

# 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*

## August 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**



*“Life, now, was unfolding before me, constantly and visibly, like the flowers of summer that drop fanlike petals on eternal soil.”*

*--Roman Payne*

The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.”

Isaiah 40:8





# AUGUST



## THE BLADE

### First Presbyterian Church

405 7th Avenue  
Brookings, SD 57006  
(605) 692-2416  
[www.brookingspresbyterian.org](http://www.brookingspresbyterian.org)  
[presby@brookings.net](mailto:presby@brookings.net)

### Rev. Norlita Kaul

(248) 342-6190

[brookingsfpcpastor@gmail.com](mailto:brookingsfpcpastor@gmail.com)

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

### Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am – 2:30 pm

### Admin. Assistant

Rozanne McGrath  
[presby@brookings.net](mailto:presby@brookings.net)



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.

**August 1:** David & Lee P, Harold & Marge P

**August 8:** Cliff R, Rick & Bonnie S, Richard & Judy S

**August 15:** Susan S, Terry & Ann S, Janet T, Arlyce T

**August 22:** Art & Marge V, Dee W, Skip & Sharon W

**August 29:** Bruce & Lori W, Dorothy W, Alan & Sue Y  
& family Katy & Adam

For regular updates and photos, like us on Facebook



[www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings](http://www.facebook.com/fpcbroomings)

Please check the website [www.brookingspresbyterian.org](http://www.brookingspresbyterian.org) for the "Prison Lighthouse Ministry Newsletter" and "Susan's Saga."

# News You Can Use



## UPCOMING MEMORIAL SERVICES

Helen Albright-Douville      Saturday, August 7, 2021 (family graveside service)  
Lois Watson                      Saturday, August 14, 2021 at 11:00 AM-in sanctuary  
Dave Robinson                  Saturday, August 21, 2021 at 10:00 AM-in sanctuary/Zoom

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Two members of First Presbyterian Church are celebrating special 90+ birthdays in August.  
If you would like, please send birthday cards and best wishes to them.

August 3  
Dorothy Williamson



August 26  
Bob Bartling

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YAY, ANOTHER  
MEETING!  
(SAID NO ONE EVER)

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, August 2      **Worship Committee** via **Zoom** at 7:00 PM  
Tuesday, August 10    **Mission/Finance** via **Zoom** at 6:30 PM  
Thursday, August 12   **Session Meeting** via **Zoom** at 7:00 PM

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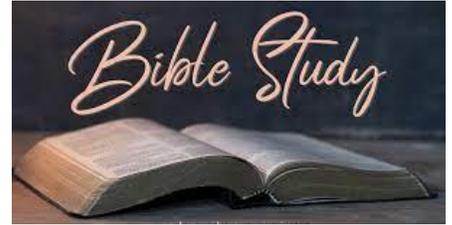
**TUESDAY MORNING COFFEE GROUP** meets at 9:30ish every Tuesday at First Lutheran Mission Coffee House. Questions? Call Nancy (697-3073) or Dolores (695-3723).





**PIECES AND PRAYERS** meet Tuesdays at 1:30 PM at the church to quilt. All are welcome! Questions? Call Lee (692-7757)

**THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** meets on Thursdays at 9:30 AM in the church center meeting room. Questions? Call Lee (692-7757).



*Thank you to all who donated to the Family Back 2 School Project (Brookings) Store for the 2021-2022 school year! They will be blessed in worship on 8/01.*



*Congratulations, Dorothy W,  
our 2021 Outstanding Senior  
Presbyterian*



*Thank you, Elizabeth F,  
for doing your part in the  
Brookings Community Band!*



*Below is a letter we have recently received from Susan Huggins. She has safely returned to Oaxaca to resume her work translating. Please keep her in your prayers.*

**SUSAN'S SAGA**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,



I really appreciate how God is using your faithfulness through this season of uncertainty to keep the Bible translation project afloat. In these troubling times, God's Word is more important than ever, as expressed by Hebrews 6:19, "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.. "NIV

We are thankful that in spite of the pandemic, we have been able to make progress of Bible translation. The team has gone virtual! Three Mixtec co-translators are participating online. We have a group on WhatsApp on our cell phones, and we each have a computer or tablet that is connected to the internet. The computer program that we use for translation, ParaText, enables us to 'see' the updates on the revision, and we can talk about it via WhatsApp. It's not the same as working together in the same room, but it has enabled us to keep going, in spite of social distancing. There are frequent disruptions in getting connected, as electricity and the internet aren't always stable for all parties, but we have been able to keep going. We are thankful that the Mixtecs work well together as a team. Each has a valuable point of view as we work through phrasing and wording.

We are very thankful that all the Mixtec co-translators have gotten their Covid vaccines. I am currently in South Dakota, where I am getting my vaccine; one down, one to go. The concern is how Inga will be able to be vaccinated. Plan A had been a trip to Scotland to get hers, but that doesn't seem to be working out. She has registered online to get a vaccine in Mexico, but she has not yet been notified as to when or which vaccine she might receive. We are still thinking of what a Plan C might look like. Prayer would be appreciated for that.

Well, it has been quite a year, hasn't it? We each have our stories to tell about 2020, and on in to 2021. I returned from a quick trip to South Dakota in March 2020, just as everything started to go crazy. It was decided that Inga should return to Scotland in April 2020, as she was deemed high risk due to her asthma. She had an excellent place to stay with friends who opened their home to her. I was completely alone in Oaxaca for five and a half months, except for a cleaning lady who came once a week. It was a different experience, but there were some positive aspects to it. Inga returned October 1<sup>st</sup> to Oaxaca, and we have slowly been adjusting to a new normal, whatever that is. We continue to work virtually on the translation, as it would still be risky for the Mixtec co-translators to travel via public transportation.

Thank you for sticking with us, as we endeavor to make God's precious Word available to the speakers of this variety of Mixtec. Thank you for your gifts.

*Susan Huggins*

Susan Huggins is serving in full-time ministry as a Bible translator among the Mixtec people of Oaxaca, Mexico. Susan's sending agency, Wycliffe Bible Translators, is a non-denominational organization; she raises her own funds to support this ministry.

The Food Pantry continues to help those in need around and in our community. Donations can be delivered to the Food Pantry on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday from 9-4:30. You can also leave those donations at the church and we will get them to that organization.



We know that summer is hot and you're not thinking about winter clothing! The Share the Warmth program would be grateful for your gently used winter clothing. We will be sharing more information with you this fall. Again, thank you, and may we continue good works every single day.

Peace and blessings, The Deacons

## BROTHERHOOD

August 2021

Andrew L'Amour



**Men's Brotherhood Notes:** At last!! We did it!! We started the 2021 Men's Brotherhood year at long last on August 15. While there were few in attendance - 7, we made up for it in exuberance plus we were greatly rewarded with an impromptu program brought to us by our world traveling young Presbyterian bon vivant, Yossry Rottluff. Yossry had just returned from a visit to Egypt to see his father and his father's family. He brought to us various tales of adventure in the Great Pyramid of Gizah and the world's tallest hotel in Dubai. Quite an experience for this young man. As usual we had a fine balanced meal and fellowship. A lot of fellowship. Come on out and join us. Next meeting: August 19. at 5:30.

I have been reading an English author Robert Macfarlane recently. I really enjoy his writing and I really enjoy his subject matter so far. His most recent book that I am reading, *The Old Ways*, is about his travels mostly around Great Britain (not exclusively but primarily) where he is exploring old known pathways used by people from very olden times to more recent olden times. He takes you there in his descriptive and beautiful, wonderful narratives as he walks along those footpaths and trails. You feel like you are really there.

As I was reading this book it struck me that our spiritual journey, our life in Christ, is on a similar trail that so many others have traversed. We are not pioneers; Macfarlane did not think he was breaking new ground on his journeys. He was giving honor and respect to those who went before him on their way, and acknowledged cautions others had offered at times so as to not misstep along the path. We give a similar honor and respect to those who went before us. When we read of their experiences, cautions and help so we do not misstep, we honor them and honor our great God who is our ultimate guide.

### HY VEE

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!**

Goal \$150,000.00

Received to Date: \$68,508.83

Needed to Date: \$81,491.17

Remember to bring in  
your Brookings Hy-Vee receipts.

**HELP WANTED:** After 10 years of working with the HyVee Receipt Program for our church, Arlyce T has decided it is time to pass on this responsibility. For the last few years, her efforts have brought in about \$1,000 each year, which has been very welcome to our budget. We are therefore looking for someone to step up and continue what Arlyce has been doing. There are some changes taking place where the receipt information will be placed in a computer spreadsheet which will then total up the amount and print it out for submission to HyVee. Access to a computer is needed but detailed knowledge of spreadsheet operation is not necessary as training is provided.



### The Scouts Troop 14

will not be meeting until safety  
guidelines are decided upon.

## Revelings for August 2021

As our summer begins to wind down, students and teachers begin another school year, we begin a 4 part series (Lessons) involving the "Equipping For Ministry in the 21st Century." This comes to us from the Winter 2014 publication, "The Layman." As we embark on the journey through these lessons, may we all be moved and blessed by them. May we all learn something new.

Lesson I: Joy, not under circumstances, but in Christ. **Read Acts 16:11-40**

Paul the Apostle was flogged, beaten with rods, pummeled with stones, shipwrecked, also adrift at sea. In 2 Corinthians 11:26 Paul writes, "I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my own countrymen, in danger from the Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false brothers. I have labored and toiled and have gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked."

Here we see the apostle counting all of this as joy. The church at Philippi knew Paul understood himself as one in whom God's power was working in and through his life. The above scripture from Acts 16:11-40 is our reminder about his ministry work in that city. As he writes to them (the Letter to the Philippians) there is joy. "Sixteen times in the brief letter Paul uses the word joy or rejoice." (The Layman)

What we read about Paul is the great spiritual work within his own mind. It is his work to have "the mind of Christ." His joy is from his relationship with God, "no matter the circumstances." (The Layman)

What this apostle is trying to remind us of as demonstration within his own life is having his life "governed by the mind of Christ. That mind is revealed in Jesus Christ, demonstrated in Paul, and he in turn exhorts the Church to have the same mind." (The Layman). In Philippians 2 are found the words, "Let this same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus...." "Think this way." (The Layman).

Let us always remember to count all things we go through ourselves as "joy." (Yes even the not-so-fun stuff of and in our everyday lives.) As we do this, we become gratitude-centered, praying and raising-centered. God is then our center of/in our world, not ourselves.)

Questions for Reflection (The Layman):

1. Read Philippians and make specific note of the references to joy and rejoicing. What are the circumstances in which Paul rejoices? What is the source of his joy?

2: Do you dwell on the circumstances of life and allow the pursuit of happiness to govern your emotions, relationships and outlook? Or, do you dwell in Christ in the midst of all circumstances and allow the joy of that relationship to govern your emotions, relationships and outlook? DO you see the difference? Are you living the difference?

It's back to school time, and a time for self-reflection. May we all count this to be as a time of, for and in joy!

Soli Deo Gloria!

Rev. Norlita

## SUMMER WORSHIP SERMON SERIES

Series #2 *"No Longer Strangers"*—Keys to living as community of faith

August 1: "Bound Together"

August 8: "Making Peace"

August 15: "Overflow/Wisdom Speaks"

August 22: Donna Flint presiding

August 29: Donna Flint presiding



I look to the hills, from whence comes my help.  
My help comes from the Lord, my God, who made heaven  
and earth. Psalm 122: 1-2





# August 2021



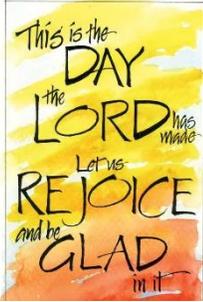
| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday  |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| 1<br><b>10:30 Worship Service</b><br>in sanctuary and via Zoom   | 2<br><b>7:00 Worship Committee</b><br><b>via Zoom</b> | 3<br>BIRTHDAY:<br>Dorothy W  | 4  | 5<br>ANNIVERSARY:<br>Chad & Diane B                                       | 6  | 7<br><b>Helen Albright-Douville</b><br>Family Graveside<br>Service  |
| 8<br><b>10:30 Worship Service</b><br>in sanctuary and via Zoom   | 9   | 10<br>9:30 Coffee Group<br><br>1:30 Pieces & Prayers<br><br><b>6:30 M/F Meeting via Zoom</b>                 | 11   | 12 9:30 Bible Study<br><br><b>7:00 Session Meeting</b><br><b>via Zoom</b> | 13<br>BIRTHDAY:<br>Dennis Hopfinger<br><u>August 14 continued:</u><br>ANNIVERSARIES:<br>Robby & Donna F<br>Dan & Carolyn M | 14<br><b>Lois Watson Service</b><br>Visitation 10:30 AM<br><b>Service 11:00 AM</b> in<br>our sanctuary<br><b>Lunch</b> -McCrorry<br>Gardens following   |
| 15<br><b>10:30 Worship Service</b><br>in sanctuary and via Zoom  | 16 <b>BLADE Articles Due</b>                          | 17<br>9:30 Coffee Group<br><br>1:30 Pieces & Prayers<br><br>ANNIVERSARIES:<br>Bob & Jan J<br>Joel & Bonnie F | 18   | 19<br>9:30 Bible Study<br><br><b>5:30 Men's Brotherhood</b>               | 20<br><br>ANNIVERSARIES:<br>Andrew & Beth L<br>Martin & Sally M  | 21<br><b>Dave Robinson Service</b><br>Visitation 9:15 AM<br><b>Service 10:00 AM &amp;</b><br><b>Masonic Service</b><br>following in our<br>sanctuary<br><b>Lunch</b> at Dakota<br>Nature Park at Noon |
| 22<br><b>10:30 Worship Service</b><br>in sanctuary and via Zoom<br>Rev. Norlita-Bereavement leave<br>Donna Flint Presiding | 23  | 24<br>30 Coffee Group<br><br>1:30 Pieces & Prayers   | 25   | 26<br>9:30 Bible Study<br><br>BIRTHDAY:<br>Bob B                          | 27   | 28  |
| Rev. Norlita – Continuing Education Leave  |   |  |  |   |  |   |
| 29<br><b>10:30 Worship Service</b><br>in sanctuary and via Zoom<br>Donna Flint Presiding                                   | 30<br><br>BIRTHDAY:<br>Paige F<br>Dennis L            | 31<br>9:30 Coffee Group<br><br>1:30 Pieces & Prayers   | <b>August 23 through September 1</b><br>Rev. Norlita will be on<br>Continuing Ed Leave |   |  |   |

# 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

**Pastor's Office Hours**

**At FPC**

**Mon, Tues, Thurs**

9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Appointments also available

as need/desired

**Church Office Hours**

**Monday -Thursday**

9:00 am – 2:30 am

**Pastor's Sabbath**

**Friday and Saturday**

(in emergencies, please call/text

Pastor's cell #)

**Our newsletter is available electronically by email.**

**Please contact the church office at [presby@brookings.net](mailto:presby@brookings.net) or 605-692-2416, to notify us.**