

# THE BLADE

August 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**



## VBS ROUND UP 6/18



### 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  
each month

### Summer Sunday Schedule June-August

9:30 am Worship Service  
10:30 am Coffee Fellowship  
Nursery care is available  
on first floor during Worship

### Pastor's Office Hours

Tuesday - Thursday  
9:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Friday  
9:00 am-12:00 pm

# AUGUST @ FPC



## THE BLADE

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

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Newsletter  
assembly led by  
Marlys Kelsey

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and photos, like us  
on Facebook**



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*Our vision is to see lives changed  
through joyful worship, supportive  
relationships, faith formation, and  
heartfelt service empowered by the  
merry, 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.

**August 5:** Judy Sebring; Ramona Sebring

**August 12:** Richard & Judy Smith; Don Hildebrandt

**August 19:** Susan Smith; Terry & Ann Spitzenberger

**August 26:** Janet TeBeest; Arlyce Thorne

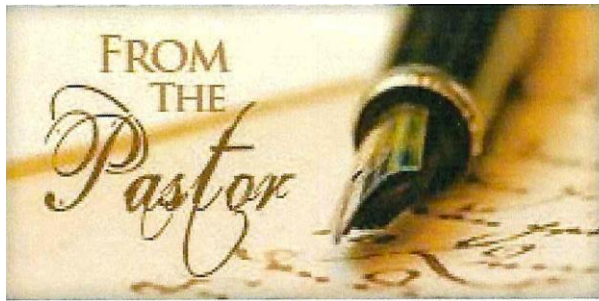


If you would like our team of prayer volunteers to pray for you or a loved one, please contact any of the prayer chain volunteers:

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.



**CHURCH begins at 10:30  
starting Sept. 2.  
SUNDAY SCHOOL  
kicks off Sept. 9 with  
Worship on the Farm.**



Friends,

Recently someone said to me, "the church has never looked this beautiful." Thanks to all the volunteers who have worked with Gary at the landscape to make it so.

I got an e-mail from Teri Bierstedt saying,



*"As I was viewing the beautiful flowers in front of the church, I saw a visitor from heaven to celebrate Roger's birthday! A dragonfly to remind me, even though we are apart, his spirit is always with me and forever in my heart!"*

There have been many people who have spent a lot of time and energy in making the church beautiful not only from the outside, but also inside.

All the committees are working exceptionally well. We have taken some bold steps. The newly formed **Building and Grounds Committee** has and is putting in the very needed effort. The combining of **Fellowship and Outreach Committee** has been a positive step. With the addition of new members in the **Worship Committee**, it is now a much more active committee. The **Christian Education Committee** has recently rounded up VBS. Besides other projects, it is looking into Confirmation Classes which I will teach. The **Mission and Finance Committee** is on top of "stuff", just like our **Music Ministry** is. Recently we added the tradition of singing every two to three months at the Neighborhoods and the United Living Communities.

The board of **Deacons** has expanded its horizon further for the welfare of the members, including the facilitation of rides on the BATA bus. Our updated **Prayer Chain** is active with the "prayer warriors." We have witnessed some "miraculous healings" as it was put.

The **Session** is hard at work updating the Bylaws of the Church, which needed adjustments to keep up with the current church membership and needs. Time is being taken to make sure that they are done thoughtfully and constructively, so that they can serve for years to come as the Bylaws before have. Our new secretary together with Ella took the project of updating the church directory. After putting in long hours, it is finally complete. *(continued)*

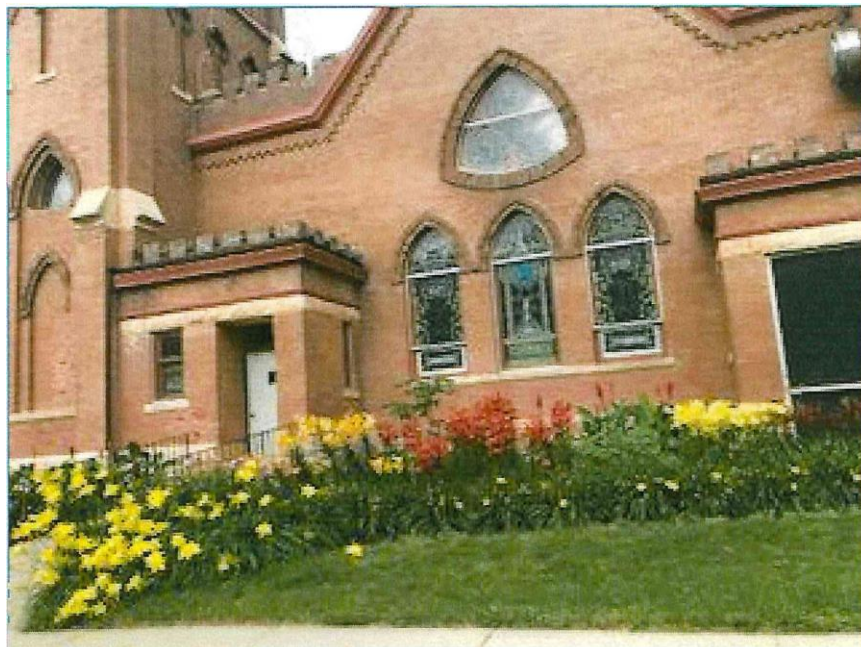
With all God's blessings and grace upon us, there will still be difficult times and challenges ahead. This is called life... "living." But we will be better prepared. Time marches on. In a few weeks, it will be one year since I have been in Brookings.

**Keep the faith.** Always keep the faith and be of a positive, hopeful mind...which may require some patience, forgiveness and adjustment.

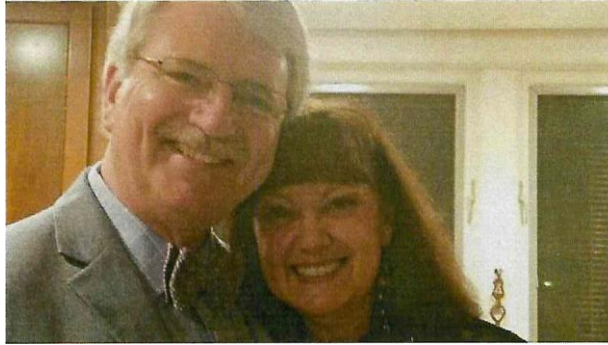
As Paul says in **Romans 8:24-25** "For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."

Much love and thank you for being an integral part of faithful discipleship.

Your Pastor



## ***WELCOME to FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEW MEMBERS***



Don and Kay Norton have lived in Brookings about a year, when they moved from Illinois. Don is the CEO of the South Dakota Agricultural and Rural Leadership Foundation, and Kay is an English instructor at University Center in Sioux Falls. Both are ordained elders and deacons in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and they also are Rotarians. The couple just celebrated their 40th anniversary with a trip to Italy! The Nortons have two sons. Donnie is an Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Portland, and Christopher is the Music Coordinator for the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago. His wife, Mercedes, is an advertising agency account executive. Don and Kay are also the proud humans of their Black Lab, Basie!

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### ***Deacon Notes***

Where has the summer gone? It is hard to realize that fall is coming. The Deacons have been busy all summer. We have been making meals, reaching out to homebound members, and working on the new directory.

We celebrated Betty Berg's birthday in June, and decided to celebrate our members birthday's the first Sunday of the month. At coffee following church service we will recognize everyone with a birthday that month with cupcakes and refreshments.

The new directory of addresses, phone numbers, and emails is ready for committee

approval. I will present it at the Deacon's meeting August 3, and then on to Session meeting the following week. If there are not too many changes, the directory should be available mid-August. A copy will be given to each committee member. Members of the congregation can get a copy from the church office. If you have any changes to your contact information, please let us know so we can update the information.

Let's keep love and kindness in our hearts. Reach out to those whom you see need a hug and a prayer. Remember how our words can touch someone's life.

In Christ's Love,  
Ella Lane

# Men's Brotherhood Update

By Andrew L'Amour • August 2018

**August 2018** - Andrew L'Amour is on vacation from this column this month and has asked his cat- friend Marvin to guest write this month's column. Marvin is a well-known Puss-byterian in the feline circles.

**Scripture Reading: Matthew 6: 25** "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?"

**Quote:** 'We're so busy watching out for what's just ahead of us that we don't take time to enjoy where we are.' - Bill Watterson

**Men's Brotherhood Notes:** In June the Men's Brotherhood met. We had no program, but we did talk a little about the soon to be here fall kick-off and what the Men's Brotherhood might do then. We decided to have a meeting in August to discuss this. Next meeting will be August 16. Watch for other upcoming Men's Brotherhood activities.

**Prayer Concerns and Actions:** Prayers of thanks for the simple things in life, that we can pay attention to them and enjoy them. They are gifts from our Creator.

**Enjoying change** - Greetings friends - Marvin here. A little cat humor to get you going today: Did you hear about the cat who swallowed a ball of wool? She had mittens.

What do cats like to eat for breakfast? Mice Krispies.

What is the difference between a cat and a comma? One has the paws before the claws and the other has the clause before the pause.

Moving right along here. It has been an up and down year weather-wise. I did not get out even in the wintry months as much as in the past. Then when I thought spring was finally here - 15 inches of snow!! April Fool's day came a couple of weeks late I guess. Speaking of weather, I have been somewhat under the weather this past year. I have a chronic sinus is- sue and it does seem to be getting worse. I am 12 years old in cat years so not a spring chicken. That makes me about 59 in human years. Still younger than old Methuselah over there in the corner. I still run and jump and chase critters when they are dumb enough to be caught by a cat on a leash. I guess these changes are what we all go through in life so I have been told. The old man has his issues too. Neither the human

body nor the cat body was designed to last forever. I think we should appreciate the joys of each day because we never know what the morrow will bring. We had a little cat friend named Milo who used to wander through here. He was much younger than me and now he is gone. We don't know where. Henri, Christine's cat, never showed up again after disappearing last fall. Things happen that we don't know or understand sometimes and things we have little control over too.

So take each day to be thankful for the little things. I love to just lay in the grass and smell the air, listen to the birds, enjoy the gentle breeze, chase critters. And then climb up on the old man's lap and settle in for a nap. I know I don't have the work or responsibilities of others but we all have some time where we can just enjoy the little things out in this world that we are blessed with.

Life is not perfect, nor is it all chicken and tuna flavored cat-food. There are going to be some things we don't want to happen to us. But that is life is and how it is designed to be. Change is inevitable. Being thankful for the joys we have, and acceptant of those less than joyful moments. All are a part of a bigger plan for us. Speaking of plans, time for a nap.

## HY VEE

Remember to bring in  
your Hy-Vee receipts

THANK YOU TO  
EVERYONE!

Goal: \$150,000.00

Received to Date:  
\$107,774.14

Needed: \$42,225.86

# August 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 9:30 Bible Study 5:15 Deacons Mtg 6:30 Committees Mtg	3 Birthday: Dorothy Williamson	4
5 9:30 Worship 10:30 Outreach & Fellowship Mtg 6:00 Game Night Anniversary: Chad & Diane Broksieck	6 7:00 Building & Grounds Mtg	7 9:30 Coffee 6:30 Mission & Finance Mtg	8	9 9:30 Bible Study 7:00 Session Mtg	10	11
12 9:30 Worship Communion 10:30 Worship Mtg  Choir sings at Neighborhood 1:45 PM & ULC 2:30 PM	13 Birthday: Dennis Hopfinger	14 9:30 Coffee  Anniversaries: Robby & Donna Flint Daniel & Carolyn Moerke	15	16 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 Men's Brotherhood	17 Anniversaries: Joel & Bonnie Foster Bob & Jan Jones	18 Birthday: Scott Hinricher
19 9:30 Worship 6:00 Small Group Bible Study Anniversary: Stanley & Julie Scubelek	20 Anniversary: Martin & Sally Maca	21 9:30 Coffee	22	23 9:30 Bible Study	24	25
26 9:30 Worship 6:00 Small Group Bible Study  Birthday: Bob Bartling	27 Birthday: Gary Larson	28 9:30 Coffee	29	30 9:30 Bible Study  Birthdays: Paige Foster Dennis Langland	31 11:30 Lunch Bunch	

USHERS:	CHILDREN'S TIME LEADERS	SOUND PERSON	TIME CHANGES IN SEPTEMBER
*Neal Foster	5 Gary Larson      19 Lee Peterson	Ginny Conger	Sept. 2 -Worship Service at 10:30 AM
Dean & Sharon Hofland	12 Bonnie Foster      26 Donna Flint		Sept. 9 - Sunday School at 9:00 AM
Susan Smith			Sept. 10 - Boy Scouts resume

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](mailto:presby@brookings.net) or 692-2416.