me it is helpful because like the task of doing laundry every week, or regular housecleaning – vacuuming, washing the floors, or doing the dishes, cleaning out the bird cage, emptying the cat litter box, or you name it, a regular activity of cleaning our physical environment or searching the soul keeps things in line. And how much more so in our personal life and our spiritual one.

Now some stains are more stubborn than others, and no matter what, we cannot get rid of them – they are too set. I don't mean to say just give up but we need to recognize those difficult blemishes and continue to seek ways to resolve the problem. This is in the menial mundane and daily tasks. But thankfully in our spiritual life we do have an answer for those stubborn, difficult and problematic areas - our Merciful, Forgiving and Loving God! The spiritual stains we try and try to overcome are sometimes just so set and hard we have to turn it over to God and plead for His mercy which He is so eager to give. He knows we are weak, He created us and He knows we need him. Examining ourselves is a regular activity which should always keep us close to God as we seek to show our love for Him in return for what he has given us: reconciliation through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Praise God!

Monthly Financial Report

By David Peterson, Mission & Finance Chair

2018	Jan	Feb	To Date
Income:	13,732.92	11,272.06	25,044.98
Expense:	14,933.95	14,041.76	28,975.71
Difference:	-1,201.03	-2,769.70	-3,970.73

**Don't
forget
Camp
Rimrock!**

There's still time to sign up for Camp Rimrock! Registration at Camp Rimrock is open now- our church registrations will be sent in on May 13th. Through the generosity of the Embry fund, each child may attend one camp for a \$25 fee. For more information, check the website: <http://pioneerrimrock.camp/>

- June 10-15: Young Adventure camp (completed grades 3-6)

- June 24-20: Seekers (classic camp for students who have completed grades 3-6)
- June 29-July 2: Family Camp
- July 5-8: You and Me (completed grades K-2 plus adult partner)
- July 15-21: Pathfinder (classic camp for students who have completed grades 6-8)
- July 22-28: Wilderness Camp (completed grades 7-12)

Check out more info at this link! <http://pioneerrimrock.camp/>

*Christ
is
Risen!*

HY VEE

RECEIPTS

Remember to Bring in Your
Hy-Vee Receipts
THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

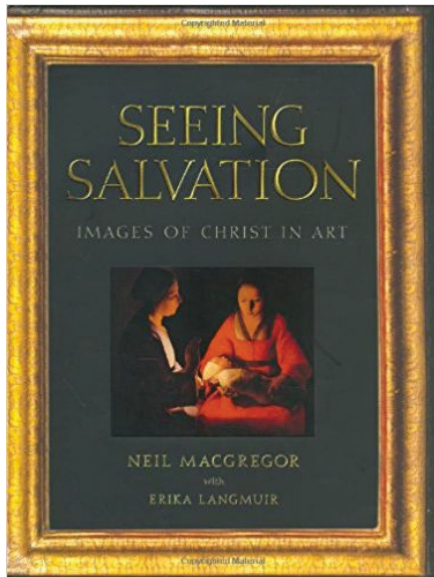
Goal: \$150,000.00

Received to Date: \$81,698.44

Needed: \$86,607.35

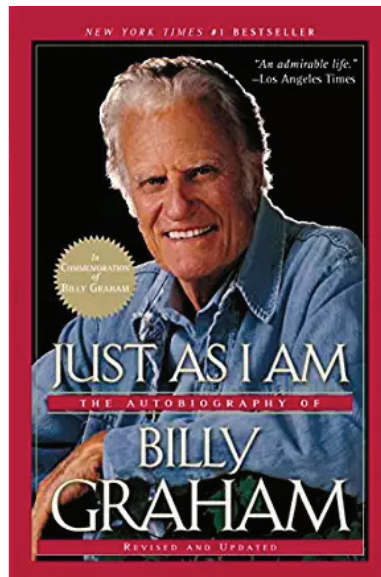
Have you checked out the church library lately?

You will find books there for all ages. If you're looking for some exciting books with good values for teenagers, some books are also in the Middle School classroom on the second floor. If you've read a book found in the library recently, why don't you volunteer to submit a review to the Blade? Book reviews can be sent to presby@brookings.net or Susan Smith.



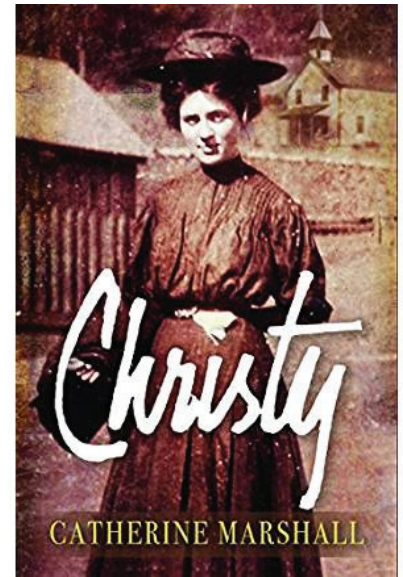
Seeing Salvation, Images of Christ in Art by Neil MacGregor

If you are an art lover, this book might tickle your fancy. The book has beautiful artwork as the author shows how the art of the church reflects the development of the church and Christianity over hundreds of years. From the introduction: "The greatest artists, in representing the life of Christ, did something even more difficult: they explored the fundamental experiences of every human life. Pictures about Jesus's childhood, teachings, sufferings and death are--regardless of our beliefs--in a very real sense pictures about us."



Just As I Am by Billy Graham

Billy Graham's recent death reminds us of the impact he had on the Christian and non-Christian world. If you want to know more, check out his autobiography! We think of him as "America's Pastor" and he writes about his experiences as he grew up on the family dairy farm, his many crusades, to his years as advisor to the presidents and his thoughts on national crises such as the Oklahoma Bombing and 9/11.



Christy by Catherine Marshall

I read this enjoyable book quite some time ago- it is inspirational fiction, based on the life of Catherine Marshall's mother. In 1912, nineteen-year-old Christy Huddleston leaves home to teach school in the Smoky Mountains -- and comes to know and love the resilient people of the region, with their fierce pride, their dark superstitions, their terrible poverty, and their yearning for beauty and truth. But her faith will be severely challenged by trial and tragedy, by the needs and unique strengths of two remarkable young men, and by a heart torn between true love and unwavering devotion.



Keep in touch at brookingspresbyterian.com

You may not know that there is lots of information on the Church Website! You'll be amazed at what you can find there:

- Upcoming Events
- Newsletters
- Audio versions of worship services and sermons

- Pictures of various church events
- Updated Calendar
- Resources to help you learn more about the Presbyterian Church

Explore our website at www.brookingspresbyterian.org and

if you use Facebook, like our page <http://www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings/> and get notifications of updates there! If you have questions or requests for the website or Facebook page, please contact the church office.

What is Small Group Bible Study?

Right now, there is one small group that meets at 6 pm on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of each month in the center meeting room. Beginning with "The Jesus I never Know" by Philip Yancy, the group then moved to reading the book of Proverbs, and the third week of April will begin reading "Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith" by Kathleen Norris. We've started ending each week by singing a couple of hymns. Everyone is invited to join the group- no advance preparation is required, and it is easy to join mid-read. However, we hope that others will form small groups around their own interests.

- Why should I start a small group? If you want to learn more about the Bible, or contemplate your life as a Christian, or simply want an opportunity to enjoy a bit of quality reading time with others.
- How can I start a small group? Find 1 or more people with whom you would like to study and find a time you can meet.

- Where do we meet? You can meet in the church building or in group member's homes, or even at a coffee shop or restaurant!

- What do we study? There are no rules about Bible study- find something that you enjoy and want to study and go for it! Here are some ideas.

- o choose a book of the Bible and read it together,
- o find a book you want to read together,
- o use a designed Bible study such as these: <http://www.christianitytoday.com/biblestudies/> or <http://www.ebiblestudy.org/>.

If you form a small group, let the church office know when you are meeting and what you are studying so that your group can be put on the calendar and others can join you! If you want help getting a group started, ask any member of the Christian Education Committee or Pastor Nina.

Member Profile

Lifelong member Adam Young contributes to church & community

By Robby Flint

Adam Young will be graduating from Brookings High School this spring, on May 27th, which is also his 18th birthday.

Adam has grown up in this church and has been going to Sunday School and Church for, well, I'll let him tell you. Adam, when asked if he remembered when he first started going to church said "I've been going to church here at First Presbyterian with my family for as long as I can remember."

And now Adam is an established member of the Church Choir, he ushers, and helps out with the younger kids whenever he's needed and asked. Adam has also been involved in PresbyPraise and the Bell Choir.

At school Adam is an integral part of the top performing Jazz Choir (4 years), the Concert Choir (3 years), and the All-State Choir. Adam has also been in the H.S. Men's Choir and has performed in the H.S. talent show with his barber shop quartet. This past year Adam was in the high school's musical production of "Cinderella" and he has helped out on several other productions.

Adam has been a member of the Boy Scout troop that meets in the church basement since he was in the 6th grade. Currently he is working on updating the basement as part of his final project toward earning the Eagle Scout Award that he will (hopefully) soon complete. And to top off Adam's list of accomplishments, he is, as you'd expect, a member of the National Honor Society.

When I first spoke with Adam about his future plans, he mentioned a litany of universities that



Adam Young

were on his list of potential places to continue his education. Well, ... I'm absolutely tickled to report to you that Adam has made his decision. And tah-te-da-da, Adam Young will be attending SDSU in Brookings in the Fall, where he plans to study Engineering. Yeah for all of us.

This summer Adam plans to work at Daktronics where he hopes to earn some spending money for college.

Adam will look great in Jackrabbit Blue and Yellow. And Adam, we wish you all the best as you graduate BHS and matriculate on to SDSU.

April 2018

Ushers:

Linda Barnett
 Robby Flint
 Alan & Adam Young
 Richard & Dolores Canaday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 Sonrise Service 9:30 Easter Breakfast 10:30 Worship Greeters: 9 am Ella Lane & Aaron Miller 10:30 Bob Bartling	2 7 pm Buildings & Grounds 7 pm Scouts Birthday: Gayle Foster	3 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) 6:30 pm Mission & Finance	4 7 pm Choir Birthday: Roger Jenner	5 9:30 Bible Study 6:30 Committees	6	7 Birthday: Nona Marshall
8 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Greeters: Dan & Michelle Kemp Birthday: Jennifer Hinricher	9 7 pm Scouts Birthday: Ramsie Hinricher	10 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House)	11 7 pm Choir Birthday: Lee Peterson	12 9:30 Bible Study 5:15 pm Deacons	13 Birthday: Ann Spitzenberger	14 Birthday: Dee Watson
15 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Greeters: Dick & Judy Smith Anniversary: Lynn & Diane Riedesel 6:00 Bible Study	16 7 pm Scouts	17 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House) Birthday: Pat Fishback	18 7 pm Choir	19 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Men's Brotherhood Anniversary: John & Robin Eich	20 Blade articles due	21
22 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Greeters: Roger & Marvis Jenner 6:00 Small Group Bible Study	23 7 pm Scouts	24 9:30 Coffee Group (Mission Coffee House)	25 7 pm Choir	26 9:30 Bible Study Birthday: Richard Smith	27 11:30 Lunch Bunch @The Pheasant Anniversary: Larry & Diane Anderson Birthday: Calvin Vaudrey	28
29 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Greeters: Harold & Marge Poppen 6:00 Small Group Bible Study	30 7 pm Scouts					

The Blade
First Presbyterian Church
405 7th Avenue
Brookings, SD 57006-2018

Return Service Requested

THE BLADE IS
AVAILABLE
ELECTRONICALLY!

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.